

Sixteenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Regarding healthcare issues of tribals.

DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI (AHMEDABAD): I want to raise the pertinent issue of tribal health in the country. According to the expert committee report called *Tribal Health in India* by the health and welfare ministry, 104 million tribal people accounting for 8.6% of India's population are heavily marginalised and discriminated against. Not only are tribal communities socio-economically deprived, they also face a host of structural inequalities, with access to healthcare being one of the biggest. According to expert committee report, 42% of tribal children are underweight, 1.5 times higher than non-tribal children. They constitute 8% of the total population but having 30% of the malaria cases. Fifty percent of all malaria related deaths are in the tribal population. I urge the Government to release an annual budget amounting to 2.5% GDP on per capita basis for tribal healthcare.