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Title: Need to set up the proposed AIIMS like Institute at Deoghar, Jharkhand.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): Deoghar (Jharkhand) is one of the centre points of Santhal Pargana region and the entire Santhal Pargana region is backward and poor. This area does not have any medical facilities at all and needless to say the reduction on public health spending and the growing inequalities in health and health care are taking their toll on the marginalized and socially disadvantaged population of Santhal Pargana. This area is prone to malnutrition, with an estimated 75 per cent of children and mothers being anaemic. The children born in the tribal belt are one and a half time more likely to die before the fifth birthday and children below three years of age in scheduled tribes and scheduled castes are twice as likely to be malnourished than children in other groups. A tribal woman is one and a half time more likely to suffer the consequences of chronic malnutrition as compared to women from other social categories.

My insistence for setting up the AIIMS like institute at Deoghar is mainly on account of the suitable geographical location and ease of commuting for the patients from neighbouring towns like -Dumka, Godda etc. Deoghar is on the Kolkata – Patna main rail route and also connected with three National Highways. There is also 200 acres of land available at the place.

I humbly request that the proposed AIIMS like institute in Jharkhand be set up at Deoghar.