

# SUN TIMES

ODISHA'S ONLY ENGLISH WEB DAILY

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**Quake toll mounts to 40,000 in Pakistan, over 750 killed in J&K, Pak no to India's offer for joint relief operations, Sania rise**

Date: 10/10/2005

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#### Weather

City	Max	Min
BBSR	29.9	23.6
Katak	31.3	24.4
Baleswar	30.6	23.7
Gopalpur	31.8	24.4
Jharsuguda	33.0	24.2

#### Opinion

With the BJP joining the opposition's demand for a CBI probe into the tender-fixing scam is the BJD-BJP coalition in danger?

- : Yes
- : No
- : Can't Say

#### Full Story...

- NROs rue shifting of NIS from Odisha

Bhubaneswar: The step-motherly attitude of the Union Government has drawn flak from Non-Resident Odias for its decision to ignore the State while announcing setting up of National Institute of Sciences (NIS) by the Human Resource Development Department recently.

They have rued the fact that though the then HRD Minister Murli Manohar Joshi had announced that the University Grants Commission (UGC) had initiated steps to set up the NIS at Bhubaneswar besides Chennai, Allahabad, Kolkata and Pune, on December 9, 2003, the present government announced setting up of Indian Institute of Sciences for Education and Research (IISER), the rechristened NIS at Pune and Kolkata only. It is not important whether the IISER will be set up at Chennai or Allahabad as both the cities host two national institutes of repute like IIT and IIIT respectively, they mention.

Meanwhile, Odias with a strong sense of Odia pride have taken up the cudgels to rake up this issue and make it a movement to fight the injustice meted out to the State. In an open letter to the Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Congress president Sonia Gandhi, they have raised some pertinent points.

They say that since there is no Central institute like IIM or IIT, people of Odisha were hopeful that NIS, if set up in Odisha, would have given some sense of pride to them. It does not have even a Central university, they lament. In this context, ignoring Odisha in case of NIS smacks of political consideration, they allege.

Though Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has written a letter to the Prime Minister on the issue, till now no steps have been initiated to give justice to this backward state, they bemoan.

They point out that if every new Government at the Centre changes educational investment decisions made by the previous government, seemingly on the ground of lack of strength in the ruling party, it will be a big blow to the Indian democracy.

The also lament the fact that the system of proportional representation makes the smaller states like Odisha susceptible to such injustice and apathy. They have invoked the wisdom of statesmen like Sonia Gandhi and Arjun Singh to make sure that resources are fairly distributed across the country.

They have urged the Union Government to reconsider its decision and add Bhubaneswar in the list of NIS and regain its dignity and fairplay. It would definitely rescue Odisha from successive governments' neglect in the



**Tourists visiting the seaside beach resort thronged around a recreation of the devastation occurred in J&K, Pakistan and Afghanistan, all shaped in sand, on the edge of the surf here. Created by noted sand artiste Sudarshan Patnaik it depicts a crumbled wall and has a motif "help the quake victims" against the backdrop of an image of goddess Durga, as the annual puja festivities began.**

#### Other News

- Animal rights activists seek halt to sacrifice
- Couple killed in road mishap
- Dreaded criminal arrested
- Four coal smugglers nabbed
- Sex racket busted, 10 arrested
- TUs oppose privatization of ferrochrome plant
- Violation of safety rules during Katak pujas
- Liquor worth Rs 2 lakh, car seized
- Three kids fall ill after consuming tablets
- MCL jobs for A and B category oustees

higher education.

They have, in fact, appreciated the endeavour of the Union Government in its efforts to set up an AIIMS-like institute in Odisha.

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