

## **INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK**

### **NATIONAL**

- India has become the first country to report more than four lakh coronavirus cases in a day as 4,01,993 people tested positive for the virus in the last 24 hours.
- Indian Navy has launched Operation Samudra Setu-II to aid in procuring oxygen amid rising COVID-19 cases in India.
- The government has ordered 4.5 lakh vials of Remdesivir, an antiviral drug used to treat COVID-19 patients, from US-based Gilead Sciences and Egypt-based Eva Pharma to ease its shortage in India.
- Chinese President Xi Jinping offered to help India fight against the coronavirus pandemic, state media reported on Friday. Xi also expressed his sympathies to the Indian government and people.
- The US will restrict travel from India from Tuesday (May 4) in view of the spike in cases of COVID-19, the White House said.
- Supreme Court has asked the Centre to respond to a petition challenging the constitutional validity of Section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code, the "sedition law".
- Jammu and Kashmir Police arrested a rape accused from Srinagar city, 33 years after he allegedly committed the crime in 1988.
- Indian Railways announced on Friday that it's waiving off charges for coronavirus testing and diet supplied during coronavirus-related hospitalisations of non-Railways patients.
- Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has announced ₹4 lakh each for families of people who died in hospital fire in Bharuch.
- The lockdown, which was imposed in Rajasthan from April 19 to May 3, has been extended till May 17.
- TV actor and COO of Elder Pharmaceuticals Anuj Saxena was arrested by the Mumbai Police's Economic Offences Wing (EOW) .
- At least 18 coronavirus patients died after a fire broke out at the Welfare Hospital in Gujarat's Bharuch at 1 am on Saturday.
- Mahindra & Mahindra on Friday said it has signed agreements under which its 43.20% stake in ride-hailing firm Meru will increase to full 100%.
- Reliance Industries on Friday reported that its net profit rose to ₹13,227 crore, which is more than double the ₹6,348 crore it reported during the corresponding period a year ago.
- Indian benchmark indices snapped their four-day winning streak on Friday as COVID-19 cases continued to rise in the country.





- US-based Ford Motor Company has said in a tweet that it is donating 50 lakh surgical masks, 1 lakh N95 masks and 50,000 gowns to India to help fight the surge in COVID-19 cases.

## INTERNATIONAL

- The US Transportation Security Administration said that it's extending mask requirement for travel in airports, buses, and train stations until September 13 to combat COVID-19 spread.
- CRED, the credit card bill payment platform, announced its third mega-jackpot for this week, wherein five members would get to win every new iPhone that gets released in the next decade.
- Singapore will ban the entry of visitors from Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka from May 2 due to sustained increases in COVID-19 cases in the region, its Health Ministry said on Friday.
- Luxury cruise ship 'Asuka II' will return to Japan's Yokohama port after a passenger tested positive for coronavirus, NYK Cruises Co said .
- Kenya has delayed the closure of Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps that hosts 4,33,765 people until June 2022, according to a joint statement by the Kenyan government and the UN.
- An underground storage tank that holds 4.65 lakh litres of nuclear waste in Washington state appears to be leaking contaminated liquid into the ground, the US Department of Energy said.
- A South Korean group said that it sent 5 lakh propaganda leaflets, 500 booklets critical of North Korean government and 5,000 one-dollar bills in balloons to North Korea.
- Germany said that it will return hundreds of artefacts known as the Benin Bronzes to Nigeria from 2022. The artefacts were mostly looted from West Africa by a British colonial expedition.
- Europe's economy shrank 0.6% in the first three months of the year as slow vaccine rollouts and extended lockdowns delayed economic recovery.
- South Korea's exports last month rose the most in 10 years reflecting a recovery from the impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Official figures showed that overseas shipments increased 41.1% from a year earlier.
- The US SEC has started a probe into Volkswagen AG over a marketing stunt in which it falsely said it was changing its name in the US to "Voltswagen", media reports said.
- Indonesian ride-hailing startup Gojek plans to make every car and motorcycle on its platform an EV by 2030.
- Jeff Bezos' space company Blue Origin will soon begin selling tickets for space tours on its New Shepard rocket.

