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India records 2.75 lakh new cases, 1,620 deaths on Sunday

Total COVID-19 cases cross the 1.5 crore mark

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
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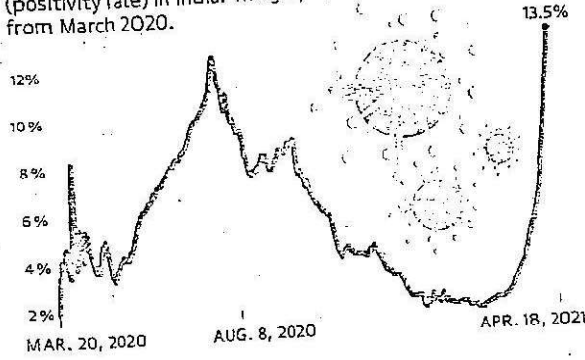
India's COVID-19 cases tally crossed the 1.5 crore mark on Sunday. The country has so far reported a total of 1,50,58,019 cases and 1,78,793 deaths.

The country registered 2,75,196 new COVID-19 cases as of 11.30 p.m. on Sunday, the highest single-day rise. As many as 1,620 deaths were also recorded.

The figures do not include cases and deaths from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Ladakh.

This data is sourced from covid19india.org, an independent aggregator of daily

Sharp spike | As of April 18, 13.5 COVID-19 confirmed cases were detected for every 100 tests performed (positivity rate) in India. The graph plots the positivity rate from March 2020.



COVID-19 figures.

Maharashtra reported 68,631 infections, accounting for nearly 25% of the new cases, on Sunday, followed by Uttar Pradesh with 30,566 new infections and Delhi with 25,462 new cases.

Maharashtra also recorded the maximum casualties, 503, on Sunday. Chhattisgarh followed with 170 new deaths, while Delhi registered 161 new casualties.

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April session of JEE (Main) postponed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The engineering Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) (Main) scheduled later this month has been postponed due to the surge in COVID-19 cases across the country, Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' said on Sunday.

The JEE (Main)-2021 April session was scheduled for April 27 to 30. The NTA is organising the JEE (Main)-2021 examination in four sessions.

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 About 26.84 lakh COVID-19 vaccination doses were administered in the 24 hours ending at 7 a.m. on Sunday. It is about 29,000 doses less than what was recorded in the previous 24-hours. Also, it is about 2.5 lakh doses lower than what was recorded the previous Sunday.

As many as 15,66,394 samples were tested in India on Saturday (results of which were made available on Sunday), the highest-ever number of tests conducted in a single day in the country. This is the first time the number of daily tests is crossing the 15-lakh mark in India. For the past one

week, testing levels have remained high and is on an increasing trend. As of Saturday, 26.65 crore tests have been conducted cumulatively in India.

The daily positivity rate (cases detected per 100 tests) in India in the last 12 days has doubled to 16.7%, while the weekly positivity rate has increased to 13.5% in the past month, the Health Ministry said on Sunday. Chhattisgarh reported the highest weekly positivity rate at 30%, followed by Goa at 24%, Maharashtra at 24%, Rajasthan at 23% and Madhya Pradesh at 19%, according to the Ministry.