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1st September 2021

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NATIONAL

- The schools in Delhi reopened for classes 9 to 12, starting today, after about 17 months. Pictures from various schools have surfaced online wherein students can be seen following COVID-19 rules strictly.
- Mumbai reported 323 fresh COVID-19 cases on Tuesday taking the total number of active cases in the city to 3,106, according to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC).
- Tamil Nadu government on Tuesday passed a Bill in the Assembly to integrate a university named after late CM J Jayalalithaa with another state-run institution, the Annamalai University.
- Jharkhand's Akanksha Kumari has become government-owned Coal India's firstever woman mining engineer to work in an underground mine. She has been officially posted in Churi underground mines in the North Karanpura area of the Central Coalfields Limited (CCL), a subsidiary of Coal India.
- The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on Tuesday clarified that "papad, by whatever name known, is exempt from GST" and it isn't distinguished based on its shape.
- After spending two years in jail, a 24-year-old man accused of raping his sister in Mumbai has been cleared of all charges after his sister testified she filed the complaint because he scolded and assaulted her for going out with her boyfriend.
- The price of a domestic LPG cylinder has been increased by ₹25 from September 1. A 14.2 kg cylinder now costs ₹884.50 in Delhi and Mumbai as against ₹859.50 earlier, while in Chennai, the price reached ₹900.50.
- Congress leader Garima Dasauni said that it was against the norms for Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari to use an Uttarakhand government plane for flying to Dehradun recently.
- Tamil Nadu BJP chief K Annamalai said that protests would be held in September against the resolution passed in the state Assembly by the DMK government seeking to repeal Centre's three farm laws.
- The Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation on Tuesday said, "The real GDP has strongly bounced back in the first quarter (April-June) of the Financial Year 2021-22 with growth rate of 20.1%.

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- Bharti Airtel has issued a clarification saying it "doesn't comment on media speculation/report(s)" after TOI reported that Google is in advanced talks to invest "several thousands of crores".
 - Zerodha Co-founder Nikhil Kamath on Tuesday criticised China's decision to ban children below 18 years from playing video games for more than three hours a week, saying he'd prefer "bad roads over dictators any day".
 - Flipkart Co-founder Sachin Bansal told Moneycontrol, "Flipkart was creating a talent shortage at some point in time when we hired almost every engineer from the market in 2013-14."

INTERNATIONAL

- A new 'C.1.2' coronavirus variant has been detected in South Africa and its mutations are associated with "increased transmissibility", according to a non-peer-reviewed paper published about the variant.
- PM Narendra Modi on Tuesday discussed the recent developments in Afghanistan with European Council President Charles Michel, even as the Indian envoy to Qatar met Taliban representative Sher Mohammad Abbas Stanikzai in Doha.
- The US has denied that it left military dogs in cages at Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul. Pentagon Press Secretary John Kirby said, "Photos circulating online were animals under the care of the Kabul Small Animal Rescue, not dogs under our care."
- The US reportedly deployed a special 'Hellfire missile' that doesn't pack any explosives to strike ISIS-K militants in Kabul on Saturday, in retaliation for the suicide bomb attack that killed 13 US troops.
- With Taliban celebrating US troops' departure, a Class 5 girl studying at a private school in Afghanistan said, "I'm not afraid of the Taliban.
- Satellite pictures have surfaced showing several aircraft and vehicles abandoned by the US at the Kabul airport.
- Hyderabad MP and AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi on Tuesday reacted to the first formal talks between India and Taliban in Doha and asked if the group will be "recognised" by India.
- The Syrian government forces aided by pro-Iranian militias stepped up an offensive against a rebel enclave in the southern city of Deraa on Tuesday, according to residents and military.