

INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK

NATIONAL

- India has reported 13,788 new COVID-19 cases and 145 more deaths in the last 24 hours, according to the Union Health Ministry.
- Smokers and vegetarians were found to have lower seropositivity indicating that they may be at a lesser risk of getting infected by coronavirus, according to a pan-India serosurvey conducted by the CSIR.
- An FIR was registered in Lucknow against director Ali Abbas Zafar, Amazon Prime Video's India head of original content Aparna Purohit, producer Himanshu Mehra, writer Gaurav Solanki and others for allegedly hurting religious sentiments.
- Congress leader Siddaramaiah on Sunday said that BJP's high command will remove Yediyurappa as the Chief Minister of Karnataka in April this year.
- Three District Secretaries of actor Rajinikanth's political party Rajini Makkal Mandram joined Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) in presence of party chief MK Stalin in Chennai .
- The Vistadome coach on the Jan Shatabdi Express flagged off in Gujarat has 44 recliner-180 degree rotatable seats. There are automatic sliding doors at both gates of the coach and glass rooftops.
- 456 health workers, out of the designated 800 beneficiaries, were vaccinated at eight centres in Pune's Pimpri-Chinchwad .
- Kerala reported 5,005 new COVID-19 cases on Sunday, taking the total number of active cases in the state to 68,991, according to Kerala Health and Family Welfare Department.
- Police in Uttar Pradesh's Bareilly has lodged an FIR against unknown persons after several pamphlets addressed to people of a particular community against taking COVID-19 vaccine shots and spreading rumours about their ingredients surfaced.
- Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank on Sunday said that he will virtually interact with the students of Kendriya Vidyalaya on January 18 at 12 pm.
- The Cyber Crime Cell of Delhi Police has warned that posting grievances on platforms such as Twitter or public forums may attract fraudsters impersonating as customer care executives.
- After TMC MP Satabdi Roy met CM Mamata Banerjee's nephew Abhishek Banerjee, the actress-turned-politician was named on the Vice-President of the party's West Bengal unit.
- BESCOM has said that there will be power outages in some parts of Bengaluru between 10 am and 5.30 pm from January 18 to 22.



- During a press conference in Nagpur on Sunday, Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) leader Rakesh Tikait said that the farmers are ready to protest till May 2024 and demanded from the government to repeal the new farm laws.
- The Cyber Cell of Mumbai Police has arrested a 32-year-old Gujarat man for allegedly duping 22,000 customers of ₹70 lakh through an online shopping portal, police said. Police said that the accused created a fake shopping portal named 'Shopiiee.com' and claimed to sell branded products at reduced prices.

INTERNATIONAL

- US defence officials have said they are worried about an insider attack or other threat from service members involved in securing President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration.
- The US has claimed that researchers inside the Wuhan lab became sick in autumn 2019, before the first identified case of COVID-19. The US said they had symptoms consistent with both COVID-19 and common seasonal illnesses.
- Russian opposition leader and critic of President Vladimir Putin, Alexey Navalny, was detained by police on Sunday, moments after his return to the country and five months after he was poisoned with the nerve agent Novichok.
- Lai Chi-wai became the first in Hong Kong to climb more than 250 meters of a skyscraper while strapped into a wheelchair as he pulled himself up for over 10 hours to raise money for spinal cord patients.
- Japan has culled record 5.8 million chickens since November 2020 due to bird flu, the country's public broadcaster NHK has reported.
- Egypt has unveiled a new archaeological discovery at the Saqqara necropolis south of Cairo, including 54 wooden coffins, many of which can be traced back 3,000 years to the New Kingdom period.
- Ahead of US President-elect Joe Biden's oath-taking ceremony, a man from Virginia has been arrested at the inauguration checkpoint in Washington, DC, for carrying an unregistered handgun with over 500 rounds of ammunition in his car.
- US President-elect Joe Biden plans to sign several executive orders, including rejoining the Paris climate accord and ending the travel ban on predominantly Muslim countries, on his first day in office, according to a memo from incoming chief of staff Ron Klain.

