



[Home](#) | [Local](#) | [Others](#) | [National](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Information](#) | [Train / Air schedule](#) | [Horoscope](#) | [Oriya Calendar](#) | [Festival](#)  
[Archive](#)

Make Pragativadi My Homepage

Saturday, March 01 2008, 8:37:46 AM

## Local News

[Union budget frustrates Orissa](#)

**Bhubaneswar:** Chief minister Navin Patnaik, who on Thursday had pinned high hopes on the Union budget that the Centre this time would take note of Orissa's interest, expressed his gross dismay on Friday at its outcome.

Terming the Union Budget as disappointing for Orissa, he said that there is no special package for Orissa.

We expected a special package to bridge the regional imbalances. But no such announcement was made, he rued.

Taking umbrage at the time-honoured apathy towards Orissa, Patnaik said that the Indian Institute of Technology seems to have done with political consideration.

There has been no scheme for the welfare of the tribal people, he said.

It may be mentioned here that the state had earlier demanded an IIT for the state and as such Patnaik had written a number of letters to prime minister Manmohan Singh and Union HRD minister Arjun Singh.

But without conceding to the demands of the Orissa Government, the Centre announced setting up of IITs in Bihar, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh.

However, contrary to the chief minister's reaction, former chief minister and leader of the Opposition J B Patnaik described the Budget as the best

A slew of measures have been taken to solve the problems of the farmers, he said, adding that the Congress's concern for the farmers was reflected in the Budget.

Echoing his displeasure, finance minister Prafulla Chandra Ghadei said that the budget has not taken any steps to arrest price rise and inflation.

While a certain amount has been sanctioned for the northeastern states, no special package was announced for Orissa.

There has been no budgetary provision for Backward Grant Fund.

Similarly, no steps have been taken to take up developmental works in the Maoist affected region, he said.

Supporting his statement, industry minister Biswabhusan Harichandan said that the Budget was made keeping elections in mind.

The Centre has adopted a step-motherly attitude towards the state while announcing setting up a number of IITs.

More budgetary provision should have been made to take up road works, he said.

However, the Orissa Pradesh Congress Committee president Jayadev Jena said that such a Budget was never presented during the last 60 years.

He lauded the move by the Union finance minister who has allocated Rs 16,000 crore to take up anti-poverty programme and raising the income tax slab.

The Budget has provisions for senior citizens, farmers and for all strata of society, he said.

In a statement, former MP Trilochan Kanungo said that the budget speech of the Union finance minister M A Chidambaram has sent a message that elections are round the corner.

The UPA government has promised El Dorado to woo the electorate.

The higher income states would garner more benefit at the cost of the backward states like Orissa

[Click Here](#)

### Markets

Sensex	17578.72
Rs / \$	39.59
Gold(10gms)	Rs 11800.00
Silver(1kg)	Rs 21000.00

### Today's Poll

The dreadful incident of naxal attack on Nayagarh district has exposed poor intelligence networking of the Orissa Police. Do you agree?

Yes
  No
  Can't Say

### Interview >>

### Quote of the Day

When the character of a man is not clear to you, look at his

and Bihar, he pointed out.

Justifying his contention, Kanungo said that had the Centre pursued the right kind of farmer's friendly policy consistently in the past, such a huge loan waiver would not have been resorted to.

This would only help increase the regional imbalances.

BJP MP Dharmendra Pradhan said that the Budget had ignored the state's interests.

Taking a dig at the Union finance minister, he said that the former, by not conceding to Orissa and mineral rich states demand for fixation of royalty of mineral resources on ad valorem basis, had ignored the financial interest of the states.

Similarly, BJP state unit president Suresh Pujari said that while also criticised the Budget.

The Orissa CPI unit secretary Dibakar Nayak said that while the farmers have been waived a loan to the tune of Rs 60,000 cr, the industrialists have been provided a concession of Rs 3 lakh crore.

However, RJP state unit secretary Sanatan Behera, while welcoming the budget, said that the suicide of farmers can be checked to a greater extent.

---

[About Us](#) | [Feedback](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [Archive](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Advertise With Us](#)

Copyright © 2007 pragativadi.com, all rights reserved

Powered by - All India Online®