

Need to sanction birth waiting halls in all the tribal Primary Health Centres in Palnadu, Andhra Pradesh.-laid

SHRI LAVU SRIKRISHNA DEVARAYALU (NARASARAOPET): I wish to draw the attention of the Government to a serious gap in maternal healthcare in the Palnadu district of Andhra Pradesh, where seven tribal Primary Health Centres (PHCs) currently lack birth waiting halls. These facilities are critical to ensuring safe and timely institutional deliveries in remote areas. Birth waiting halls allow pregnant women, especially those in their final weeks, to stay close to healthcare centres. This reduces delays during labour, particularly during night-time or emergencies, and ensures access to skilled healthcare providers, improving both maternal and neonatal outcomes. These centres also serve as platforms for health education, nutritional support, and awareness around safe motherhood. In the last two years alone, Palnadu has recorded 9 maternal deaths and 175 infant deaths, which is deeply concerning. The establishment of birth waiting halls in these underserved tribal areas will not only encourage institutional deliveries but also reduce mortality rates, improve health outcomes, and offer a cost-effective and safe environment for expectant mothers. I urge the Hon?ble Ministry to urgently consider sanctioning birth waiting halls in all seven tribal PHCs in Palnadu to safeguard the health and lives of mothers and newborns.