



## PARADIGM SHIFT

Actor Katrina Kaif says she is glad to see how women realised the importance of 'me time' during lockdown

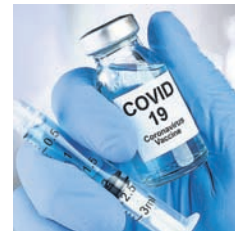
LEISURE P2



## AIADMK, BJP SEAL POLL PACT

Saffron party gets 20 Assembly constituencies and the Kanyakumari Lok Sabha seat which will go to by-poll

TWO STATES P7



## BLOCK IPR WAIVER

Biden urged not to accept proposal to waive IP rights for any innovation related to COVID-19 at WTO

INTERNATIONAL P10

## IRREGULAR by MANJUL



We invited you to announce that we have finalised the seat sharing

## Sarpanch disqualified for not knowing Odia

**GANJAM:** On the occasion of Panchayatiraj Divas Friday, a sarpanch from Ganjam district was disqualified from his post for not knowing Odia, having two wives and six children. According to the 1994 Odisha Gram Panchayat Act, a person is ineligible of holding any position in a gram panchayat if he or she does not know how to write and speak Odia, have more than two children and illegally has more than one husband/wife. Such a person cannot contest any post too. P Simadri was elected as the sarpanch of Agastinuagam gram panchayat under Chhatrapur block of Ganjam district during the panchayat polls held in the year 2017.

WEATHER	
BHUB	CTK
MAX 40.4°C	37.5°C
MIN 20.0°C	20.5°C
Humidity 77%	59%
Rainfall Nil	Nil

Forecast: Mainly clear sky

# Youth stabbed to death in City

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, March 6:** The Capital city seemed to have turned a happy hunting ground for criminals with the regular occurrences of snatching, murder and other heinous crimes during the past some months. In continuation of this trend, two siblings Saturday brutally stabbed a 26-year-old youth to death in broad daylight at VIP Colony near the CRP Square here.

The deceased, identified as Tukuna Das alias Jatia, was a resident of Janta Nagar in Salia Sahi area under the jurisdiction of Nayapalli police. The police have detained the accused duo - Sagar (32) and Sudhir Prusty (28), from the same slum.

**LOCALS' VERSION**  
According to the local residents, they came out of their homes hearing screams of the victim from inside the pick-up van begging for help. The victim was profusely bleeding with deep stabbing marks on his neck, chest and other body parts. Some claimed that they witnessed the accused stabbing the victim with a sharp weapon when the pick-up van suddenly stopped near a roadside eatery at VIP Colony due to the scuffle between the accused and the deceased.

The bystanders rushed towards the vehicle to rescue the victim. Some people managed to collar the duo when they were trying to flee the spot after committing the crime. Later, they handed over the accused to the PCR staff doing patrolling in the locality.

**POLICE CLAIMS**  
Meanwhile, Commissioner of Police Sudhanshu Sarangi claimed that Sagar and Sudhir met the deceased at Mailla Tanki Sahi where the trio engaged in a heated argument over a fight they had Friday night. When the deceased Tukuna attacked the accused siblings, they managed to grab him. Sagar and Sudhir intended to hand over Tukuna to police and forced the latter to sit in their pick-up van. They tried to take Tukuna to police station via VIP Colony fearing retaliation from Tukuna's aides midway.

- The police as well as the victim's sister claimed that past enmity between the accused and the victim lead to the crime
- A close relative of the victim claimed that Tukuna was irked over the fact that one of the accused was in a relationship with his sister

Not to be cowed into submission, Tukuna reportedly attempted to attack the accused brothers with a big knife concealed in his dress. Subsequently, the siblings snatched away the knife from Tukuna and, in a fit of rage, started stabbing the victim on his neck and chest. "The attack was in self-defence," Sarangi said.

The victim's sister, however, narrated a different story alleging that the accused and their brother-in-law hatched a conspiracy to kill Tukuna several days back. She claimed that the accused, armed with various sharp weapons, were looking for his brother Friday night as well. They allegedly planned to kill Tukuna to avenge a fight they had 15 days back.

**REASONS BEHIND THE MURDER**  
Meanwhile, a close relative of Tukuna claimed that the younger sibling Sudhir was reportedly in a relationship with the victim's sister. Sudhir is also said to possess some objectionable videos of the victim's sister. Sudhir was irritated that Tukuna had confronted him over the issue some days back.

On the other hand, some locals informed **Orissa POST** that Tukuna and the accused fought several times over the issue of parking of their vehicles in front of the victim's house.

**LYNCHING BID**  
Angered by the gory murder scene, the seething mob dragged the accused out of the PCR van and started beating them mercilessly with plastic pipes and whatever else they found nearby. The policemen on duty at the crime site also faced the wrath of the angry mob, which damaged the police vehicle.

Subsequently, more policemen were rushed to the spot to rescue the injured accused, which they did after pacifying the angry locals.



One of the accused, Sudhir Prusty, pleading for mercy from an angry mob that attacked him and his brother after the crime

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## Remove PM's photo from vaccine certificates: EC

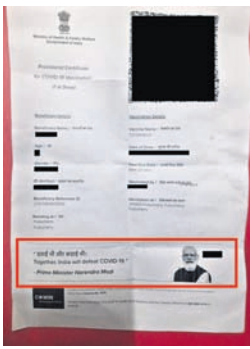
AGENCIES

**New Delhi, March 6:** Weeks before Assembly elections start in four states and one Union Territory, the Election Commission has asked the government to remove Prime Minister Narendra Modi's photo from coronavirus vaccine certificates in these states where model code of conduct is already in place, sources have said.

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's Trinamool Congress earlier this week had alleged "blatant misuse of official machinery by the Prime Minister" in the state in a complaint to the Election Commission.

A report was first sought by the powerful election body from the West Bengal Electoral Officer in the matter and then the Union Health Ministry was asked to remove the photos, as per sources. The government has been told to adopt a system so that PM Modi's photo does not appear on vaccine certificates in poll-bound states.

The certificates, however,



can carry PM's photos in other states.

Alleging violation of the poll code, Bengal's ruling party has cited photos of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on certificates of vaccination distributed by the Union Health Ministry and accused him of stealing credit from doctors, nurses and healthcare workers and "appropriating their dues".

"By placing his photograph, name and message on the provisional certificates, he is not only exploiting his post and powers but also stealing commendable credit from the producers of COVID vaccines, Trinamool MP had alleged.

## ₹1,485cr granted for 6 potable water projects

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, March 6:** In a major leap forward to provide, the state Cabinet Saturday approved six mega drinking water projects with an estimated cost of ₹1,485.15 crore.

The Cabinet headed by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik approved 16 proposals, including tender for the six drinking water projects, which will be executed by the Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department.

These projects will be executed in different villages of Jajpur, Kendrapara, Khurda, Dhenkanal, Sambalpur, Jharsuguda and Kalahandi districts within 24 months, said Women and Child Development Minister Tukuni Sahu said.

The state government has prioritised on providing safe drinking water to people living in the rural areas with funds from the Jal Jeevan Mission (JMM) funding, she said.

She said two such projects have been approved in Kendrapara district and on their completion, 2,74,836 people from four blocks of the district will be benefitted.

The total cost of this project is ₹227.91 crore.

Another water supply project worth ₹348.10 crore has been approved for the Khurda district. Nearly five lakh people of 505 villages in six blocks of the district will be benefitted from the project.

Similarly, drinking water project of ₹296.93 crore has been approved for Dhenkanal district to provide safe drinking water to 1,52,021 persons in 166 villages.

The state government has decided to execute another such water supply project to cover 1,43,000 people in 26 GPs of Sambalpur district and two GPs of Jharsuguda district at a cost of ₹188.38 crore.

The Cabinet has also approved tender of ₹177.83 crore for implementation of the drinking water project for Kalahandi district while ₹245.98 crore has been approved for undertaking similar project in Jajpur district.

Execution of these two projects, will help 1,30,555 people of 28 GPs of Kalahandi and 3,23,710 people in 53 GPs of Jajpur district to get safe drinking water.

**MORE P3**

## Raped 27 yrs ago, woman moves court after son asks father's name

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Shahjahanpur (UP), March 6:** Raped on several occasions by two men at the age of 12 about 27 years ago, the victim, who had become a mother, has now lodged a case against the accused on court orders after her son enquired about his father's name.

About 27 years ago, the victim was living in the city with her sister and brother-in-law. One Naki Hasan of her locality had entered the house when she was alone and allegedly raped her, Superintendent of Police (City) Sanjay Kumar told this news agency Saturday.

Referring to the police report lodged on the basis of the woman's complaint, Kumar said after the accused, his younger brother Guddu also raped her. The victim has alleged that she was raped by both the accused on multiple occasions.

She was 12 years of age at the time of the incident, the SP said.

According to the complainant, she became pregnant at the age of 13 and gave birth to a boy in 1994. The infant was given to a person belonging to the victim's native village Udhampur, located within the Shahabad police station limits, while she moved to Rampur as his brother-in-law got transferred there.

The SP said the victim's brother-in-law got her married to a man in Ghazipur district, but after 10 years, when her husband came to know that she was raped, he divorced her and she returned to Udhampur.

Meanwhile, the boy who had grown up by now enquired about his mother and father and was told his mother's name.

The boy met the victim and got to know about the incident, the SP said,

# INDIA ENTER WTC FINAL

AGENCIES

**Ahmedabad, March 6:** Axar Patel and Ravichandran Ashwin once again made a mockery of an eternally confused English batting line-up as India cantered into the inaugural World Test Championship final with a resounding innings and 25 run victory on the third afternoon of the fourth and final Test here on Saturday.

All India needed was a draw to book a Lord's date in June with Kane Williamson's New Zealand but Patel (24-6-48-5), in company of Ashwin (22.5-4-47-5), lit-



erally blew England away in a session and half for a paltry 135 in 54.5 overs to complete a 3-1 rout, ensuring that the Anthony De Mello Trophy will stay at the Cricket Centre in Mumbai.

It was another two and half days finish but even the most partisan England experts like their former skipper Michael Vaughan have admitted that the 22-yard strip had almost nothing to do with their side's abject surrender.

A case in point could be India's first innings score of 365 and a lead of 160 on the same track where England could cumulatively manage only 340 runs across two innings.

"The comeback in Chennai pleased me the most. The first game was an aberration and England outplayed us," said India skipper Virat Kohli at the post-match presentation.

Atrocious application and unbelievably poor mindset while playing spinners cost the Englishmen dearly during the last three Tests and skipper Joe Root had little to offer in terms of explanation.

**MORE P12**

**“I got wickets in the 1st game and kept on carrying the confidence. When me and Washi were batting, the pace variation wasn't there. I only bowled faster ones more often in the previous games but here we needed to vary our pace”**

**AXAR PATEL | ALL-ROUNDER, INDIA**

## Man infected with nCoV after 2nd dose of vax

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Ahmedabad, March 6:** A health official in Gujarat has tested positive for coronavirus days after taking the second dose of the vaccine against the infection, officials said Saturday.

The man, a health officer in Gandhinagar's Dehgam taluka, had taken the first dose on January 16 and the second one February 15. He had fever and his samples were examined, which detected the COVID-19 infection February 20 said Gandhinagar's Chief Health Officer Dr MH Solanki.

"He is in home isolation as his symptoms are mild. He has told me that he is fit to join work from Monday," Solanki added.

The CHO said it generally takes around 45 days for antibodies against the infection to develop after both the doses of the vaccine are administered.

## MISSION SHAKTI A SEPARATE DEPT NOW

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, March 6:** As per the announcement made by the Chief Minister March 8 last year, the state Cabinet has approved creation of Mission Shakti as a separate department. At present, Mission Shakti is a part of Women and Child Development department.

"A new department will help to go long way in strengthening the SHG initiatives already undertaken by departments and agencies and bringing them under one platform, providing greater focus, synergy and avoiding duplication in activities," said W&CD Minister Tukuni Sahu.

It will help to ensure linkages at all levels and to establish effective interactive platforms for the community and the government and for strengthening of the SHG movement across the state, she said.



REPRESENTATIVE PHOTO

adding that Friday evening, a case of gangrape was lodged against the two accused at the Sadar Bazar police station on the basis of her complaint.

Kumar said the police are investi-

# leisure



## RAJA KUMARI TEAMS UP WITH RITA WILSON, CLAUDIA LEITTE

American-Indian rapper Raja Kumari has teamed up with Hollywood actress Rita Wilson and Brazilian singer Claudia Leitte, for a song titled Hello World, which will release on the occasion of International Women's Day March 8.

## 'MODELLING WAS AN ESCAPE FROM ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP'

Fashion model Lisa Snowdown has revealed that her ramp career started because she wanted to escape an abusive relationship. The 49-year old, who is also a television presenter, started her modelling career in early twenties.



### FORTUNE FORECAST

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**ARIES**  
Today, you will turn an attentive ear to your inner voice. As a result, you will be able to execute all your plans with precision. Besides being cheerful, you will even take disappointments with a pinch of salt.

**TAURUS**  
As a manager, you may be able to outclass your colleagues by a great margin, predicts Ganesh. You will soften your approach with time and move towards a more democratic style of decision-making rather than the arbitrary protocol that you are used to.

**GEMINI**  
Interactions with member of the opposite sex may yield positive and pleasurable results today. Public servants will get the much-needed encouragement and moral support from bosses and family members. In academics, you will be able to solve whatever problem you set your mind to.

**CANCER**  
Today, you are likely to remain open-minded while dealing with others. However, it doesn't mean that you will always be soft on others. Later in the day, your approach may be different and stubborn.

**LEO**  
Few and rare are the days when creativity takes flight. After all, even Picasso couldn't make a masterpiece every day. So make the most of this auspicious day, urges Ganesh, during which your imagination peaks and touches new heights.

**VIRGO**  
A single-headed mission to be the master of your destiny will drive you ahead. Your management skills will be immaculate, and the fire to succeed will get you up and running. Your skill in the managerial post will be accentuated by your quick decision-making and superior analytical ability, says Ganesh.

**LIBRA**  
Wedding bells are ringing, and you are about to get very lucky! Ganesh foresees a plethora of marriage proposals coming your way on this day full of special occasions, as you turn up your charisma and sweep the enthralled opposite sex off their feet with your charm.

**SCORPIO**  
Friends in influential positions will be of much help today. You may plunge into a new business venture without much ado. Appreciation for your abilities and efforts will fly in thick and fast. Your reputation is sky-rocketing among the opposite sex.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
The pressing needs of your loved ones call for extra attention today. You may have a few family friends over for lunch or dinner, and end up chatting a good deal with them. Ganesh says an intimate tête-à-tête with your better half would fare you well.

**CAPRICORN**  
The day will sail smooth, but your mind will wreak havoc by forcing you to act on the spur of the moment, says Ganesh. However, this will not ruin your reputation with bosses and peers.

**AQUARIUS**  
Your dream house or car may well be on its way! The stars proclaim that it's a good time to acquire new assets. So bring out those attractive brochures and check out your loan prospects.

**PISCES**  
A good day awaits you. You will finish your work and beat your deadlines by miles on account of the luck favouring you. There are chances that a family holiday, which has been in the planning for a long time, will eventually come to fruition today, says Ganesh.

# Katrina bats for women's 'me time'

**New Delhi:** With game nights, workout videos and fun with family and friends, Katrina Kaif's social media platform has been followed avidly by fans. The *Bharat* actress talks about women and what she's looking forward to in 2021.

"While 2020 has reminded me about the joys of little things, 2021 is a very exciting year for me as well. I'm thrilled about the work I'm doing and cannot wait to share it with the world," said the *Namsteey London* actress.

Asked how she feels the women should celebrate International Women's Day, Katrina said, "The lockdown period has been challenging for everyone and these times have been really hard for so many people. I'm glad to see how women have realised the importance of 'me time' and hope they continue to take time for themselves even post the lockdown."

Katrina has recently completed the shoot for the horror comedy *Phone Bhoot* in Udaipur. She co-stars Ishaan Khatter and Siddhant Chaturvedi in the film. Her next release is the Akshay Kumar-starrer cop action drama *Sooryavanshi*.



# Rasika joins int'l cast of The Empire

**Mumbai:** Rasika Dugal has joined an international cast including Stephen Fry, Michelle Gomez and Alexander Owen in the BBC audio comedy series, *The Empire*.

The Channel X production for BBC Radio 2 is written by Anuvab Pal and directed by Ed Morrish.

*Empire* is set in Imperial India where the new district magistrate of Darjeeling grapples with responsibilities of his new post with the help, and sometimes hindrance, of colleagues.

Dugal will be voicing over for the character of Sapna, a proto-revolutionary. "Anuvab Pal's script had me in splits when I read it. I had come off a three month long shoot for an intense drama series and comedy is just what I needed," Rasika said.

Rasika's character is a bright and intelligent woman in Darjeeling in 1911, who stands up to the new British magistrate and this leads to things neither were expecting. *The Empire* will release March 7.



# How Dil Chahta Hai broke jinx for Shaan

**Mumbai:** Singer Shaan has opened up on why *Dil Chahta Hai* will always be special for him.

"*Dil Chahta Hai*'s success was extremely important for me because till then I believed that something had jinxed my movie soundtracks. No matter how super hit my songs were at that time, the movies didn't do so well at the box office. So, I was really hoping for this course to break and that happened with *Dil Chahta Hai*," he said, while opening up on his playback career in Hindi films.

Working on the film, he said, was fun. "Farhan Akhtar, had a vision that every actor should have a separate voice for himself in *Koi kahe kehta rahe*. I was brought on board to sing Akshay Khanna's part in the song, but after the recording Farhan felt that my voice matches Saif Ali Khan's more than Akshay's," Shaan recalled.

# STREAMING PLATFORMS DIG INTO HUSH-HUSH TOPICS

**THERE IS A MENTALITY THAT GIRLS ARE ONLY THERE TO GET MARRIED AND HAVE KIDS BUT THESE SHOWS HELP PEOPLE BECOME AWARE OF HOW THINGS ARE ACTUALLY CHANGING IN THE WORLDS, SAYS ACTRESS KIRTI KULHARI**

**Mumbai:** OTT shows seem to be pushing the envelope in terms of storylines and plots, and there are a lot of taboo and sensitive topics being dealt with on the platform. With shows such as *The Married Woman*, which is based on a homosexual relationship, and *Fabulous Lives Of Bollywood Wives*, where Botox and face up-liftment procedures are openly discussed, the Indian audience is now exposed to content on topics that have not been dealt with freely on the Indian screens before.

Here are some of the topics being explored by OTT, which were a no-no on the Indian screen till a while back:

**Homosexual relationships**  
*The Married Woman* is a show that explores the relationship between two women. Based on the



book by Manju Kapur of the same name, the show's teaser featured a kiss, which has been spoken about in detail. This unconventional love

story stars Riddhi Dogra and Monica Dogra.

**Live-in relationships**  
In the series *Little Things*, the lead couple, essayed by Dhruv Sehgal and Mithila Palkar, stays together and the arrangement is openly accepted by their families.

**Erotic stories**  
The show *Gandii Baat*, exploring eroticism in rural India, is a perfect example of this. Controversial and popular at the same time, the show is currently streaming its fifth season, and has been directed by Sachin Mohite. Each episode features an eroticism-themed story from rural India.

**Unconventional marriage**  
*Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives* showcases an unconventional

marriage between Seema Khan and actor Sohail Khan. While the two did not appear to live together, he did come in at times to spend time with the kids.

**Unwed mother**  
There is a story angle in the show *Four More Shots Please!* where Saiyami Kher discovers that she is pregnant. While she has a miscarriage later on, the topic of an unwed mother is explored as she decides to keep the baby. Her family supports this move.

**Godman as a conman**  
The show *Aashram* is based on a godman played by actor Bobby Deol. Issues such as rapes and drug trafficking by conmen passing off as gurus are explored in the series.

### PEANUTS



### CALVIN AND HOBBS

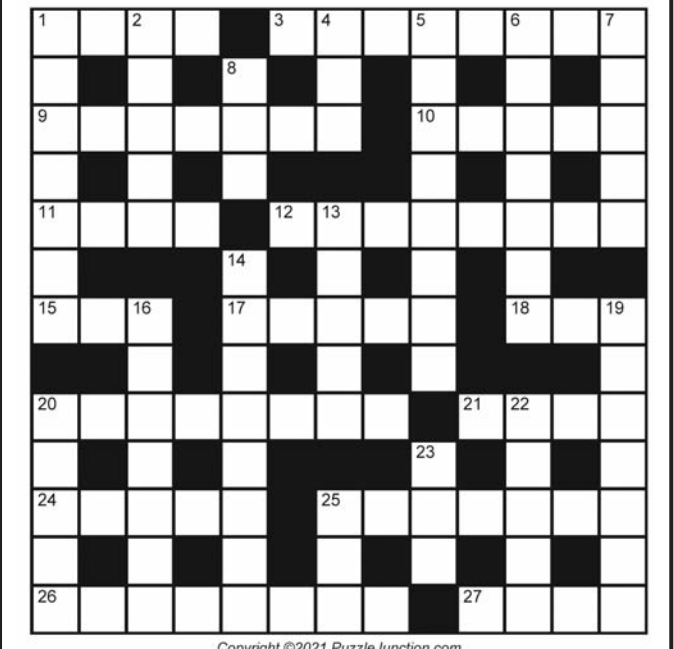


### BREVITY



### FUN post

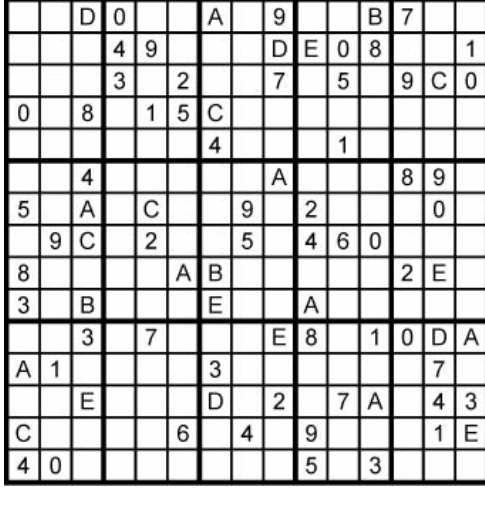
### CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 1 Bulletin board item
  - 3 Bakery items storage (5,3)
  - 9 Admiration
  - 10 Fancy tie
  - 11 Water holder
  - 12 Sauntered
  - 15 Medic
  - 17 Increased
  - 18 Cygnet's father
  - 20 Rent receiver
  - 21 Unctuous
  - 24 Swiss capital
  - 25 Cyclone
  - 26 Longing
  - 27 Colourful salamander
  - Down**
  - 1 Youngster with blond hair
  - 2 Road feature
  - 4 Fix, in a way
  - 5 Large arboreal boa
  - 6 Pastoral
  - 7 Famous
  - 8 Grenade part
  - 13 Wick
  - 14 Barkeeper
  - 16 Choral composition
  - 19 Protest, of sorts
  - 20 Like some goals
  - 22 Boiling mad
  - 23 Annoy
  - 25 Bolivian export

### SUDOKU

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, each row, column and box must contain the numbers 0 to 9 and the letters A to E.



### SOLUTIONS



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW















# national



LPG prices have gone up from Rs 594 in November to 890 now. More than 80 per cent of the beneficiaries of the Centre's Ujjwala yojana are unable to buy refill cylinders  
DIGVIJAYA SINGH | SENIOR CONGRESS LEADER

PRAGYA THAKUR UNWELL

Bhopal MP and BJP leader Pragya Singh Thakur was Saturday airlifted to Mumbai for treatment after she complained of uneasiness, her aide said



## of the day quote

For the first 15 years, I was an MP in the north, I had got used to a different type of politics. For me, coming to Kerala was very refreshing as suddenly I found that people are interested in issues, and not just superficially, but going into detail

Funding for the healthcare sector needs to be stepped up greatly and it has to be ensured that there is equity in the delivery of healthcare

We are closely watching the developments in Myanmar. We have also been discussing this with our partner countries

## Mamata vs Suvendu in Nandigram



New Delhi, March 6: The BJP Saturday released its first list of 57 candidates for the West Bengal assembly polls and fielded Suvendu Adhikari from his home turf of Nandigram, from where Trinamool Congress president and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has already announced her candidature.

Former Indian cricketer Ashoke Dinda and ex-IPS officer Bharati Ghosh are among the BJP candidates, party general secretary Arun Singh said at a press conference, adding that it has conceded one seat to ally AJSU.

## Dinesh Trivedi joins BJP

New Delhi: Former Trinamool Congress leader and union minister Dinesh Trivedi Saturday said that politics is serious business and that West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has forgotten her ideals.

one of the keenest electoral battles in the state with Banerjee taking on her former protégé and now BJP leader Adhikari.

## Test, Track, Treat: Centre to states, UTs

New Delhi, March 6: The Centre has asked states and union territories witnessing surge in new COVID-19 cases and high active caseload to continue with the strategy of "test, track and treat" that had yielded rich dividends at the height of the pandemic and accelerate vaccination for priority population groups in districts reporting higher infections on mission mode.

### COVID SURGE

Central teams in Maha, Punjab The Centre has rushed high-level multi-disciplinary public health teams to Maharashtra and Punjab in view of the increase in number of daily COVID-19 cases being reported by these states.

focus on surveillance and stringent containment of those areas in selected districts which are see-

ing cluster of cases and carry out an average close contact tracing of minimum of 20 persons per positive case.

COVID cases in wake of the steep rise in daily new cases of COVID and the high number of active caseload being reported from these eight states and UTs, the ministry said in its statement.

## SHORT TAKES

### HP MLAs to get full salaries

Shimla: Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur while presenting the budget for 2021-22 on Saturday said the salaries of state MLAs will be paid in full from April 1 and the MLALAD fund will be restored fully.

### Farmer gets jail for elephant's death

Guwahati: An Assam court has sentenced a farmer to 39 months in jail and a fine of Rs 10,000 for the death of a wild elephant by electrocution, forest and wildlife officials said Saturday.

### WB: Six BJP workers injured in bomb blast

Kolkata: Six BJP activists were injured, two of them critically, in a bomb explosion in West Bengal's South 24 Parganas district, police said Saturday.

### Youth, dad and grandpa found dead

Mumbai: A 20-year-old youth was found dead due to fall from a high rise society building. His father and grandfather were also found stabbed to death in the family flat, police said here on Saturday.

## Taapsee, Kashyap speak after raids, resume shooting



Mumbai, March 6: Actor Taapsee Pannu and director Anurag Kashyap resumed shooting for their film "Dobaaraa" Saturday, both using social media to speak for the first time since I-T raids on their premises with posts indicating their spirit remained intact.

"With all our love to all the haters," Kashyap said in a message on Instagram to announce the resumption of shooting of his new film and share an on-set picture of Pannu and himself laughing and showing the victory sign.

These were the first comments from Kashyap and Pannu - both outspoken and known for expressing their views on a range of issues - since the Income Tax Department began searching their homes and offices on March 3.

## 'Heavy rains, rising temperature likely caused U'khand disaster'

New Delhi, March 6: Heavy precipitation in the Chamoli region from February 4-6 and an overall rise in temperature in Uttarakhand in last four decades could have led to the rock collapse which triggered the deadly flash floods in the state last month, according to a study by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development.



running river water ahead of it, including water from small ponding structures along the river path.

## Delhi HC directs 3,499 undertrial prisoners on bail to surrender

New Delhi, March 6: The Delhi High Court has directed 3,499 undertrial prisoners, who were granted interim bails to de-congest jails here amid the COVID-19 pandemic, to surrender on expiry of their period.



with efflux of time on different dates and there was no requirement to fix any specific date for their surrender.

## Shield yourself from Covid with three-layered masks: Experts

New Delhi, March 6: While buying a new face mask to protect yourself against Covid-19 infection, make sure you go for a three-layered mask as it is more effective than single or double-layered alternatives, health experts emphasised Saturday.



wear a three-layered mask, so that we can protect ourselves from getting infected or infecting people around us," Sood added.

aerosols) are able to linger in the air for longer periods of time.

They have expressed a number of possibilities which could be because of the lax attitude of people towards following the Covid protocols or likeability of "mutations and new strains" causing the surge, as has been studied by the laboratories involved in the Covid detection across the country.





