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Title: Need to set up a Central University in Hansdiha, Dumka district, Jharkhand and the proposed AIIMS at Deogarh in the State.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): Jharkhand possesses 40% of India's mineral resources, but the access to resources has made little difference to the lives of ordinary people. Poverty and ignorance are causes for low literacy rates, poor school attendance and large-scale drop outs. Large parts of the state are afflicted by Naxalism. Jharkhand has little access to quality educational infrastructure.

I seek the attention of the Government to the need to set up a Central University in the state. An ideal location would be HANSDIHA (DUMKA) in the SANTHAL PARGANA region. Secondly, the Santhal Pargana of Jharkhand does not have any medical facilities at all. This area is prone to malnutrition, with an estimated 75 per cent of children and mother anaemic.

I request that the proposed AIIMS in Jharkhand be set up at Deogarh as it is strategically suited for such a hospital. Deogarh lies on Kolkata – Patna main rail route and connected with three National Highways. 200 acres of land are also available at the place for the purpose.