



## Tara Tarini Temple

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### Why in News

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The annual **Chaitra Jatra festival** scheduled to be held on 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 at **Odisha's Tara Tarini hill shrine** has been **cancelled** as a precautionary measure against **COVID-19** infection.

The festival is **held on each Tuesday in the month of Chaitra**, which falls in March-April as per the English calendar.



### Key Points

- Tara Tarini hill shrine, located at a hilltop on banks of the **Rushikulya river**, is a major centre of **Shakti worship in Odisha**.
- The twin goddesses Tara and Tarini represent one Shakti and are the **main deity of Ganjam district (Odisha)**.  
Tara is an important deity of Mahayana Buddhist Sect.
- This temple had been built as per traditional **Rekha style of Odia temple architecture**, as per which famous Jagannath temple of Puri and Lingaraj temple of Bhubaneswar have been built.
- Unlike other temples, it wasn't built under the patronage of a King or a Noble, the temple was set up by a **Brahmin named Basu Praharaj** as per popular legend.
- Since its inception it has been an established **seat of Tantrism**.

- Indian Navy's sailboat **INSV Tarini** was named after Tara Tarini hill shrine. The first Indian all-woman crew had circumnavigated the globe in INSV Tarini.

**Source:TH**