



.Monday, November 28, 2005

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**Centre files affidavit in Orissa HC on NIS issue**

**Pioneer News Service/ Bhubaneswar**

The Centre has filed an affidavit before the Orissa High Court on shifting of the National Institute of Science (NIS) from Bhubaneswar to Kolkata.

On behalf of the Central Government, under secretary to the Human Resources Development Ministry Prem Kumar on Friday filed the affidavit in the High Court, stating that the Union Government had never pledged to set up the NIS in Bhubaneswar.

The Orissa Government has reacted sharply to the Centre's move. The State Government officials said it was a blatant lie on the part of the HRD Ministry. The NDA Government had promised to set up the institute in the Bhubaneswar and requested the State Government to provide land for the purpose, the officials pointed out, adding that the State had already allotted 75 acres of land in Bhubaneswar.

The NIS issue has already rocked the ongoing Winter Session of the Assembly. It has decided to set up a House committee that will to take up this issue with New Delhi. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik also took up the issue and sent two letters to the Prime Minister in this connection.

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