



INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK

NATIONAL

- India has reported 31,521 new coronavirus cases in the last 24 hours, taking the total number of cases to 97,67,371.
- The BSE Sensex soared 494.99 points on Wednesday to close above 46,100-mark for the first time.
- The BSE Sensex rallied over 400 points and hit the 46,000-mark for the first time amid optimism over recovery from the economic slowdown caused by the coronavirus.
- Chairperson of Delhi Assembly's Environment Committee Atishi told the commissioners of East and North Delhi Municipal Corporations that complacency towards air quality "won't be tolerated".
- A family in Punjab didn't accept gifts at a wedding and instead placed a donation box asking guests to donate money for the farmers protesting against farm laws at Delhi borders.
- Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday said the state would set up 35,000 centres for the COVID-19 vaccine and all of them will be under CCTV vigil.
- Karnataka Assembly passed the Karnataka Prevention of Slaughter and Preservation of Cattle Bill, 2020 after the Opposition staged a walkout to protest against the Bill.
- A 30-year-old CRPF constable, who is part of the force's wrestling team, has accused the team coach Surjit Singh and Chief Sports Officer Khajan Singh of rape.
- A BRTS bus collided with a pillar of an underpass in Akhbarnagar area of Gujarat's Ahmedabad on Wednesday, splitting the vehicle into two pieces.
- Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Airport announced on Wednesday that it will begin its first direct flight to the USA from Jan 15, 2021.
- As many as 12 armed men robbed a jewellery shop in Bihar's Darbhanga on Wednesday and fled with diamond and gold ornaments worth around ₹10 crore.
- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has featured on Forbes list of world's 100 most powerful women at 41st position. HCL Technologies Chairperson and India's richest woman, Roshni Nadar Malhotra, has been ranked 55th on the Forbes list. India's richest self-made woman billionaire Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, the 67-year-old Chairperson of Biocon, has been featured on the 68th position on the list.
- NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant said that Indian tech companies have witnessed over \$38 billion investment in the last five to six months while the world was reeling under the impact of COVID-19.



INTERNATIONAL

- UK regulators have issued a warning that people who have a history of significant allergic reactions should not currently receive the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.
- A health official, Anna Popova, in Russia has warned that anyone getting vaccinated against COVID-19 with Sputnik V vaccine should give up alcohol for almost two months.
- A top-secret military aircraft known as the 'Doomsday Plane', which was recently raided by thieves, is designed to carry top officials in the event of a nuclear attack.
- China detained Uighur Muslims for reasons including "switching off their phone repeatedly", "generally acting suspiciously" and being "born after the 1980s", leaked documents obtained by Human Rights Watch revealed.
- US President Donald Trump said it's "terrific" that nearly 15% of Americans contracted coronavirus since the outbreak began in the US, describing infections as a "very powerful vaccine in itself" while apparently referring to herd immunity.
- COVID-19 was circulating in Italy as early as the end of November 2019, months before the first known case was reported in February, according to a report published by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Two oil wells in an oilfield in northern Iraq were set ablaze using explosives in a "terrorist attack", the Oil Ministry said. Technical teams isolated the two burning wells and the overall production from the field wasn't affected, two sources said.
- Iran has arrested some of the people involved in last month's assassination of the country's most senior nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, state media, citing an official, reported.
- US President-elect Joe Biden's son Hunter Biden on Wednesday said US attorney's office in Delaware is investigating his "tax affairs".
- UN Secretary-General António Guterres said that rich countries are failing to provide financial assistance to poor nations to cope with the effects of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Following Apple's announcement that all third-party apps on its App Store would require detailed information on privacy, a WhatsApp spokesperson has called the move "anti-competitive".
- Elon Musk-led SpaceX's space rocket Starship SN8 exploded on landing after what it termed a successful nearly seven-minute flight.

