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[Orissa Plus]

CM takes up IIT plea with Arjun

Statesman News Service

BHUBANESWAR, May 15: Taking up the issue of establishment of an IIT in Orissa with Union HRD minister Mr Arjun Singh in New Delhi today, chief minister Mr Naveen Patnaik justified the demand pointing out that the state did not have a single institution of national excellence. Mr Singh is said to have informed the CM that the matter would be considered while finalising proposals of his ministry for the 11th Plan.

Mr Patnaik also put forth demands for a Central varsity for KBK region and an IIM. At his meeting with Union minister for chemicals and fertilisers Mr Ram Vilas Paswan today, the CM urged for early revival of the FCI plant at Talcher. Congratulating Mr Paswan for his decision to revive the closed fertiliser units under the Central government, including the one located at Talcher, Mr Patnaik wanted the Talcher to be taken up in the first phase.

Mr Paswan said the Centre was fully committed to reviving the Talcher plant and necessary advertisement in this regard will be issued shortly.

The chief minister also discussed the proposed petroleum chemicals and petrochemicals investment region (PCPIR) in Paradip and assured the Union minister that the state government would take all necessary steps to expedite the ground work relating to the PCPIR at Paradeep.

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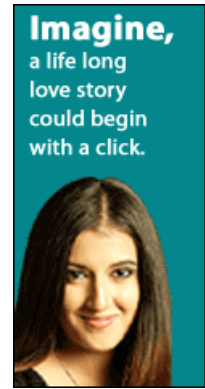
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