

**INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK****NATIONAL**

- India on Saturday reported 1,73,790 new coronavirus cases, the lowest single-day rise in the last 45 days.
- India's unemployment rate rose to 7.11% during the pandemic hit-2020 to reach the highest level in at least three decades, according to the International Labour Organization's (ILO) ILOSTAT database.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday announced that the GST Council has decided to extend the exemption of IGST on import of Covid-19 relief items till August 31.
- Delhi government has floated a Global Expression of Interest (EOI) for procuring 10 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines.
- A Delhi-based advocate has filed a complaint against IMA Chief Dr JA Jayalal for "maliciously bringing Christianity in all statements made by him".
- Scottish High International School in Gurugram has decided to give a full fee waiver to those students who lost a parent to COVID-19.
- A PIL filed in Kerala HC claimed that the newly introduced reforms in Lakshadweep are "compromising the fundamental rights" of its residents.
- The Maharashtra government on Friday said that students in Mumbai who have been admitted to universities abroad and need to get vaccinated before travelling will be inoculated on priority.
- Mumbai on Saturday became the first metro city where petrol price crossed the ₹100 per litre mark after fuel rates were hiked for the 15th time this month.
- Seven people have died and several others are feared trapped under the debris after slab of a residential building in Maharashtra's Thane collapsed.
- A picture of an IIT Goa end semester question paper for 'Analog Circuits' subject, which asked students to frame their own questions and then answer them, has gone viral on social media.
- Uttarakhand chapter of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) has challenged yoga guru Baba Ramdev for a debate with a panel discussion.
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- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said that medium and small enterprises can file their pending returns with reduced late fees.
- The RBI has pulled out 91.2 crore pieces of ₹2,000 notes from circulation over the past three years. The number of ₹2,000 notes in circulation in the Indian economy reduced to 245.1 crore, as of March 2021, according to the RBI's annual report.
- RBI has imposed a ₹10-crore penalty on HDFC Bank Limited over deficiencies in regulatory compliance, it stated. It said irregularities were found after examination of a whistleblower complaint with respect to the bank's auto loan portfolio.
- As several states have complained of vaccine shortage, Covaxin's manufacturer Bharat Biotech on Friday said that the COVID-19 vaccine takes nearly four months to reach people after production starts, depending on "technology framework and regulatory guidelines"

#### INTERNATIONAL

- WHO's Regional Director for Europe Hans Kluge on Friday said that the COVID-19 pandemic won't end until at least 70% of people are vaccinated.
- Thirty-two members of Parliament in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) have died from COVID-19 so far, First Vice President of the National Assembly Jean-Marc Kabund said.
- Vietnam Health Minister Nguyen Thanh Long has said that the country has detected a new variant of the coronavirus, which is a mix of the COVID-19 variants first detected in India and UK.
- Police have discovered a cryptocurrency operation that used stolen electricity to mine bitcoin in UK's West Midlands.
- A UFO filmmaker has shared a video clip depicting radar footage he claimed shows at least 14 unidentified flying objects (UFOs) over a US Navy ship off the coast of San Diego almost two years ago.
- Hindu American Foundation had alleged that it has been threatened by Pakistan government for launching a website that accuses Pakistan Army for its role in the 1971 Bengali Hindu genocide in Bangladesh.
- Tsang Yin Hung, a 44-year-old teacher-turned-mountaineer from Hong Kong, has set the record for the fastest ascent of Mount Everest by a woman, as per Nepalese government liaison officer.