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Title: Regarding Performance of Odisha on Health Index-Laid

**SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI (BHUBANESWAR):** NITI Aayog has brought out a report on health performance index a few days back. It is extremely unfortunate that Odisha's performance has slipped to 19<sup>th</sup> rank in making it the third worst performing State among the 21 large States of India.

In terms of decline in health index value, Odisha is fourth from the bottom. The new Natal Mortality rate of Odisha is comparable to Sierra Leone, one of the worst performing sub-Saharan countries. We have States like Kerala and Tamil Nadu who have already achieved the sustainable development goal target of twelve Neo-Natal deaths per 1000 life births. According to Sample Registration System, Odisha has reported second highest infant mortality rate and third highest under five mortality rate. And it is unfortunate that it has fourth highest maternal mortality rate. As per the report, 51 per cent women, 47 per cent pregnant women and 44 per cent children are anemic in Odisha. In 25 districts of Odisha, prevalence of wasting is above the critical limit as per WHO cut off values.

The critical state of health matters in Odisha is indicative of the fact that all is not well as far as the implementation of schemes – whether Central or State Government schemes are concerned. The State Government needs to examine the matter very carefully and put into place a very strong monitoring framework to ensure that the schemes are

implemented well and there is good level of awareness generated among people.

I will request the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India to seek a report from the Government of Odisha as regards the methodology of implementation of the schemes and the corrective measures that they take in the light of the report that has been brought out by NITI Aayog. This is a matter of utmost concern and required immediate attention.