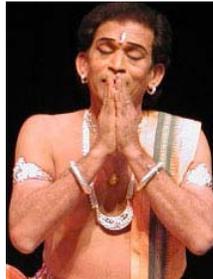


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ia. Uppalada, Paralakhemur

NROs appeal Naveen to harp for IIT

Bhubaneswar:29/September/2007

Leading Non Resident Oriyas (NROs) have requested Naveen Patnaik to claim for a Green field Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Orissa.

Mandarins in the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) are busy in sorting out a number of e-mails that flooded from various parts of the Globe.

All most all the e-mail senders have raised serious concern over the indecision over demanding an IIT for the state, when the Prime Minister announced that there will be 8 IITs in the country.

While addressing the nation on 15 August Dr.Man Mohan Singh announced that five more IITs will be established in addition to the newly proposed three IITs in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan.

While other states have already staked their claims for IIT including Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, Orissa is yet to ask for the same.

"Unless we do the same, we will lose out", lamented a visibly worried Chitta Baral, who teaches in Arizona State University.

"The Chief Minister must immediately send a letter to the Prime Minister followed up by a vision document", said Professor Baral.

Joining the issue Priya Ranjan Mahapatra, President of the Orissa Society of Americas (OSA), New York chapter said in the past Orissa has made several different proposals to the Centre.

The proposals including upgrading University College of Engineering (UCE) Burla to an IIT with a budget of about Rs. 300 crores, an IIT Khragpur campus in Bhubaneswar of a budget about Rs.800 crores and a new Greenfield IIT having a budget of Rs. 2000-4000 crores were demanded earlier.

But now we must demand for a Greenfield IIT, said Mr.Mahapatra.

Priyadarshan Patra, Secretary OSA has echoed in the same line and asked Mr.Patnaik to stake the claim immediately in an e-mail.

Dr.Patra has written to the Chief Minister reminding to push the Greenfield IIT in Orissa as that involves the largest amount of investment.

Professor Gopal Mohanty from Canada has also sent an e-mail to the CM and has advised him to act decisively over the issue.

The list is unending, said a senior official in the CMO.

Expressing concern over the issue, leading NRO Dharendra Kar has ringed up Members of Parliament, the top mandarins of the CMO and state secretariat to act immediately over the issue.

Mr.Kar said that we just have to make sure that the Greenfield location is not exactly in Bhubaneswar but about 100 km away from it in South Orissa.

So that later we can ask for an IIT Kharagpur extension centre at Bhubaneswar, said Mr.Kar.


Comment

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The gesture of the NROs including Prof Baral And Mr Mohanty is commendable. Being highly established in life and being thousands of miles away still they stmpathize on the cause of our development here. Personally ,I knew how keenly Prof Chitta Baral has been noting each small developments here and exhorting fellow Oriyas to come up for the cause of Orissa which has always received Centre's unjust treatment.

MANASH RANJAN DEBATA
10/1/2007

Orissa is always neglected by centre in any circumstance whether there is govt either Congress or BJP or others. To increase the education system in science/technology we need atleast two three national institutes which were present other states. IN IT sector definitely orissa is developing but in technology we need at leasr one IIT. In science also we missed NISc but later may be for it is compensated by NISER at BBSR. So to increase education system in Orissa please put claim for at least an IIT for ORissa. I am requesting for development of VEDANTA University. It may put a milstone in university level for orissa. Govt is doing good and peoples are with BJD-BJP and orissa will be number 1 within next 5yr. For betterment pls locate the development of villages and all schemes allotaed for that. Good Luck for nest election.

Satyananda Barik
9/30/2007

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