



143rd Year • Published From Cuttack, Orissa, India • Bhuvananeswar

Monday, August 28, 2006

operation\* \*Pak committed to Kashmir issue: Musharraf\* \*Fiscal, revenue

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## Visit politically motivated: BJD

Pioneer News Service | Bhubaneswar

The BJD Rajya Sabha member Baijayant Panda strongly disapproved of the Prime Minister's visit to Orissa. "The Prime Minister's proposed visit on Monday will not bring any relief to the State," he said, adding that the visit is only of political nature. "It has not shown any sign of good governance," he remarked.

Speaking to reporters, Panda said the Treasury Bench in Rajya Sabha disrupted the House on August 25 knowingly so that the calling attention motion on the KBK funding issue, which had been listed, could not be taken up.

The way the Centre cut down the expenditure for the KBK region was unfortunate. It is simply inhuman to equate the KBK districts with 200 backward districts throughout the country, including those in developed States like Punjab, Haryana and Karnataka and to reduce the RLTP fund.

Coming down heavily on the Centre, Panda said it was shocking that the Centre has not released a paisa for Orissa flood relief. "While visiting the State, the PM should announce a special package for us," he said.

He also strongly criticised the Prime Minister's inauguration of the extended unit of the Talcher Super Thermal Power Station. "When the Union Power Minister had already inaugurated the project, what was the necessity for the Prime Minister to inaugurate it again," he asked.

He also criticised Dr Singh's proposed laying of foundation stone of the National Institute of Sciences without Cabinet approval and budgetary provision and termed Dr Singh as the weakest-ever Prime Minister.

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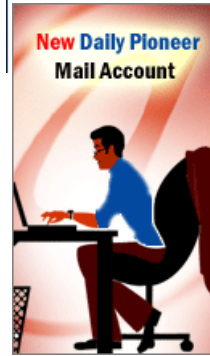
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