

INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK

NATIONAL

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi took his first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at Delhi's AIIMS today as the second phase of vaccination drive began in India.
- India reported a spike of 15,510 COVID-19 cases along with 106 deaths in the last 24 hours, according to the Union Health Ministry.
- Sister P Niveda from Puducherry administered the first dose of coronavirus vaccine to PM Narendra Modi at Delhi's AIIMS.
- In span of three days, Punjab's Cabinet Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa tested positive for COVID-19 only for subsequent tests to report him negative.
- The Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) on Sunday issued an official order allowing final-year MPhil students entry into the campus.
- Residents of Noida, including office-bearers of residents' bodies, staged a protest against Noida Metro Rail Corporation (NMRC) for skipping 10 stations during peak hours on weekdays to reduce travel time between Noida and Greater Noida.
- Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) seized foreign cigarettes worth over ₹4.75 crore at a container freight station near Nhava Sheva port in Mumbai.
- The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) arrested three drug peddlers during raids across Mumbai and recovered drugs worth ₹15 lakh during the operation.
- Tamil Nadu government has extended the existing coronavirus-related restrictions till March 31 to control the spread of the virus.
- Bengal BJP worker Gopal Majumdar has alleged that three TMC workers entered his house in North 24 Parganas and attacked his mother
- Five student-built satellites were among those sent to space in ISRO's PSLV-C51 on Sunday. The 'SD-SAT', built by Chennai's Space Kidz India, is to study radiation levels. A combination of three satellites 'UNITYsat', built by students of three engineering colleges, will provide radio relay service.
- A 21-year-old man was trampled to death by a wild elephant in Chhattisgarh. The deceased and his three friends were trying to click a selfie with the elephant when the elephant charged towards them, trampling one of them to death.
- A restaurant owner's son, who was shot at by terrorists in J&K's Srinagar on February 17, succumbed to his injuries.



- Kerala's ruling CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front on Sunday released its campaign slogan 'Surely, it is LDF' for the upcoming Assembly polls.
- Ahead of the Indian military's participation in the 70th-anniversary celebration of the Sri Lanka Air Force in March, India has described Sri Lanka as a "Priority One" partner in the defence sphere.
- Centre has granted clearances for the diversion of 140 hectares of forest land from Goa's Mollem National Park and Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary for South Western Railway's double-tracking project.

INTERNATIONAL

- In his first public appearance since leaving the White House, former US President Donald Trump suggested he may launch a third presidential bid, but said he has no plans to start an alternative to the Republican Party.
- Archaeologists have unearthed an ancient Roman ceremonial carriage from a villa outside Pompeii- the city buried in a volcanic eruption in 79 AD- in Italy.
- A controlled detonation was carried out on an unexploded World War Two bomb found in England's Exeter and a video of the detonation was released by the city council.
- Thailand on Sunday began its mass vaccination drive against coronavirus, with Deputy PM and Health Minister Anutin Charnvirakul being the first person in the country to be inoculated.
- Speaking at an event, Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai said, "It's my dream to see India and Pakistan become true good friends and...we can visit each other's countries."
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- The European Union (EU) has summoned its Cuba envoy to explain why he reportedly signed an appeal asking US President Joe Biden to lift sanctions against Cuba and begin normalising ties with the country.
- Bangladeshi writer Mushtaq Ahmed, who was among 11 charged last year over social media posts critical of the government, has died in jail, officials said.
- At least 18 people were killed and 30 others were injured during a crackdown by security forces on anti-coup protests in Myanmar, the UN human rights office said.
- A second former aide to US' New York state Governor Andrew Cuomo has accused him of sexual harassment. Charlotte Bennett alleged that the governor asked her inappropriate questions about her sex life, including whether she ever had sex with older men.

