

BIO - DATA OF CHIEF MINISTER OF ODISHA

SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK

Shri Naveen Patnaik, son of late Shri Biju Patnaik and Smt. Gyan Patnaik, was born on 16-10-1946 at Cuttack, Odisha and educated at Doon School at Dehradun. In 1967 he graduated from Delhi University. A bachelor, Shri Naveen Patnaik has written a series of non-fiction books on India which have received wide acclaim both in India and abroad. Earlier, Shri Naveen Patnaik was a pioneer in achieving international recognition of Indian design while also working with handloom weavers to enlarge home markets for Indian textiles. As a founder member of INTACH (The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage) he has been a prime mover for the preservation of India's cultural wealth.



Shri Naveen Patnaik's books reflect his deep interest in Indian cultural history and tradition. **A Second Paradise** dealt with Indian culture, **A Desert Kingdom** with Indian history and **The Garden of Life** with India's environment and traditional knowledge. All the three books were published not just in India but also widely acclaimed in the U.S.A. and Britain.

After the death of his father, the legendary Biju Patnaik, Shri Naveen Patnaik felt compelled to enter politics. In June 1997 he was elected Member of Parliament to the 11th Lok Sabha in a by-election from Aska Constituency in Odisha. In the Lok Sabha he drew the nation's attention to the severe water shortage creating drought conditions in Aska and neighbouring constituencies and to the Human Rights Report on starvation deaths in Western Odisha. He also toured his constituency extensively and his close association with the people of Aska enabled him to take urgent action on the severe water shortage by reactivating village wells, drilling new tube-wells and bringing medical assistance on an urgent basis by mobile medical van and ambulance as well as organising village clinics.

As a member of the 11th Lok Sabha Shri Naveen Patnaik sat on the (1) Consultative Committee of Ministry of Steel & Mines (2) Standing Committee on Commerce and (3) Library Committee of Parliament.

As a result of his dedication to the problems of the people Shri Naveen Patnaik earned the reputation of being a worthy son of his father, whose name is synonymous in Odisha with development. In December 1997 this led to the formation of a new regional political entity—the Biju Janata Dal in Odisha, under the leadership of Shri Naveen Patnaik. Within 8 weeks the Biju Janata Dal swept to victory, bringing nine of its twelve candidates as Members to the 12th Lok Sabha.

On being elected to the 12th Lok Sabha from Aska Parliamentary Constituency Shri Patnaik held the important portfolio of Cabinet Minister of Steel & Mines. He was re-elected to the 13th Lok Sabha and became the Union Cabinet Minister for Mines & Minerals.

In the 2000 Odisha Assembly Polls he was elected from Hinjili Constituency and was unanimously elected the leader of the BJD-BJP alliance and on 5th March took the oath of office of the Chief Minister, Odisha. For second time, he became the Chief Minister on 16th May 2004 and also re-elected for the third term as Chief Minister of Odisha in 2009.

In 2014 Assembly polls, he came to power for the 4th consecutive term with an overwhelming majority of 117 out of 147 seats.