

INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK
NATIONAL

- India recorded 56,211 new COVID-19 cases and 271 deaths in the last 24 hours, according to Union Health Ministry. With this latest spike, the total number of COVID-19 cases in India inched towards the 1.21-crore mark.
- Delhi Police issued a total of 3,282 challans for various traffic violations in the city on the occasion of Holi.
- Delhi's Directorate of Education has identified around 2,300 children with special needs and will give them means so that they can pursue their dreams.
- In the wake of increasing COVID-19 cases, the Chandigarh administration has declared 25 areas in the Union Territory as containment zones.
- The Income Tax Department has recovered unaccounted cash worth ₹1 crore from the residence of AIADMK MLA R Chandrasekar's driver in Tiruchirappalli.
- Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah has tested positive for coronavirus with "some symptoms", his son Omar Abdullah tweeted.
- Fire brigade officials were called after a suspected chemical leak was reported from the basement parking of the Central Mall near Garware grounds in the Deccan area of Pune .
- Assam BJP president Ranjeet Kumar Dass has expelled seven leaders from the party for contesting as Independents in the state Assembly elections after being denied tickets, Assam BJP General Secretary Rajdeep Roy said.
- Cash and other items worth ₹248.9 crore have been seized till now in West Bengal, the state's Additional Chief Electoral Officer Sanjoy Basu said.
- BJP leader V Muraleedharan on Monday stated that mainstream parties should speak about "love jihad". "BJP didn't rake up this issue, it's been existing in society.
- A day after Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray asked officials to prepare for lockdown as people continue to violate COVID-19 protocols, state BJP chief Chandrakant Patil said that imposing lockdown is not a solution.
- A 30-year-old man was held in Maharashtra for allegedly stealing ATM cards during bank customers' visits for cash withdrawal.
- The shares of Nazara Technologies, which is the first Indian gaming company to make a market debut, got listed at ₹1,990 on NSE .
- Businessman Anand Mahindra tweeted to Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray, "The people a lockdown hurts most are the poor, migrant workers & small businesses."





- Thirty Indian companies raised over ₹31,000 crore through initial public offerings (IPOs) in 2020-21 amid a bull run in domestic equity market, as against over ₹20,000 crore mopped up through 13 IPOs in 2019-20.
- Housing sales in Mumbai in March 2021 increased 234% over the same period last year, a report by Knight Frank India showed.

INTERNATIONAL

- A joint WHO-China study on the origins of COVID-19 says that the virus was probably transmitted from bats to humans through another animal, according to a draft copy obtained by The Associated Press.
- Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has been criticised after a video showing him trying to touch a female helper's private part at his home went viral.
- The giant ship Ever Given that had blocked trade after getting stuck in Suez Canal has been finally freed, the salvage teams and Egyptian authorities said.
- A court in Paris on Monday found French pharmaceutical firm Servier guilty in a case involving its diabetes and weight loss medication Mediator.
- Nike has filed a federal trademark infringement lawsuit against art collective MSCHF that released a customised version of its sneakers in collaboration with rapper Lil Nas X.
- Canada on Monday suspended the use of the Oxford-AstraZeneca coronavirus vaccine for people under age 55 following concerns it might be linked to rare blood clots.
- Peter Berdowski, the CEO of the salvage firm hired to extract the ship stuck at the Suez Canal said, "Don't cheer too soon."
- The giant container ship Ever Given that was stranded in Egypt's Suez Canal for six days was successfully refloated .
- US President Joe Biden has said that 90% of US adults would be eligible for COVID-19 vaccination by April 19 and final 10% by May 1.
- Huawei has suspended downloads of Nike and Adidas from its app store amid the Xinjiang cotton controversy, media reports said.
- Bitcoin and Ethereum jumped on Monday after Visa said it'll allow the use of cryptocurrency to settle transactions on its payment network. Bitcoin rose by 4.5% to hit a one-week high of \$58,300.

