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Title: Regarding building multi-specialty Hospital in Siliguri.

**SHRI RAJU BISTA (DARJEELING):** The districts of Darjeeling, Kalimpong, and North Dinajpur are among the most deprived regions in India. Majority of the people here are dependent on tea garden, farming or collection of Forest Products for their livelihood, and the average family income is only around Rs.6000/month.

Due to low income, people from our region cannot afford treatment in expensive private hospitals, and government run facilities are inadequately equipped and critically understaffed. During my recent visit to the North Bengal Medical College, I was shocked by the general condition of filth and criminal lack of amenities for the patients.

Because of this, our region urgently needs an upgrade in its healthcare system and facilities so that our people won't be forced to travel to Vellore, Delhi and Mumbai for treatment.

Therefore, I request the Union Health Ministry to build at least a 1000-bedded multi-specialty hospital on the lines of AIIMS in Siliguri