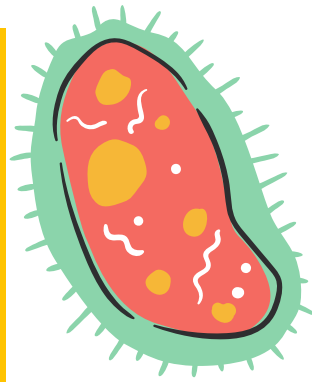
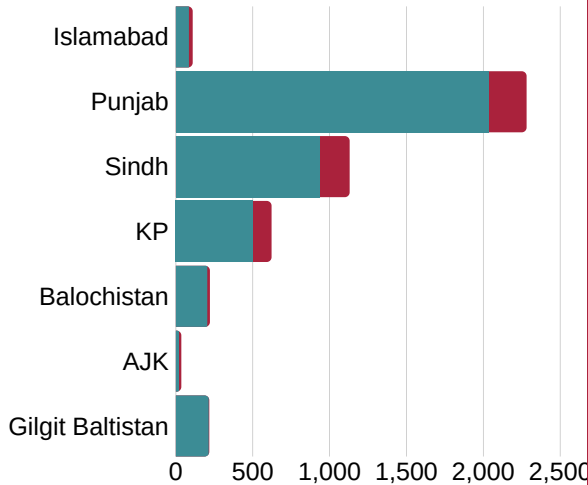


Situations like the coronavirus pandemic can quickly become a catalyst for social conflict due to misinformation, rumors and fake news, as we've seen in the past. Every day we continue to see more false information shared throughout communities, confusing citizens and leaving them unsure as to who can answer their questions.



Confirmed Cases



The **Pakistan Coronavirus CivicActs Campaign (CCC)** captures rumors and perceptions among communities to eliminate information gaps between the government, media, humanitarian agencies and citizens. By providing the public with facts, these coronavirus bulletins aim to create a better understanding of needs regarding coronavirus and to debunk rumors before they can do more harm.



DON'T PANIC!

Follow these steps to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol) if soap and water aren't available.
- Cover your nose and mouth (with your elbow or a tissue) when sneezing.
- Avoid crowded places and practice social distancing. If you think you have been exposed to someone with coronavirus, quarantine yourself for a minimum of 14 days and monitor any symptoms.
- Do not stockpile supplies.

IS IT TRUE?

Are Pakistani universities holding online classes?



At the end of March, the Higher Education Commission directed all universities and accredited institutions with sufficient resources to start online classes due to the coronavirus pandemic. Unfortunately, however, many students are unsatisfied with the online education they are being provided by their institutes. Some students pointed out that their classes have been suspended, as many students hailing from middle and lower-middle class backgrounds have been unable to attend online classes, due to connectivity issues or lack of smartphones. In KP, hundreds of students have been taking part in demonstrations in South Waziristan to protest the unavailability of the internet in the area. Without an internet connection, the students can't take online classes. As of Thursday, mobile service providers are seeking government approval to expand advanced internet services on an emergency basis.

How are doctors helping comfort patients in coronavirus isolation wards?

Around the world, doctors are trying to lighten the mood for patients in coronavirus isolation wards. A video making the rounds online shows Dr. Saddam Hussain in DHQ Muzaffargarh dancing with patients in the isolation ward while wearing head-to-toe PPE. Patients can be seen joining in as Dr. Hussain encourages them. To view the video, [click here](#).

Are hospitals being provided with personal protective equipment?



Yes. Yesterday, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health, Dr. Zafar Mirza announced that a week's supply of PPE had been dispatched to 152 hospitals across the country. Equipment includes N95 masks, glasses, and protective kits. In addition to this, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has donated PPE for doctors and post-graduate students of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University who are currently working at the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS). The donation included over 1,000 N95 masks, over 1,000 surgical masks, and facial protection.



IS IT TRUE?

Is Pakistan facing an internet shortage?



No. As of March 26, internet usage in Pakistan increased by 15% across the country. Pakistan Telecommunication Authority reports that the increase is due to increased online activities by educational institutions, businesses, and work from home policies. PTA also reports that there is sufficient internet capacity to meet the country's growing demands. Despite there being no internet shortage, some middle and lower-middle class families don't have access to the internet at home, nor do they have smartphones. In an effort to resolve this, mobile service providers have sought government approval for expanding advanced internet services on an emergency basis. This approval would allow many to work from home and continue their education online.



I've heard that there has been a surge in cybercrime due to coronavirus. Is this true?

Yes. The Federal Investigation Agency has announced that cybercrime incidents have surged during the coronavirus pandemic, and that criminals are finding new ways to steal from people. The FIA has warned the public to be careful of individuals approaching them to ask for an SMS code. What they're asking for is a WhatsApp verification code which they then use to approach the victim's relatives using the victim's ID to demand a money transfer through EasyPaisa. To report a cybercrime, [click here](#).

Why are doctors in Quetta being put in jail?

As personal protective equipment started running out, doctors were being forced to treat patients without any protective gear. In Quetta, the Young Doctors Organization organized a protest one day after 13 doctors in Quetta reportedly tested positive for coronavirus. [Video footage](#) of the protest shows police officers hitting the doctors with sticks as they are pushed into police vans. YDA spokesman, Dr. Rahim Khan Babar shared that release orders had been issued for those detained, however they were refusing to leave police stations until their demands for PPE were met. On Tuesday, the military announced that it was dispatching more PPE kits to help doctors in Balochistan.



What do I do if I think I have coronavirus?

Do you have any symptoms?

- **Fever**
- **Shortness of breath**
- **Dry cough**
- **Tiredness**



If so, contact your doctor or the coronavirus helpline at 1166.

Where can I get tested?

Karachi

Aga Khan University Hospital

Stadium Road, Karachi

Civil Hospital

DOW University Campus
Mission Road, Karachi

Dow Medical Hospital

Ojha Campus
Suparco Road, Karachi

Indus Hospital

Opposite Darussalam Society, Korangi
Crossing, Karachi

Lahore

Punjab AIDS Lab

PACP Complex
6 - Birdwood Road, Lahore

Shaukat Khanum Memorial Hospital

7A Block R-3 M.A. Johar Town, Lahore

Islamabad

National Institute of Health

Park Road
Chak Shahzad, Islamabad

Rawalpindi

Armed Forces Institute of Pathology

Range Road
CMH Complex, Rawalpindi

Multan

Nishtar Hospital

Nishtar Road,
Justice Hamid Colony, Multan

For more cities visit the
[COVID-19 Health Advisory Platform](#)



Coronavirus CivActs Campaign is brought to you by
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