

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

- The government has said the weekly positivity rate of COVID-19 has been showing an overall declining trend, but the second COVID-19 wave is yet to come to an end.
- India's COVID-19 recovery rate stands at 97.45%, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare said on Friday as the country recorded 45,352 new cases.
- As per Public ki Awaaz poll conducted on location-based social network Public, 72% respondents believe that Covid-19 vaccines are safe & effective.
- At least 50 farmers and seven policemen were injured in clashes which erupted after protesters allegedly broke barricades to enter SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal's rally in Punjab's Moga and pelted stones at policemen, according to police.
- The "failure of the investigating agency" to conduct a proper probe into the 2020 Delhi riots will "torment the sentinels of democracy", a Delhi court said.
- Shooter Avani Lekhara, who became the first-ever Indian woman to win a gold medal in the history of Paralympics on Monday, won a bronze medal in the R8 - Women's 50m Rifle 3P SH1 event today.
- Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said that over ₹1.5 lakh crore of oil bonds issued by the previous UPA government remain to be paid.
- The Hyderabad Police has arrested the chief operating officer and chief financial officer of Karvy Stock Broking for alleged involvement in the ₹137 crore loan default case.
- A nursing college was sealed after around 34 students tested positive for coronavirus in Bengaluru's Horamavu on Thursday.
- Bengaluru's Central Crime Branch seized narcotic substances worth ₹2 crore from a house and arrested two persons in the matter.
- The ₹713-crore flyover inaugurated on Mumbai's Ghatkopar-Mankhurd Link Road a month ago has been partially closed for repairs.
- A businessman in Delhi has filed a police complaint against Raj Kundra and Shilpa Shetty, accusing them of defrauding him by inducing him to invest money in a Mumbai-based company in 2018, which later yielded no returns.

- **Bharat Biotech's MD Krishna Ella has said that Pfizer and Moderna's COVID-19 vaccines wouldn't have received approval, if they had conducted Phase-3 trials during second COVID-19 wave, which was dominated by Delta variant.**
- **Hyderabad-based Biological E has received the Drugs Controller General of India's (DCGI) approval to conduct Phase 2/3 trials of its COVID-19 vaccine on children aged between 5-18 years, according to reports.**
- **Tata Digital's 'super app' launch plan has reportedly been put on hold as it awaits clarity on consumer protection rules. A formal unveiling of the 'super app' was slated this month, sources told ET.**

### INTERNATIONAL

- **After the discovery of C.1.2 COVID-19 variant, the government has said that passengers travelling to India from seven more countries will have to carry a negative COVID-19 test report not older than 72 hours.**
- **India will resume the evacuation of citizens from Afghanistan once the Kabul airport becomes operational, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said.**
- **The Taliban have said they "feel betrayed" because US forces disabled military helicopters and planes before their departure from Kabul, according to Al Jazeera.**
- **44 people have been killed in US' New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut amid record rainfall due to Hurricane Ida.'**
- **Qatar is working with Taliban to reopen Kabul's airport "as soon as possible", Qatari Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani said.**
- **Eight people have died in flooding-related incidents as the remnants of Hurricane Ida tore through the United States.**
- **Over 55 million people worldwide are living with dementia, the WHO said on Thursday. With populations ageing, the number of sufferers is projected to rise to 78 million by 2030 and 139 million by 2050, it said.**
- **The United Nations (UN) has resumed humanitarian flights to northern and southern Afghanistan following the Taliban takeover, spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.**
- **The Taliban on Thursday said it has killed 34 Afghan resistance force members and captured 11 checkpoints in the Panjshir province.**