6 August 2021

INDIA STATES TIMES NEWS DESK

NATIONAL

- Bharat Biotech on Thursday said that every batch of its COVID-19 vaccine Covaxin is subjected to over 200 quality control tests followed by the submission of samples to the Central Drugs Laboratory.
- Director General of Coast Guard, K Natarajan, has been elected as the next **Executive Director of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy** and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP).
- Indian airlines and airports incurred financial losses worth ₹22,400 crore in financial year 2020-21, Minister of State for Civil Aviation VK Singh said.
- Nobel laureate Abhijit Banerjee on Thursday apprehended that a third COVID-19 wave might adversely impact India's GDP growth, pulling it down to 7% in 2021-22.
- In seven years of PM Narendra Modi's government, 75% of stolen heritage antiquities returned to India, Union Minister G Kishan Reddy informed the Parliament on Thursday, calling it a matter of pride.
- Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure has been imposed in Bengaluru till 6 am on August 16, according to an order by the city's police amid a gradual rise in COVID-19 cases.
- Pune City Police has reported a steep rise in online fraud cases in which people have been cheated while trying to make online purchases of items, including alcohol and electronic items from fraudulent links.
- The government introduced The Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021, in the Lok Sabha to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961, to scrap the retrospective tax law.
- Indian pharmaceutical firm Panacea Biotec has agreed to produce up to 2.5 crore doses of Sputnik V COVID-19 vaccine, the company said in a regulatory filing.
- The temporary delay in delivery of Sputnik V COVID-19 vaccine due to production scale-up will be fully resolved in August, the vaccine's team said in a statement.
- Maruti Suzuki India on Thursday said its total production in July increased by 58% to 1,70,719 units, as against 1,07,687 units in the year-ago period.







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- Chennai-based Chemplast Sanmar's ₹3,850-crore initial public offering (IPO) will open on August 10 at a price band of ₹530-541 per share of face value of ₹5 each.
- Cairn Energy said that it has taken note of the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021 introduced in the Indian Parliament proposing certain changes to retrospective taxation measures.
- Titan reported a consolidated profit of ₹18 crore for the June quarter after a net loss of ₹297 crore in the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal.

INTERNATIONAL

- Hong Kong has reported its first local case of coronavirus in 58 days after government officials confirmed COVID-19 antibodies were found in the blood of a 43-year-old man, who has shown no symptoms and has no recent travel history.
- Venezuela on Thursday announced it'll remove six zeroes from the Venezuelan bolivar, its legal tender, to simplify daily transactions as it fights years of hyperinflation.
- A mob attacked a temple in Pakistan's Rahim Yar Khan district after an 8-yearold boy allegedly urinated in the library of a madrasa.
- Chinese President Xi Jinping on Thursday said that China will strive to provide 2 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines to other countries in 2021, state broadcaster **CCTV** reported.
- Russia has administered COVID-19 vaccines to 38.9 million people, about 27% of its population, Health Minister Mikhail Murashko said.
- UK police have arrested 11 people in connection with the online racial abuse of England's black players after the Euro 2020 final defeat last month. Marcus Rashford, Jadon Sancho and Bukayo Saka were subjected to online abuse after they missed penalties.
- Pakistan deployed paramilitary forces in a central town on Thursday to check communal unrest after a mob ransacked and set fire to a Hindu temple in Rahim Yar Khan district.
- Google Co-founder and the world's sixth-richest person Larry Page was allowed into New Zealand despite its borders being closed for non-residents.
- Amazon has told its corporate employees that it doesn't expect them to return to office until next year amid rising COVID-19 cases.





