

INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK

NATIONAL

- The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has extended the suspension of scheduled international commercial passenger services to and from India till January 31.
- The overall air quality in Delhi deteriorated from the 'poor' to 'very poor' category on Thursday morning with the overall Air Quality Index (AQI) at 331, according to data from the Central Pollution Control Board.
- Delhi Disaster Management Authority has imposed a night curfew in Delhi which doesn't allow over five persons to assemble at public places and no New Year events are permitted from 11 pm to 6 am on December 31 and January 1 at public places.
- Director of AIIMS Delhi Randeep Guleria on Wednesday said that it is a possibility that the UK COVID-19 strain could've entered India prior to December.
- Delhi Police have issued a traffic advisory for New Year's Eve saying that no vehicular traffic will be allowed in Connaught Place without valid passes.
- A man and a woman who were on their way to a court in Rohtak to get married were shot dead in broad daylight on Wednesday in a suspected case of honour killing, Haryana police said.
- Punjab government on Wednesday decided to lift night curfew from January 1, 2021 and advised the public to follow COVID-19 appropriate behaviour.
- Amid the sixth round of talks between the Centre and farmers on Wednesday, Union Ministers Piyush Goyal and Narendra Singh Tomar joined the farmer leaders for langar during lunch time at Vigyan Bhawan.
- Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Wednesday said consensus on two out of four issues was reached between the government and protesting farmers after the sixth round of talks.
- Thirty-two passengers who have recently returned from the UK remain untraceable in Gurugram, said Civil Surgeon Dr Virender Yadav.
- The Kerala government has issued an order prohibiting all public gatherings as part of New Year celebrations on December 31.
- A 65-year-old Telangana woman has made a complete recovery from a complex laparoscopic surgery during which tumour the size of a volleyball was removed from her abdomen.
- Assam Legislative Assembly passed the Madrasa Bill, which seeks to transform madrasas into regular schools.



- A Pune-based multinational engineering company lost ₹50.78 lakh to a cyber attack falling prey to fraudulent emails.
- Onion prices have climbed by 28% at India's largest wholesale onion market, Lasalgaon in Maharashtra, after the government on Monday lifted the ban on exports of the vegetable with effect from January 1.
- Reliance Jio has written a letter to Punjab CM Captain Amarinder Singh and DGP Dinkar Gupta, seeking intervention into "incidents of sabotage and vandalism of Jio network sites".

INTERNATIONAL

- A Hindu temple in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province was vandalised and set on fire by a mob of hundreds on Wednesday following a dispute over the land occupied by it.
- The Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine has become the second coronavirus vaccine to be approved for UK use. It has been given the go-ahead by Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency.
- A 91-year-old UK woman who became the first person in the world to receive the Pfizer Covid-19 vaccine following its clinical approval was given her second dose
- 22 people were killed and over 50 wounded in an attack, which was captured live on camera, on Yemen's Aden airport .
- 500,000 residents in China's Wuhan may have been infected with Covid-19, nearly 10 times more than the 50,354 confirmed cases, a study by public health authorities showed.
- Thailand's tourist city of Pattaya and the surrounding district were placed under lockdown on Wednesday as 250 new cases of coronavirus, including 241 local transmissions, were reported.
- The Canadian government has said it'll implement the requirement for all arriving passengers to have a negative COVID-19 test three days before arrival.
- US President-elect Joe Biden said the Trump administration's vaccine rollout is falling "far behind" and at this pace, "it would take years...to vaccinate the American people".
- A matched study by Public Health England said the new variant of coronavirus, which was found in UK, doesn't appear to cause more severe illness than other variants.
- A Chinese court has jailed 10 Hong Kong pro-democracy activists, who were arrested at sea while trying to flee to Taiwan.
- Argentina's Senate on Wednesday voted 38-29 in favour of a bill to legalise abortion up to the 14th week of pregnancy.
- The US State Department on Tuesday approved a potential sale of 3,000 bombs worth \$290 million to Saudi Arabia.

