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Orissa to miss IIT bus again

Bhubaneswar:3/October/2007

Now it seems abundantly clear that Orissa is going to miss an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) for the

While one after another state receiving green signal from the centre for an IIT, Orissa continues to lag

The Centre on 2 October announced that it would open a central university and an IIT, in Himachal Pradesh.

"Prime Minister Manmohan Singh told me to announce a central university, an IIT (Indian Institute of Technology), said Union Finance Minister P Chidambaram at shimla on 2 October.

The announcements come ahead of the assembly elections in the state due in February next year.

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh said opening up of a central university and an IIT in the state would lift the educational standards in the hill state.

Earlier in the last week of August Mr. Singh had presented a memorandum to set up a central university and an IIT in Himachal Pradesh to the Minister Human Resource Development (HRD) and the Prime

Prime Minister announced on 15 August that there will be new 8 IITs in the country.

After Dr.Man Mohan Singh's announcement at least Keralal, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana has approached him to set up IITs in their respective states.

But Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has not requested the Centre for an IIT.

The CM is yet to finalize, whether to ask for up gradation of an existing engineering college to an IIT or to go for a Green field IIT, said an insider.

At least 26 leading Non Resident Oriyas (NRO) have sent e-mails to the Chief Minister to demand for a Green field IIT, which will entail Rs.2000- Rs.4000 crore investments.

But Mr.Patnaik is maintaining eerie silence over the issue.

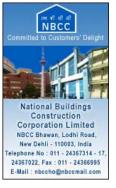
This will result in missing the IIT bus once again, said an IITian.

And this will seal the fate of the state so far receiving a new IIT in future, said he.

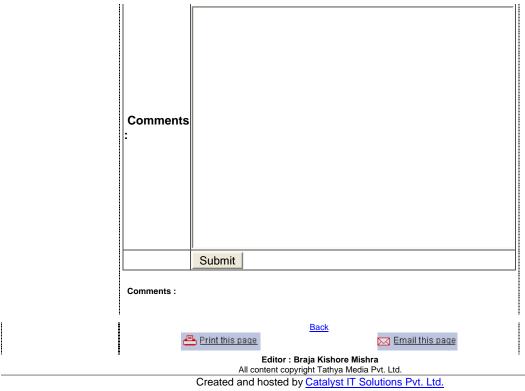
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