

INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK

NATIONAL

- The number of coronavirus cases in India has reached 80,40,203 as 49,881 people tested positive in the last 24 hours, according to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- The coming long festive season poses a significant risk that may threaten the improvements made against COVID-19 so far," Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan said on Wednesday.
- Delhi's air quality fell into the 'very poor' category on Thursday morning with an Air Quality Index (AQI) reading of 381, as per data from the Central Pollution Control Board.
- Haryana Home Minister Anil Vij on Wednesday said that the man accused in the Faridabad murder case is a relative of Congress leaders.
- Amid deteriorating pollution levels in Noida, 25 teams are working across the district to implement emergency measures like mechanised sweeping and water spraying under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP).
- Wives of 600 former defence personnel in Maharashtra set up a transport company and pooled in resources to buy 44 buses and lease them to Pune Mahanagar Parivahan Mahamandal Limited (PMPML).
- Uttarakhand CM Trivendra Singh Rawat has moved Supreme Court after the Uttarakhand High Court ordered a CBI probe into corruption allegations levelled against him by a journalist.
- The Kolkata Police booked at least 3,200 people for not wearing face masks during the five-day Durga Puja festival, which started on October 22.
- The Oxford coronavirus vaccine produced by Serum Institute could be ready by December, CEO Adar Poonawalla said.
- The Defence Ministry has said "it may not be advisable" for Parliament's Public Accounts Committee (PAC) to visit Leh next month, given the standoff with China along the LAC.
- Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) said that 36,443 property tax defaulters have paid ₹85.83 crore in taxes under an amnesty scheme that waives off 80% of the penalty amount.
- Bharti Airtel's India and South Asia MD-CEO Gopal Vittal said the company won't bid for 5G spectrum if the reserve prices are high.
- Amazon is seeking to stop Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries from acquiring Future Group's retail, logistics and other assets for \$3.4 billion.



INTERNATIONAL

- Addressing the nation on Wednesday, French President Emmanuel Macron announced a second nationwide lockdown starting Friday until the end of November.
- In its new 20 riyal banknote to mark the Saudi Arabian presidency of the G20 summit next month, the Kingdom has removed Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir (PoK) and Gilgit-Baltistan from Pakistan's map.
- A police officer was killed by a rooster while raiding an illegal cockfighting session in the Philippines.
- A doctor in China removed 20 live worms from a man's eyelid and placed them in a clear container.
- US President Donald Trump's campaign website was briefly hacked in an apparent cryptocurrency scam. "The world has had enough of the fake-news spread daily by Trump," a message on the website read.
- Over 20 lakh coronavirus cases were reported globally last week, the WHO said, adding it's the shortest time it has taken for such an increase since the pandemic began.
- Pakistan's National Command and Operation Centre announced various anti-coronavirus measures amid the second wave of COVID-19 infections.
- Italy on Wednesday recorded the biggest one-day tally of coronavirus cases with 24,991 people testing positive, the health ministry said. With this, the total number of cases in the country crossed 5.8 lakh.
- The Islamabad High Court has reprimanded the Pakistan government for keeping some Indian nationals in prison even though they have served their sentences in terrorism and espionage cases, local media reported.
- Thailand cabinet on Wednesday agreed to extend an emergency decree, put in place to curb the spread of COVID-19, until November end, a government spokesperson said.
- New York police made about 30 arrests during protests over the shooting of a black man armed with a knife in Philadelphia. The police said their vehicles were damaged and an officer suffered "non-life threatening" injuries.
- Egypt's President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi on Wednesday said that freedom of expression should stop if it offends the feelings of more than 1.5 billion Muslims.
- Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has said that Russia's attack on the training centre of the Syrian National Army forces shows that "it does not want lasting peace in the region".

