

INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK
NATIONAL

- As many as 2,860 new COVID-19 cases have been reported in Delhi in the last 24 hours, taking the national capital's total infections to 3,03,693.
- The number of coronavirus cases in India has reached 69,79,423 as 73,272 people tested positive in the last 24 hours, according to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath on Friday said that the Opposition parties nurtured mafia elements during their 15-year-rule in the state.
- On the occasion of its 88th anniversary on Thursday, the Indian Air Force (IAF) achieved a new record of the highest skydive landing at Khardung La mountain pass in Leh at an altitude of 17,982 feet, breaking its own earlier record.
- Pune's district administration, along with state and central health officials, has decided to open five post-COVID care centres across the city to tackle any illness or symptoms of the recovered patients, according to reports.
- The Department of Post has sacked eight employees in Pune after their appointments were reportedly found to be 'irregular'.
- The Biocon Foundation signed an MoU with the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) to invest ₹65 crore for construction of Hebbagodi Metro station on Hosur Road.
- In order to maintain social distancing, Central Railway is set to add 22 more daily special suburban services on Saturday, increasing the number from 431 to 453.
- Bajaj Auto MD Rajiv Bajaj has said his company blacklisted three channels for advertising as it does not endorse toxicity and hate-mongering in the society.
- India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is expected to contract 9.5% in 2020-21, with risks tilted to the downside, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said on Friday.
- India's Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) surpassed Accenture for the first time in a year to become the world's most valuable information technology company.
- Tata Sons Chairman Emeritus Ratan Tata took to Instagram to share a snippet from his Riverdale Country School yearbook from 1955.
- Harvard University on Friday named 66-year-old Srikant Datar as the next dean of Harvard Business School (HBS), succeeding Nitin Nohria, who is leaving in December after 10 years in the job.



- As the World Bank projected a 9.6% contraction in India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in FY21, its Chief Economist for South Asia Hans Timmer said, "It is an exceptional situation in India.
- The RBI's Monetary Policy Committee on Friday decided to keep the repo rate unchanged at 4%, the lowest on record.
- The RBI has decided to make available the RTGS system, primarily meant for large value transactions, round the clock on all days from December. Currently, RTGS is available from 7am to 6pm on all working days of a week, except for second and fourth Saturdays of the month.

INTERNATIONAL

- On the occasion of its 88th anniversary on Thursday, the Indian Air Force (IAF) achieved a new record of the highest skydive landing at Khardung La mountain pass in Leh at an altitude of 17,982 feet, breaking its own earlier record.
- China has claimed that the coronavirus outbreak broke out in the various parts of the world at the end of last year but it was the only one to have reported and acted first.
- A cocktail of monoclonal antibodies taken by US President Donald Trump during COVID-19 treatment at hospital was developed using human cells derived from an aborted foetus.
- Pakistan's Telecommunication Authority has blocked Chinese-owned video-sharing app TikTok for failing to filter out "immoral" and "indecent" content on the app.
- North Korean prisoners are forced to drink river water containing ashes of dead fellow inmates, former prisoners of Chongori concentration camp revealed.
- The World Food Programme (WFP), which won the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize, was founded in 1961 as an experiment to see if the UN system could deliver food aid.
- Suspected toxic waste pollution off Russia's Kamchatka peninsula that caused mass deaths of marine animals has formed a moving slick stretching 40 kilometres along Pacific coastline, researchers from Far Eastern Federal University said.
- China has joined the World Health Organization's (WHO) COVAX alliance designed to ensure equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines.
- FBI has arrested 13 people over alleged plots to kidnap Michigan's Democratic Governor Gretchen Whitmer and attack the state capitol.
- Armenia and Azerbaijan have agreed to send their foreign ministers to Moscow for the first talks on ending the conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, Russia's foreign ministry said.

