

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

- India registered 14,348 new cases of COVID-19 in the last 24 hours, 11% lower than yesterday. As many as 805 deaths were reported in the country in the last 24 hours, increasing the total death count to 4,57,191.
- The Supreme Court on Wednesday appointed an independent expert committee into the allegations of spying using Israeli spyware Pegasus.
- Delhi Police began removing barricades at the Tikri border where farmers have been protesting against the Centre's three farm laws, a senior officer said.
- Former Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh's meeting with Union Home Minister Amit Shah on the ongoing farmers' protest over the Centre's new farm laws on Thursday was postponed.
- Gujarat government on Thursday eased the COVID-19 night curfew in eight cities by two hours for one month starting October 30.
- An Operation Theatre Technician Safiya Majeed was sacked in Jammu for allegedly uploading a WhatsApp status celebrating Pakistan's win over India in the T20 World Cup match.
- A special CBI court in Mumbai on Thursday acquitted gangster Chhota Rajan in a 1983 case in which he was booked under charges of attempt to murder.
- The government on Friday extended Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das' tenure by three more years.
- The Railways Ministry has asked the IRCTC to share 50% of its proceeds of service charge on e-ticketing. The IRCTC will start sharing half of the convenience fees with the government from November 1, 2021.
- The Ministry of Finance has released ₹44,000 crore to states and Union Territories with legislature to compensate them for the shortfall in GST revenue.
- The Enforcement Directorate (ED) is investigating the illegal wealth earned by a 25-year-old hacker and his associates allegedly involved in various cyber crimes in Bengaluru.
- Officials of Pune's BJ Government Medical College have lodged a complaint against unidentified persons for allegedly siphoning off ₹25 lakh from the college's account by submitting a forged cheque.



- The Delhi High Court on Thursday issued notice to RBI, SBI, NPCI and others on a petition seeking the rollback of the decision of prohibiting UPI payments in the crypto exchanges.
- Vijay Shekhar Sharma, the CEO of Paytm that plans to raise ₹18,300 crore in India's biggest IPO, told Moneycontrol, "Indian market has three key beauties."
- Paytm will continue to allow employees to work from home and will not force them to come to the office, CEO Vijay Shekhar Sharma said .

### INTERNATIONAL

- Chinese city of Heihe has imposed a lockdown amid a new COVID-19 outbreak in the country. One confirmed COVID-19 case was found in Heihe, which is the third city to impose a lockdown this week.
- A federal court has approved a settlement under which the US Citizenship and Immigration Services agreed to qualify 'market research analyst' as a speciality occupation for considering H-1B visas for foreign professionals.
- North Korea's 37-year-old leader Kim Jong-un has lost about 20 kilograms of weight and is not using a body double, South Korea's spy agency said .
- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has asked his country's citizens to eat less until 2025 amid food crisis, according to reports. North Korean officials have said that people have to accept the shortages until the country reopens its borders with China in 2025
- A UNICEF report said at least 200 million children live in 31 low-and middle-income countries that remain unprepared to deploy remote learning in future emergency school closures.
- China said that its new 'Land Boundary Law' won't impact existing boundary treaties nor will it change "existing practices in our cooperation with neighbouring nations".
- Iran's talks with six world powers aimed at reviving the 2015 nuclear deal will resume by the end of November, its top nuclear negotiator Ali Bagheri Kani said.
- Sudan's military leader has fired at least six ambassadors, including the envoys to US, EU and China, after they condemned the military's takeover of the country, an official said.