

## **INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK**

### **NATIONAL**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the passing of two farm bills in Parliament. "A watershed moment in the history of Indian agriculture," he tweeted.
- Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said the ICMR has been conducting large-scale sequencing of representative strains of the SARS-CoV-2 virus collected over the past several months.
- Amid protests over farm Bills introduced by the Centre, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said, "I'm also farmer...never believe government will hurt farmers."
- Delhi Capitals won the Indian Premier League 2020's first Super Over after chasing down three runs against Kings XI Punjab.
- NCB has said it seized 2.7 kg of curated (refined quality) marijuana, which was sourced from the US, from Delhi and arrested a 21-year-old engineering graduate, son of an IRS official from his Lucknow residence in this connection.
- The Bharatiya Kisan Union called for statewide bandh in Haryana to protest the three farm Bills that were tabled in Rajya Sabha .
- Infrastructure projects worth ₹3,090 crore in Noida are expected to be completed by end of 2021, officials said on Sunday.
- The Taj Mahal in Uttar Pradesh's Agra will open to the public on Monday after six months of closure due to coronavirus spread.
- Ten people have been killed and around 20 others are feared trapped after a three-storey building collapsed in Bhiwandi area of Thane district in Maharashtra.
- The ₹500 Feluda test, a paper-based test strip to detect COVID-19 in less than 30 minutes, has been approved for commercial launch by DCGI.
- In a new affidavit filed before the Bombay High Court, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) claimed that actress Kangana Ranaut has not disputed carrying out "unlawful additions and alterations" to her office in her petitions.
- Pune railway station opened a kiosk to sell disposable blankets, pillow covers and bedsheets to passengers, making it one of the first few such kiosks across the country.
- Four human male skeletons were found by Uttarakhand Police and State Disaster Response Force teams while conducting a joint search operation along the mountainous routes leading to Kedarnath.

- India has provided Maldives ₹1,840 crore in financial assistance to help it "mitigate the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic".

## INTERNATIONAL

- Bill Gates, Microsoft's Co-founder and the world's second-richest person, told Fox News that US President Donald Trump's decision of travel ban earlier this year may have accelerated the coronavirus spread in the US.
- An initiative by Indian-American community in US' Washington DC to provide groceries and food to those in need amid COVID-19 pandemic has helped over 15,000 families, a member of the community said.
- A US judge today blocked the US Commerce Department from requiring Apple and Google to remove Chinese messaging app WeChat for downloads in the country.
- Sri Lankan State Minister of Coconut Arundika Fernando climbed a coconut tree and said that the country is facing a dearth of 700 million coconuts due to high demand for local industries and domestic consumption.
- Hong Kong has suspended Air India flights for two weeks from September 20 to October 3 after passengers aboard the carrier's flight were found to be infected with the coronavirus.
- Authorities in China's northeastern Jilin province have found the novel coronavirus on the packaging of imported squid, health authorities in the city of Fuyu said.
- An envelope containing ricin poison that was addressed to US President Donald Trump has been intercepted before it reached White House.
- Ex-Pakistani PM Nawaz Sharif on Sunday called the country's military a "state above the state" during a multiparty conference.
- Head of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Major General Hossein Salami said that his country is capable of setting fire to all US bases in the Persian Gulf "at once".
- European Union has finalised a deal with Sanofi and GSK to buy up to 300 million doses of a potential COVID-19 vaccine.
- The US has said that it's going ahead with reimposing sanctions on Iran even as 13 of the 15 UN Security Council members have opposed the move.