

INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK

NATIONAL

- India has reported 3,57,229 new COVID-19 cases and 3,449 more deaths in the last 24 hours, as per the Union Health Ministry.
- Prices of petrol and diesel were today hiked for the first time after 18 days of unchanged rates. The price of petrol in Delhi stands at ₹90.55/litre today, up 15 paise from yesterday, while diesel prices in the national capital were hiked by 18 paise to ₹80.91 per litre.
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- Punjab CM Captain Amarinder Singh took to Twitter to reveal coronavirus vaccine stocks in the state stand depleted at less than 50,000.
- Four gang members have been arrested for allegedly black marketing oxygen concentrators and 115 of the machines have been seized from their possession, Delhi Police
- A crematorium in Bengaluru's Chamrajpet, which ran out of space, put up a 'House Full' board at the gate. The ANI reported that the crematorium takes more than 20 bodies for cremation every day.
- The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) under the Finance Ministry has clarified that there are no pending consignments of 3,000 oxygen concentrators with the Custom authorities.
- Former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan has said that India's overwhelming surge of COVID-19 cases revealed complacency after last year's first wave, as well as a "lack of foresight, a lack of leadership".
- Serum Institute of India will invest £240 million (₹2,460 crore) in the UK to expand its vaccine business and set up a new sales office.
- Serum Institute of India (SII) CEO Adar Poonawalla on Monday issued a statement to "clarify certain things" adding that his comments "may have been misinterpreted".
- The Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) said the second wave of COVID-19 and localised lockdowns imposed to curb its spread have impacted 75 lakh jobs, pushing the unemployment rate up to a four-month high.
- UP government has decided to hire doctors retired from the armed forces, medical colleges and government medical services as the requirement of physicians to treat COVID-19 patients is increasing in hospitals across the state.



- The fifth in a series of consignments carrying 545 oxygen concentrators arrived from the United States on Tuesday, as part of COVID-19 assistance.
- Tech Mahindra has converted its office cafeteria in Noida's Special Economic Zone into a 40-bed COVID-19 care facility. The facility has basic medical infrastructure to help patients with mild infections recuperate in case they are unable to procure a hospital bed.
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INTERNATIONAL

- Bitcoin's trading volume of \$1.84 trillion in April 2021 was at least 7.4 times higher compared to Apple's \$249.22 billion, according to research firm Finbold.
- Pfizer has said that it told the Indian government there was no concern over the safety of its COVID-19 vaccine.
- Facebook's billionaire CEO Mark Zuckerberg and his wife Priscilla Chan have bought 600 more acres of land in Hawaii for \$53 million (over ₹391 crore).
- An American woman who didn't know she was pregnant gave birth to her son mid-flight and a video of the incident, posted by another passenger, went viral online.
- The Philippine Foreign Minister on Monday posted an expletive-laced tweet, asking China's vessels to get out of disputed South China Sea waters.
- Nepal's PM KP Sharma Oli on Monday appealed to other countries for COVID-19 vaccines, diagnostic equipment, oxygen and other supplies to help the country fight the pandemic.
- The WHO-led COVAX global vaccine equity programme said it has signed an agreement to buy 50 crore doses of Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine.
- Taiwan will ban the entry of people who have visited India in the past 14 days from Tuesday over a sharp increase in COVID-19 cases.
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- Bangladesh has announced that the national lockdown imposed to curb the spread of coronavirus has been extended till May 16.
- Denmark on Monday said that it has dropped the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine from its inoculation programme citing "a possible link between rare but severe cases of blood clots".

