

INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK
NATIONAL

- India's total COVID-19 cases near 91 lakh, while the number of people who have recovered from the disease rose to over 85.21 lakh, according to the Union Health Ministry data.
- Amid rise in COVID-19 cases in India, inadequate beds in government hospitals and absence of specific guidelines resulted in private hospitals charging exorbitant fees from patients, a parliamentary panel said.
- PM Narendra Modi on Saturday attended 15th edition of G20 Summit hosted by Saudi Arabia virtually. "At the Summit, I put forward a need to develop a new global index based on talent, technology, transparency and trusteeship towards the planet," said PM Modi.
- India summoned Pakistan High Commission officials including the Charge d'Affaires on Saturday to raise concerns over J&K's Nagrota encounter in which four terrorists were killed.
- A 17-year-old boy from Maharashtra's Nashik has travelled from Srinagar to Kanyakumari on a bicycle in eight days, seven hours and 38 minutes, breaking the record for the fastest bicycle journey across India. Om Mahajan finished the journey of 3,600 km on Saturday afternoon.
- Chennai Police on Saturday arrested a 67-year-old man, identified as Durairaj, for throwing a placard towards Home Minister Amit Shah while he was walking down the road greeting BJP supporters.
- Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan has signed an ordinance amending Kerala Police Act which proposes five years of imprisonment or a fine of ₹10,000 or both for any social media post that is deemed "offensive" or threatening.
- To curb rising COVID-19 cases, the Rajasthan government has decided to impose night curfew from 8 pm to 6 am in eight most affected districts.
- Comedian Bharti Singh's husband Haarsh Limbachiyaa has been arrested by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) after hours of questioning.
- Moderna will charge governments between \$25 and \$37 (₹1,850 and ₹2,740) per dose of its COVID-19 vaccine candidate, depending on the amount ordered, CEO Stéphane Bancel has said.
- Two men named Anirban Roy and Parimal Roy, hailing from West Bengal's Kolkata and Murshidabad, respectively, were held on Saturday for forging COVID-19 test reports in Gurugram's Saini Khera village.



- Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) said a total of 57 officer trainees have tested COVID-19 positive at the civil services training institute in Mussoorie in Uttarakhand .

INTERNATIONAL

- Twitter will transfer @POTUS account to Joe Biden on Inauguration Day, even if US President Donald Trump doesn't concede his election loss, the micro-blogging platform confirmed to POLITICO.
- In latest guidelines for law enforcement agencies, Interpol warned COVID-19 infected letters can be sent to target political figures.
- Singapore will charge an activist with staging a one-man protest without permit over an incident in which he held up a sign bearing a smiley face outside a police station.
- France has told Qatar to not allow Pakistan-origin technicians to work with Rafale fighter jets over concerns that they could leak technical information, a report said.
- A journalist gatecrashed a confidential video conference of EU defence ministers after the Dutch Defence Minister shared a picture online that revealed some of the login details.
- The Trump administration has done "everything statutorily required" to do in the event of a transition, White House Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany said.
- UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Friday said that "the recent breakthroughs on COVID-19 vaccines offer a ray of hope."
- US President Donald Trump on Friday alleged that "Big Pharma ran millions of dollars of negative advertisements" against him during the election campaign.
- Canada's largest city Toronto, and Peel region in the Ontario province will be moving into a 28-day lockdown from Monday amid the rising coronavirus cases, Ontario Premier Doug Ford announced .
- The Islamic State has claimed responsibility for a terrorist attack in Afghanistan's Kabul.
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) leaders, including US President Donald Trump, have pledged to work toward free, open and non-discriminatory trade in their first joint statement since 2017.
- An anti-terrorism court (ATC) in Pakistan has jailed two more aides of 2008 Mumbai attack mastermind and Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD) chief Hafiz Saeed in a terror-financing case.
- The US and Taiwan held their first high-level meetings under a new economic dialogue and signed a pact to establish annual economic talks for five years.

