

## Odisha will have country's first Public Health University

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Odisha will have country's first Public Health University soon.

Named as Odisha Public Health University, it will be set up on Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode at Gramdiha in Khurda. The State Government today signed an MoU with Asian Institute of Public Health (AIPH) at State Secretariat here.



Pradipta Kumar Mohapatra, Principal Secretary of the Health and Family Welfare and Dr Pinaki Panigrahi of AIPH inked the MoU.

Damodar Rout Minister Health & Family Welfare graced the occasion.

Initially, Rs 100 crore will be spent on the project, which later will be scaled up in a big way, said Dr.Rout. AIPH will set up this University in partnership with University of

Nebraska Medical Centre College of Public Health, USA, while the State Government will provide 50 acres of land.

Sources said Rs 50 to 100 crore more will be invested in the next phase and the project will be completed in the next two or three years.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Health & Family Welfare Dr.Rout announced that a special public health cadre will be created in the state. He termed the project as an outstanding initiative in the field of public health in the state.

Earlier several Non Resident Odias (NRO)s have been requesting the Odisha Government for such an initiative.

Thanks to the drive of Mr.Mohapatra, Principal Secretary Health & Family Welfare, this move came to a reality, said an officer.

Pravakar saho

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