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**State made to wait yet again for an IIT**  
Thursday January 24 2008 09:33 IST

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**BHUBANESWAR:** Despite strong lobbying for an IIT in Orissa, the Centre has again let down the State by not giving a categorical assurance.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik met Human Resource Development Minister Arjun Singh in this connection in New Delhi today and requested for a greenfield IIT during the 11th Plan.

Singh, however, did not give any assurance. According to a release here, Singh said there was a strong possibility of setting up an IIT/IIM in Orissa because of the unprecedented industrial growth in the State.

He maintained that a decision in this regard will be taken by the Centre soon. He indicated that Orissa has a good case for getting a Central university in the KBK region of the State.

Centre had earlier announced establishment of greenfield IITs in Bihar, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh by ignoring Orissa's case.

Arguing Orissa's case, Naveen said since the State is on the verge of

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rapid growth not only in the industrial sector but also in technical education.

It will provide enormous potential for research and development activities. Establishment of an IIT will greatly facilitate intensifying this process, which is of critical importance to make industries globally competitive, he said.

Naveen demanded an IIM in Orissa saying that it will bring in professional culture and management. The IIM will be the incubation centre for quality managerial professionals required for various sectors, he said.

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