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Orissa to have an IIS soon: Sahu

Bhubaneswar: Union minister of state for labour and employment Chandrasekhar Sahu

on Thursday announced that an Indian Institute of Science (IIS) would be set up in Orissa in place of National Institute of Science (NIS).

Briefing newsmen at the Congress Bhawan here on the occasion of completion of two-year of the UPA government at the Centre, he said that prime minister Manmohan Singh would shortly make an announcement to this effect much to the delight of the people of Orissa.

Sahu also said that the prime minister would also lay a foundation stone for the proposed petroleum complex at Paradip soon.

The project envisages a massive investment of Rs 47,000 crore, he added. Justifying the cancellation of the proposed NIS in the state, Sahu said that the then NDA government had made mere announcements without backing it up with firm proposals.

The NIS was proposed by the UGC and since it was not the competent authority, the idea was rejected, he pointed out.

He also said that the regional centre of AIIMS, for which the then prime minister Atal Bihar Vajpayee had laid a foundation stone amidst much fanfare, was virtually non-existent in terms of Cabinet approval and budgetary allocations.

Though a section of have been raking up sentiments over these issues by giving impression that the UPA government had scrapped these projects, the UPA government on the contrary, has formalised the regional centre, he asserted.

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