Pakistan seals off hot spots as record number of cases reported

Islamabad, June 14 (RHC)-- Pakistani authorities have identified and sealed off nearly 1,300 hotspots to contain the increasing rate of COVID-19 infections in the country.

The sealing of high-risk areas comes as Pakistan reported 6,472 news cases on Saturday, the country's highest single-day total. Pakistan has confirmed a total of 132,405 cases including 2,551 deaths.

Pakistan put its entire population of 220 million under lockdown in March. The government has since eased restrictions, saying it was necessary to save the country's economy, but it has caused a surge in infections.

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Authorities, however, are now using the term "smart lockdown" to close shops and markets and force people to stay home in areas where confirmed cases have increased in recent weeks. Some residential areas were also sealed in the capital, Islamabad, to contain the spread of the virus.

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