

COVID UPDATE: INDIA SEES SLIGHT DROP IN INFECTIONS WITH OVER 11,000 CASES IN 24 HOURS

INDIA SAW A SLIGHT DROP IN INFECTIONS A DAY AS IT REPORTED AFTER THE 11,692 NEW CASES IN THE LAST 24 HOURS, AS PER THE DATA BY UNION HEALTH MINISTRY ON FRIDAY.

This slight drop came a day after the country reported 12,591 cases yesterday. The active cases in the country now stands at 66,170.

The death toll has increased to 5,31,258 with 28 deaths, which includes nine reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The country was seeing a declining graph from April 14 to April 18 when 11,109 and 7,633 cases were reported respectively. India had recorded 9,111 on April 17, 10,093 on April 16, and 10,753 on April 15.

The active cases now comprise 0.15 percent of the total infections and the national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.67 per cent, the ministry said.

The number of people who have



recuperated from the disease surged to 4,42,72,256, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent.

According to the ministry's website, 220.66 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide vaccination

drive. Meanwhile on Thursday, the national capital Delhi logged 1,603 COVID-19 cases with a positivity rate of 26.75 percent along with three fatalities. Maharashtra recorded 1,113 fresh coronavirus cases, while three more patients succumbed to the infection in the state. The state had recorded

1,100 cases and four fatalities on Wednesday. Mumbai recorded 207 coronavirus cases and one fatality linked to the respiratory illness. The bulletin said Satara and Wardha districts recorded one death each.

According to the top government experts monitoring the Covid situation in the country, Covid-19 cases may start dropping to 1,000-2,000 per day starting 15 May. The expected trend was discussed at a government high-level meeting chaired by principal secretary to prime minister P.K. Mishra on Wednesday. It was also attended health secretary Rajesh Bhushan, pharmaceuticals secretary S. Aparna, DG ICMR Rajiv Bahl, and biotechnology secretary Rajesh Gokhale, among others.



Technology

Sundar Pichai brings 'Google DeepMind' to build AI systems

In a blogpost, Pichai said, "Jeff Dean will take on the elevated role of Google's Chief Scientist, reporting to me. In that capacity, he'll serve as Chief Scientist to Google Research and Google DeepMind"

The plans of the company are part of efforts to meet the threat posed by Microsoft's Bing chatbot and OpenAI's ChatGPT.

ARMY RELEASES NAMES OF SOLDIERS KILLED IN POONCH TERROR ATTACK

THE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE AFTER THE VEHICLE THEY WERE TRAVELLING IN WAS FIRED UPON BY TERRORISTS IN JAMMU LEADING TO THE DEATH OF 5 SOLDIERS.

The Indian Army has released the names of five soldiers killed in a terrorist attack on a truck in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch on Thursday. The deceased soldiers are Havildar Mandeep Singh, lance avilidar Mandeep Singh, lance naik Debashish Baswal, lance naik Kulwant Singh, sepoy Harkrishan Singh and sepoy Sewak Singh, the Army's 16 Corps based in Nagrota said.

"The Whitenight corps stand in solidarity with the bereaved families," it said on Twitter.

The victims were attached with the Army's Rashtriya Rifles unit and were deployed for counterterrorist operations in the area.

The incident took place after the vehicle they were travelling in was fired upon by terrorists in the Rajouri sector in Jammu leading to the death of five soldiers, and injuring another. Operations were launched to trace the perpetrators, but so far there was no clarity yet on the attackers.

Tributes poured in from the political fraternity, with many expressing shock over the incident. National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah tweeted, "Terrible news of a terror attack in Poonch that claimed the lives of 5 army jawans in the line of duty.



unequivocally condemn this heinous attack & send my condolences to the loved ones of those killed today. May the souls of the departed rest in peace."

Delhi chief minister and AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal expressed shock over the death of the soldiers and called for the strongest punishment for those "behind this cowardly attack."

The injured soldier is receiving treatment at the Army Hospital in Rajouri.

GODHRA TRAIN BURNING: SUPREME COURT GRANTS BAIL TO 8 CONVICTS; REFUSES RELIEF TO FOUR ON DEATH ROW

A bench of Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud and Justice PS Narasimha granted bail to 8 convicts on the conditions imposed by the Sessions Court. The Supreme Court on Friday granted bail to eight convicts in the 2002 Godhra carnage while refusing any relief to four who are on death row.

A bench of Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud and Justice PS Narasimha granted bail to 8 convicts on the conditions imposed by the Sessions Court. On February 20 this year, the Court had sought details of the convicts including their age and time served in prison to aid it in deciding the bail applications moved by them. The Gujarat government,

represented by Solicitor General (SG) Tushar Mehta, had voiced strong disagreement with Gujarat High Court's 2017 decision to reduce the death sentence awarded to 11 convicts to life imprisonment.

Mehta apprised the Court that the trial court had awarded the life sentence to 20 convicts and the death sentence to 11 convicts. The High Court later commuted the death sentence to life imprisonment for the 11 convicts, he recounted.

Senior Advocate Sanjay Hegde said that some of the convicts were now in their 60s. Hegde also left it to the Court to take a call on whether the death sentence is maintainable or not against the 11 convicts who were earlier given

7 LET TERRORISTS USED ROCKET-PROPELLED GRENADES ON ARMY SOLDIERS IN POONCH

The jihadists were hiding in the jungles of the Poonch area and waiting for an ambush on the convoy.

Prime facie investigation into the Poonch terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday that led to the death of five Rashtriya Rifles jawans and left one injured revealed that the role of no less than seven Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) group. This is the fourth incident involving Indian Army casualties in the Poonch-Rajouri area.

Armed security personnel walk at a site of an attack inspecting charred army vehicle after terrorists opened fire at an Indian army vehicle in Poonch. (REUTERS)

The area where the incident took place is 7 km from Bhimber Gali in the Line of Control (LoC), and a thickly-forested within the Indian side of the LoC. There were

intelligent inputs to confirm the presence of Pakistan-based terrorists in the area. The jihadists were hiding in the jungles and waiting for an ambush on a convoy.

It's still not clear whether the truck got fire through the direct RPG hit or was set on fire by terrorists after the gunning down the Indian troopers.

While Nagrota-based 16 Core has launched a massive manhunt for the terrorists in the sector, the incident has direct links to Pakistan's opposition to the G20 event in Srinagar in May. Over the past month, the Pakistan government has asked G20 members, particularly its 'iron-brother' China, to boycott the event.

"The incident has been deliberately planned by the



Entertainment

Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan movie release updates

Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan movie release and review Live Updates: Salman Khan's Eid release sees him returning to the big screen after 4 years. Will the Farhad Samji film script history as Bhai delivers another Eid blockbuster at the box office?

Actor Salman Khan is returning to the silver screen after four years on the festival of Eid with his action drama, Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan. Helmed by Farhad Samji, the film is said to be loosely inspired by Tamil star Ajith's 2014 film Veeram. It also stars Venkatesh, Pooja Hegde, Bhumika Chawla, Shehnaaz Gill, Raghuvaran, Palak Tiwari, Jassie Gill and Siddharth Nigam among others.

All eyes are on Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan reviews and how the film will fare at the box office that has not been kind to formula fare with the exception of Shah Rukh Khan's Pathaan, where Salman had a cameo. Salman and Shah Rukh will return in Tiger 3 as well. Salman Khan has traditionally attracted audience to theatres with his Eid releases, will Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan follow the same trajectory? Trade believes that as today is the last day of Ramadan, the film's true mettle will be tested tomorrow as India celebrates the festival.

WHO'S KIRANDEEP KAUR? NRI FROM UK WHO MET AMRITPAL SINGH ON INSTAGRAM, ENDED UP MARRYING HIM

STOPPED FROM BOARDING A FLIGHT TO THE UK ON THURSDAY, KIRANDEEP HAD SAID LAST MONTH THAT SHE WASN'T "GOING TO RUN AWAY FROM THIS SITUATION" AMID A MANHUNT FOR AMRITPAL SINGH. HERE'S MORE ABOUT KIRANDEEP KAUR.

By India Today News Desk: "I am not going to run away from this situation," said Kirandeep Kaur, wife of Amritpal Singh amid a manhunt for the Khalistani separatist leader. Married to Amritpal in February this year, Kirandeep knew beforehand what she was getting into but hadn't imagined that the situation could get this worse. On Thursday, Kirandeep was stopped at the Amritsar airport while she was trying to board a flight to London. She was questioned by customs officials, sources told India Today. But how did Kirandeep, an NRI from the UK, come in contact with Amritpal Singh? AMRITPAL'S WIFE QUESTIONED IN MARCH



Earlier, a Punjab Police team, including a female police officer, questioned Kirandeep Kaur, Amritpal's father Tarsem Singh and mother for nearly an hour on March 22. She was questioned at Jallapur Kheda village in connection with alleged foreign funding for the activities of Amritpal Singh, according to sources. She refuted allegations that she had "links in the UK" or that she was "doing something illegal", in an interview to The Week. "I am not going to run away from this situation..."

MUSIC EVENT ORGANISER FILES COMPLAINT AGAINST YO YO HONEY SINGH FOR 'KIDNAPPING, ASSAULT'

THE COMPLAINANT, VIVEK RAVI RAMAN, THE OWNER OF FESTIVINA MUSIC FESTIVAL, ALSO REQUESTED THE POLICE TO FILE AN FIR AND INVESTIGATE THE MATTER.

The organiser of a music festival has filed a complaint with the BKC Police, accusing rapper and singer Yo Yo Honey Singh and his crew members of kidnapping him, keeping him captive, and assaulting him over a dispute for cancelling an event. Police have not yet registered an FIR in the case and are investigating the matter further. The singer has refuted the allegations, terming them false and baseless.



The complainant, Vivek Ravi Raman, organiser of Festivina Music Festival, recently organised a festival titled 'Yo Yo Honey Singh 3.0' on April 15 at MMRDA Grounds in BKC. On the day of the event, Raman visited the venue and had an argument with some vendors over non-payment. Raman was also expecting his payment from the show's ticket-selling partner but did not receive it on time, so he cancelled the event and informed the artists' management teams. According to him, Singh and his crew got upset and angry over the cancellation of the show

and attacked him. "I was physically assaulted, kidnapped, and intimidated by Yo Yo Honey Singh and his crew members: Rohit Chhabra, Akshat Jaiswal, Rahul Jaiswal, Inderjit Sunil, Nikhil, Arvinder Kler, Arun Kumar, and Akshay Mehra. I was kidnapped and taken by a white Fortuner car from MMRDA, BKC to JW Marriott, Sahar, Mumbai by the said persons and physically assaulted by fists, blows, and kickin... I was wrongfully and illegally restrained in JW Marriott, Sahar, Mumbai..."

UP POLICE RECREATE CRIME SCENE, SHOW HOW GANGSTER ATIQ AHMED AND HIS BROTHER WERE KILLED. POLICE SAID THAT RECREATING THE CRIME SCENE IS LIKELY TO PROVIDE CLUES IN THE ONGOING INVESTIGATION AND ON THE BASIS OF THEM THE ACCUSED CAN BE INTERROGATED.



New Delhi: As a part of the ongoing probe, a Special Investigation Team (SIT) formed by the Uttar Pradesh Police to investigate the murders of gangster-politician Atiq Ahmed and his brother Ashraf recreated the crime scene outside Colvin Hospital in Prayagraj on Thursday. Members of the SIT and the forensic team visited the area to understand the sequence of events that led to the killing of the Ahmed brothers on April 15. In a video shared by news agency PTI, UP police officials could be seen recreating the scene when Atiq and Ashraf were shot dead when they were being taken to the hospital for a medical check-up mandated by the court. The police personnel who escorted Ahmed and Ashraf during the shootout were also called. However, the three shooters were not brought to the crime scene.

MP POLICE ARREST MUSLIM STUDENT OVER WHATSAPP STATUS ON ATIQ AHMED THE COMPLAINANT IS A CHILDHOOD FRIEND OF THE ARRESTED YOUTH AND IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE HINDU JAGRAN MARCH.



Bhopal: Putting up a WhatsApp status referring to the murder of gangster-turned-Politician Atiq Ahmed has landed a 22-year-old Muslim youth in jail in Madhya Pradesh. The Muslim youth, identified as Farhan Khan, is a resident of Sheetal Mata Mandir locality, which falls under the Nalchha Police Station of Dhar district in Madhya Pradesh. Farhan is a student in class 12 and the youngest among three siblings. His father Ishak Khan (55) is a truck driver, and the elder brother is a cab driver. His mother is a homemaker, and his disabled sister is preparing for competitive exams. Farhan's family said that the police lodged the FIR on the complaint of Kanha Mandloi (22), a childhood friend of the arrested youth. Mandloi is associated with the Hindu Jagran Manch and lives across the street from the family. On the night of April 16, three youths identified as Lavlesh Tiwari (22), Sunny Puraney (23) and Arun Kumar Maurya (18) murdered Atiq Ahmed and his brother Ashraf, who were transferred to Pratappgarh district jail from Uttar Pradesh's Prayagraj in chains. It happened in the presence of two dozen policemen and the media. Subsequently, the UP government formed a three-member probe committee and sacked over a dozen police personnel. Hours after Atiq and his brother's murder, Farhan allegedly posted a WhatsApp status.

PM NARENDRA MODI CHAIRS MEET ON SITUATION OF INDIANS IN VIOLENCE-HIT SUDAN

THIS COMES A DAY AFTER INDIA SAID DESCRIBED THE SITUATION IN SUDAN AS "VERY TENSE," AND SAID THAT IT IS FOCUSING ON ENSURING THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF THE INDIAN COMMUNITY.

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI CHAIRED A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING FRIDAY TO REVIEW THE SITUATION OF INDIANS IN VIOLENCE-HIT SUDAN. THIS COMES A DAY AFTER INDIA SAID DESCRIBED THE SITUATION IN SUDAN AS "VERY TENSE," AND SAID THAT IT IS FOCUSING ON ENSURING THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF THE INDIAN COMMUNITY. IT SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS WORKING ON CONTINGENCY PLANS, INCLUDING THOSE FOR POTENTIAL EVACUATION. THE FIGHT BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND A POWERFUL PARAMILITARY FORCE IN SUDAN HAS LEFT AROUND 30 PEOPLE FROM KARNATAKA'S HAKKI PIKKI TRIBE STRANDED IN THE SUDANESE CITY OF EL-FASHER. IT HAD ALSO TRIGGERED A HEATED EXCHANGE BETWEEN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER S JAISHANKAR AND FORMER KARNATAKA CHIEF MINISTER SIDDARAMAIAH, WITH THE CONGRESS ACCUSING MINISTERS IN THE MODI-LED GOVERNMENT OF

ADG Bhanu Bhaskar, Police Commissioner Ramit Sharma and Joint Commissioner of Police Akash Kulhari were also present when the scene was being recreated.

Police said that recreating the crime scene is likely to provide clues in the ongoing investigation and on the basis of them the accused can be interrogated.

A heavy police deployment was also made as the officials recreated the sequence of events, beginning from Atiq and Ashraf getting down from the police jeep until the firing by the three men who posed as journalists.

A three-member judicial commission formed by the UP government to inquire into the killings also visited the spot. The commission, headed by Retired Justice Arvind Kumar Tripathi of Allahabad high court, will give a report to the UP government in two months.

The assailants Lovesh Tiwari, Mohit and Arun Kumar Maurya have been charged under Indian Penal Code Sections 302 (murder), 307 (attempt to murder) and under the Arms Act. A court has sent them to police remand until April 23.

Subsequently, the UP government formed a three-member probe committee and sacked over a dozen police personnel.

Hours after Atiq and his brother's murder, Farhan allegedly posted a WhatsApp status.

Alleging that the post may disturb peace in the locality and it had hurt Hindu sentiments, members of the right-wing group Hindu Jagran Manch complained to the Nalchha Police, demanding strict action with the screenshot of the status.

Subsequently, the Nalchha police booked Farhan under Section 151-A (creating enmity between the two groups) of the IPC and arrested him at midnight.

BIG'S TWEET AFTER TWITTER REMOVES HIS BLUE TICK GOES VIRAL, SAYS 'I HAVE PAID FOR IT'

AMITABH BACHCHAN'S TWEET AFTER TWITTER REMOVED HIS BLUE TICK HAS GONE VIRAL. "HEY TWITTER! ARE YOU LISTENING? I HAVE PAID FOR THE SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE...SO PLEASE PUT BACK THE BLUE TICK IN FRONT OF MY NAME, SO THAT PEOPLE KNOW THAT I AM AMITABH BACHCHAN. I AM MAKING THE REQUEST WITH FOLDED HANDS," HE WROTE. HE POSTED THE TWEET IN AWADHI.

Amitabh Bachchan @SrBachchan · 2h

T 4623 - ए twitter भइया ! सुन रहे हैं ? अब तो पैसा भी भर दिये हैं ह कमल ✓ होत है ना, हमार नाम के आगे, उ तो वापस लगाय दें भैया , जायें की हम ही हैं - Amitabh Bachchan .. हाथ तो जोड़ लिये रहे हम जोड़े पड़ी का ??

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VIRAL TWEET