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NEWS RELEASE

Infrastructure built over the years helped UAE tackle Covid-19 crisis better, claims TRENDS paper

Proactive approach and focus on security issues have been the hallmarks of the UAE’s development strategy

The UAE’s efficient crisis management mechanism in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic has been the outcome of a proactive approach the country has adopted in building infrastructure over the years, a new insight published by the TRENDS Research & Advisory has revealed.

According to the research paper, the UAE has benefited from the efforts made over the years to develop several sectors and raise their level of preparedness so that they could implement measures in times of crisis such as this.

The paper, produced by TRENDS Director General Dr. Mohammed Al-Ali, claims that the progress made in the UAE in areas such as infrastructure, deployment of technology in smart government initiatives and the implementation of teleworking and distance-learning initiatives, have helped in limiting the impact of the crisis.

Calling it a “comprehensive and multidimensional approach,” the insight says that the UAE has managed to effectively deal with all the dimensions of this ongoing crisis encompassing health, economic, political and international cooperation.

“A participatory approach involves building effective partnerships between officials and all segments of society. This includes the private sector, civil society and media institutions that can help counter the pandemic through effective awareness campaigns or by supporting government efforts to combat the spread of the disease,” says the report.

The paper cites examples of the UAE’s quick and efficient response to the crisis. It says that the UAE conducted the maximum number of tests to separate those infected from the rest of the population.

“The second was the establishment of the world’s largest Covid-19 diagnostic laboratory outside China, which was built in 14 days. The unit provided an immediate solution to the evolving needs of the country’s Covid-19 test,” Dr. Mohammed Al-Ali writes in the paper.
The paper also highlights the food security component of the crisis and lists reasons why the UAE has succeeded on this front. It said that food security has become particularly important considering the borders have been closed and restrictions imposed on the movement of people and goods. The study claims that even before the Covid-19 crisis, the UAE attached a lot of importance to this issue.

“The UAE has already established several agencies and made strategies to ensure food security. Among these is the appointment of the Minister of State for Food Security, the launch of the National Food Security Strategy in November 2018, and the formation of the Emirates Council for Food Security in January 2020 to achieve the objectives of the National Food Security Strategy 2051,” the paper says.

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TRENDS Research & Advisory strives to present an insightful and informed view of global issues and challenges from a strategic perspective. Established in 2014 as an independent research center, TRENDS conducts specialized studies in the fields of international relations and political, economic and social sciences. It undertakes rigorous analyses of current issues and international and regional developments, especially in the Middle East and North Africa.

The Center analyses opportunities and challenges at various levels of the geopolitical spectrum. It evaluates scenarios and prospects to find scientific and objective answers and seeks to influence the decision-making process. TRENDS Research & Advisory aims to champion national and regional causes and build a strong network with research centers, organizations, and institutions around the world. It also seeks to benefit from the expertise of international research and academic institutions.