

INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK

NATIONAL

- India has reported 16,946 new COVID-19 cases and 198 more deaths in the last 24 hours, according to the Union Health Ministry.
- The Delhi International Airport will get first of its kind genome sequencing lab on Thursday for testing samples of arriving travellers who test positive for COVID-19.
- The air quality index (AQI) in Delhi on Thursday deteriorated to 392 from 354 on the previous day, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) recordings showed.
- All 100 samples taken from Asia's largest chicken market in Delhi's Ghazipur have tested negative for bird flu, Delhi government's animal husbandry department said .
- An IndiGo plane scheduled to take off for Delhi got stuck in the snow that was accumulated adjacent to the taxiway at the Srinagar airport.
- Srinagar experienced the coldest winter night in the past 25 years on Wednesday with temperatures dropping to minus 8.4°C.
- Maharashtra State Election Commission has cancelled the gram panchayat elections in Umrane village of Nashik and Khondamali village of Nandurbar after complaints and videos of auctions of panchayat seats there.
- Speaking on the occasion of Veterans' Day on Thursday, Army Chief General MM Naravane said, "I would like to say that this entire year will be celebrated as 'Golden Victory Year' to mark the 1971 war victory."
- Brazil has sent a plane to India to import 20 lakh doses of Oxford-AstraZeneca coronavirus vaccine that is being manufactured by Serum Institute of India, Health Minister Eduardo Pazuello said.
- Karnataka is set to receive 20,000 doses of Covaxin COVID-19 vaccine soon, said Health and Medical Education Minister K Sudhakar.
- The Maharashtra government has culled over 11,000 birds in Kendrewadi and Sukani villages of Latur district to stop the spread of bird flu.
- Pune City Police's Crime Branch booked four persons for selling Chinese nylon 'manja' (kite string) which has been banned as per the orders of Bombay High Court.
- Mahindra & Mahindra has reportedly cut over half of the workforce at its North American unit, which had over 500 employees in early 2020.
- Vijay Mallya has been denied permission to appeal against a UK High Court order which refused to dismiss bankruptcy proceedings brought by a consortium of 13 Indian banks led by the SBI.



- SEBI has banned CNBC-Awaaz anchor Hemant Ghai, his wife and mother from securities market for fraudulent trading practices, following which Network18 fired him.
- IBM India became the second largest contributor to the total of 9,130 patents received by global technology giant in 2020.
- The Delhi High Court has granted stay on a plea by PayPal which challenged the imposition of ₹96 lakh penalty on PayPal for allegedly violating anti-money laundering law.

INTERNATIONAL

- Donald Trump on Wednesday became the first President in US history to be impeached twice as the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives formally charged him with "incitement of insurrection".
- Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey on Thursday said that banning US President Donald Trump from Twitter was the "right decision" but added that it sets a dangerous precedent.
- Intel CEO Bob Swan is set to step down from his position on February 15, CNBC reported on Wednesday.
- Unilever CEO Alan Jope has said the company's office workers will never return to their desks five days a week. He added that Unilever would use a "hybrid mode" of working between homes and offices from April.
- UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Wednesday said that the country aims to operate a 24-hour, seven-day a week vaccination programme as soon as possible.
- The US on Wednesday said that over 1 crore people have received their first dose of coronavirus vaccine in the country so far.
- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Wednesday said that it has vaccinated 12.75 lakh people against coronavirus so far.
- Armenian President Armen Sarkissian has been hospitalised with double pneumonia after he tested positive for COVID-19 on January 5, his office said.
- Brazil President Jair Bolsonaro has urged his followers to join Telegram and Parler, in a move to pivot away from Twitter and Facebook. Bolsonaro on Wednesday invited his 6.6 million Twitter followers to subscribe to his channel on Telegram.
- The Bolivian government has signed a contract with Serum Institute of India (SII) for the supply of 50 lakh doses of AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine.

