

INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK
NATIONAL

- The Ministry of Railways has extended time limit from six months to up to nine months for cancellation and refund on counter tickets for train journeys between March 21 and July 31, 2020, because of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Four more Delhi residents have reportedly tested positive for the new coronavirus strain that recently emerged in the UK.
- A contingent of NSG 'black cat' commandos and tableau of CRPF will be part of Republic Day 2021 parade on January 26 in Delhi.
- The Delhi government has ordered reopening of medical colleges under the Union Territory government with immediate effect after an improvement in the COVID-19 situation in the national capital.
- Two samples of poultry tested positive for bird flu in MP's Indore and Neemuch districts on Thursday, said an official.
- Delhi Deputy CM Manish Sisodia on Thursday said that no case of bird flu has been reported yet in the national capital.
- Indian Army personnel in Jammu and Kashmir's Sopore carried a woman and her newborn baby on a stretcher from the hospital to her home for several kilometres as heavy snowfall had blocked the roads.
- Uttar Pradesh government told Allahabad High Court that there was no evidence against a Muslim man accused of 'love jihad' under anti-conversion law.
- Four people who were crossing a railway track were mowed down by a speeding train in Haridwar's Jamalpur area in Uttarakhand on Thursday evening.
- India's real GDP is expected to contract by 7.7% in 2020-21 as compared to 4.2% growth in 2019-20, the government said on Thursday.
- US Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao and Education Secretary Betsy DeVos resigned on Thursday following riots at the US Capitol by President Donald Trump's supporters.
- Gauhati HC rejected Assam activist and Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti (KMSS) founder Akhil Gogoi's bail plea in connection with anti-CAA protests in December 2019.
- Nagaland authorities on Thursday stated that the wildfire in the Dzukou Valley on Nagaland-Manipur border would be entirely extinguished within the next 24 hours.
- The currency in circulation (CIC) in India grew by a record ₹5 lakh crore between January 1, 2020 and January 1, 2021 despite a contraction in the country's GDP, as per RBI data.

- E-commerce major Flipkart has incorporated Marathi, India's third most-widely spoken language on its app.

INTERNATIONAL

- Following riots at the US Capitol by his supporters, US President Donald Trump said he is "outraged by the violence, lawlessness and mayhem".
- Two friends in the US who were buying groceries at a supermarket received Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine.
- A Taiwanese man named Chang Yu-Te has set the Guinness World Record for most soap bubbles blown inside one large bubble by blowing 783 bubbles.
- Banks and mortgage lenders in Denmark have started offering 20-year home loans at a fixed interest rate of zero.
- China has placed 11 million people in the city of Shijiazhuang in Hebei province under lockdown as the country reported highest rise in daily infections in over five months
- The person who waved the Indian flag outside the US Capitol building on Wednesday amidst American and pro-Trump flags was Kerala-born Indian-American Vinson Palathingal.
- Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador said that Mexico is ready to provide coronavirus vaccines to undocumented migrants in the US, after Nebraska Governor said they would likely not get vaccinated due to their immigration status.
- US Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao and Education Secretary Betsy DeVos resigned on Thursday following riots at the US Capitol by President Donald Trump's supporters.
- South Africa's health ministry on Thursday said that the country would get 15 lakh COVID-19 vaccines from the Serum Institute of India (SII).
- UK Home Secretary Priti Patel said President Donald Trump's "comments directly led to the violence" at the US Capitol.
- An Iraqi judge has issued an arrest warrant for US President Donald Trump over the killing of Iranian General Qasem Soleimani and Iraqi militia leader Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis in an American drone strike last year.
- Tesla CEO Elon Musk on Thursday overtook Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos to become the world's richest person with over \$187-billion wealth.
- Gulf states could resume travel and trade links with Qatar within a week of signing an agreement on January 5 to end their dispute, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Anwar Gargash said.