

Regarding establishment of a medical college in Jagatsinghpur district of Odisha-laid

**SHRI BIBHU PRASAD TARAI (JAGATSINGHPUR):** The goal of universal health coverage is the moto of the Government to ensure that everyone receives health services without facing financial hardship. Affordable and accessible health care can unlock human capital and economic dividends for the country. It is the dream of our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji that AIIMS in line with AIIMS New Delhi should be opened in all States of the country. In the last 10 years, Government has opened 17 AIIMS in the country, whereas the country had only 6 AIIMS till 2014. It is also indeed a welcome step that Government decided to ensure healthy life of our fellow citizens and started working on the principle of 'One District One Medical College to convert all districts in the country into Ayushman Districts.

Indeed, it is highly important that a comprehensive plan of action shall be in place as soon as possible to set up medical colleges in every district in the country or if Government is planning to convert the existing District Hospitals into a Medical Colleges and attach to these Hospitals in the district. Looking at the urgency, and the needs of the people of Jagatsinghpur, which is an industrial district of Odisha, having the Paradeep Port and highest disease burden, Government can consider establishing a Medical College in Jagatsinghpur district of Odisha in the first phase on priority and start academic session.