

INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK

NATIONAL

- India has reported 29,164 new COVID-19 cases in the last 24 hours. The last time the country reported less than 30,000 cases was in mid-July.
- At least 75 doctors and 250 paramedics, reportedly from the paramilitary forces, are on their way to Delhi from different parts of India, amid a surge in coronavirus cases in the national capital.
- The air quality improved in parts of Delhi on Tuesday morning, with the Air Quality Index (AQI) in several places including Lodhi Road (119), ITO area (176) and Rohini (186) in the 'moderate' category.
- Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation officials said that a cleaning drive has been initiated at the banks of Hindon river, ahead of Chhath festival on November 20.
- A delayed ban on firecrackers and non-cooperation from revellers in complying with the curbs during Diwali hindered efforts to stop any further deterioration of air quality in Delhi, top police officials said.
- Mumbai's Shree Siddhivinayak Temple reopened on Monday after being closed since March amid COVID-19 pandemic. Only 1,000 devotees will be allowed inside the temple every day in staggered time slots after booking their appointments for 'darshan'.
- BJP National General Secretary CT Ravi on Monday tweeted that Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University should be renamed as Swami Vivekananda University.
- BJP General Secretary Tarun Chugh has announced that the party has started preparations "on a war footing" to contest all 117 seats in the 2022 Punjab Assembly elections.
- The Ministry of Defence has given its nod for pipelines to be laid over the defence area in Pune's Phursungi. The project, planned by the Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran (MJP), had reportedly hit a roadblock.
- The Odisha government has prohibited mass celebration of Chhath Puja on Friday and Saturday, including bathing at river banks, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The finance ministry has given its approval to civil aviation regulator, DGCA, to set up a separate Drones Directorate.
- Pfizer's shares fell as much as 4.5% on Monday after rival Moderna said its experimental COVID-19 vaccine, which is 94.5% effective, can be stored at normal fridge temperatures of 2-8°C for 30 days and for up to 6 months at -20°C.





- A man identified as PKD Nambiar has sent a legal notice to Delhi eatery 'Mahabelly' for allegedly hurting religious sentiments by using pictures of Hindu gods on food packets.
- Oil India Limited on Sunday said that the fire at its Baghjan oil well in Assam has been doused completely.

INTERNATIONAL

- The WHO's Director-General Tedros Adhanom on Monday said a vaccine would not by itself stop the coronavirus pandemic.
- US President Donald Trump on Monday took credit for American biotechnology company Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine's 94.5% efficacy. "Another vaccine just announced.
- The German government has released a video calling those who do nothing and stay at home 'COVID-19 heroes'.
- Former US President Barack Obama in his latest book 'A Promised Land' has revealed that he spent his childhood years in Indonesia listening to Ramayana and Mahabharata.
- The green and fawn kakapo, the world's heaviest and longest-living parrot, has been named as New Zealand's bird of the year 2020.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has reported 65 cases of coronavirus among staff based at its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, Associated Press, citing an internal email, reported.
- US President-elect Joe Biden has said the country needs to negotiate with allies to set global trading rules to counter China's growing influence.
- Thousands of protesters clashed with the Pakistani Police on the main road into the country's capital Islamabad on Monday following protests over the recent publication of cartoons of Prophet Muhammad in France.
- An Alaska Airlines plane struck and killed a brown bear while landing at the Yakutat Airport in Southeast Alaska, US, officials said. The bear's cub was uninjured, an official said.
- Elon Musk-led SpaceX successfully launched four astronauts into space on its first commercial crew flight for NASA.
- The increase in the number of Zoom meetings due to COVID-19 could be behind a surge in the demand for plastic surgery, experts said in an editorial published in Facial Plastic Surgery & Aesthetic Medicine.

