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ORISSA

Oct 25, 2005

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Naveen seeks Central varsity, RCSIS

Tuesday October 25 2005 15:22 IST

BHUBANESWAR: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has requested the Centre for establishment of a Central university for the KBK (undivided Kalahandi, Balangir and Koraput districts) region.

Patnaik raised the issue during his meeting with Union Human Resources Development Minister Arjun Singh in New Delhi on Monday.

He said that setting up a Central university in the KBK region would go a long way in encouraging higher education among the tribal population. The literacy rate in the region is below 50 percent.

The Chief Minister said that specialised centres for tribal development related studies can also be set up under the university as it is the biggest challenge facing the country.

He demanded that establishment of the Regional Centre of Studies in Integrated Sciences (RCSIS) in Bhubaneswar should be expedited.

The State Government has identified 75 acres of land at Gothapatna under Bhubaneswar tehsil for setting up the campus and is awaiting release of funds by the Centre.

Referring to the Centre's decision to set up a similar institution at Kolkata, Patnaik said that establishment of the Bhubaneswar centre should be taken up first as it was approved nearly two

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years ago.

A release issued here said that the Union Minister appreciated the rationale of having a Central university in the KBK region and sought a formal proposal in this regard from the State Government.

He assured that this would receive high priority whenever the Centre considers setting up of new Central universities.

On the issue of establishment of Regional Centre of Studies here, Singh said that his Ministry would review the matter.

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