

## Office of the Chief Minister, Odisha

### CONDOENCE

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Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik has expressed deep shock and grief over the sad demise of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji.

In a message, the Chief Minister had said, "It is a great national loss today as much as a personal loss for me . I will always cherish my association with Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji especially as it was during my initial years in politics. He embodied a unique combination of grace, idealism and tolerance in politics. A statesman who was admired across the political spectrum - rare in politics. His depth of vision and understanding of issues was unparalleled. A man of firm principles and an idealistic poet. It is truly the end of an era ... Vajpayeeji had a large heart with a special corner for Odisha - a love that was equally reciprocated by the people of Odisha... We will miss you Vajpayeeji. May his soul rest in peace".

Earlier, on the day, the Chief Minister paid a visit to AIIMS at Delhi to pay his last tributes to the departed leader.