

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO-\*53  
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 07/02/2024

**HEALTH CONDITIONS OF TRIBAL POPULATION**

\*53 SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to have disaggregated data on the health conditions of tribal populations in the country, in line with the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee on Empowerment of Women;

(b) whether Government has taken cognizance of the panel's recommendation for a review in the Allocation of Business Rules so that Ministry can be empowered to appropriately plan resources for tribal welfare in sectors like health, education, nutrition, skill development, and livelihood; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

**(a) to (c):** A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.\*53 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024 REGARDING "HEALTH CONDITIONS OF TRIBAL POPULATION" RAISED BY SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI**

**(a):** The Parliamentary Committee on Empowerment of Women (2022-23) in its Seventh Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on the subject “Health Facilities for Tribal Women” has, inter-alia, recommended to generate tribal disaggregated health data to help in evolving custom made health interventions to suit the unique healthcare requirements of the tribal people, especially tribal women and girl children.

“Public Health & Hospital” being a state subject, the primary responsibility of providing health care services in the tribal areas is that of respective State/UT Governments. Further, under the National Health Mission (NHM), and other initiatives on Health Sectors, Government of India provides financial and technical support to States/UTs to strengthen their Healthcare systems.

National Health Mission (NHM) envisages universal access to equitable, affordable & quality healthcare services that are responsive to people’s needs by supporting the States/UTs in providing financial and technical support. This support includes accessible, affordable, and quality healthcare services, especially to the marginalised and vulnerable sections in urban, rural, and tribal/hilly areas. Thus, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) maintains the universal data of the country. Further, the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) is conducted with a periodicity of around three years to provide State-wise data on crucial demographic and health studies indicators of general population including information on Scheduled Tribes in 177 high-priority tribal districts identified by MoTA.

The district-wise fact sheet of States/UTs reports the key indicators and trend for general population as well as Tribals related to population and household profile, characteristics of women, marriage and fertility, maternal child health, family planning practices, delivery care, vaccinations, and management of childhood diseases that may be accessed from below link:

<https://rchiips.org/nfhs/nfhs4.shtml>

[http://rchiips.org/nfhs/districtfactsheet\\_NFHS-5.shtml](http://rchiips.org/nfhs/districtfactsheet_NFHS-5.shtml)

State-wise fact sheet provides detailed information on household characteristics, education, fertility, family planning, maternal child health, breastfeeding, anaemia, communicable diseases, women empowerment and domestic violence, etc. for general population including Scheduled Tribes. The State reports can be accessed from below link:

<https://rchiips.org/nfhs/NFHS-5 State Report.shtml>

Data from NFHS 5 shows significant improvements in key health indicators amongst the tribal population as compared to data under NFHS 4.

**(b) & (c):** The Allocation of Business Rules, 1961 was amended in 2017 by which the monitoring of STC has been entrusted to Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

In addition, the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 as amended from time to time, already provides that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs shall be the nodal Ministry for overall policy, planning and coordination of programmes of development for the Scheduled Tribes. In regard to sectoral programmes and schemes of development of these communities' policy, planning, monitoring, evaluation, etc. as also their coordination will be the responsibility of the concerned Central Ministries/ Departments, State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Each Central Ministry/Department will be the nodal Ministry or Department concerning its sector. This allocation has been done keeping in view that sectoral Ministries/ Departments have knowledge and expertise in their specific domains for development of all communities in the country including Scheduled Tribes. However, MoTA is working in coordination with sectoral Ministries/ Departments for comprehensive development of Scheduled Tribes in the country.

Government is implementing Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) now known as Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes (DAPST)) as a strategy for the development of Scheduled Tribes and areas having tribal concentration in the country. Besides Ministry of Tribal Affairs, 41 Ministries/Departments are allocating certain percentage of their total scheme budget for tribal development under DAPST for various tribal development projects relating to education, health, agriculture, irrigation, roads, housing, electrification, employment generation, skill development, etc.

A few details of the DAPST are as follows:

- For the development of ST communities across the country, the annual budget of Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been on continuous increase. In 2023-24, a budget of Rs. 12461.88 Crores has been allocated to the Ministry which is 3 times compared to the budget in 2013-14 of Rs. 4295.94 Crore.

- Five (5) times increase has been made in the Budget allocation for the welfare of scheduled tribes. The allocation during 2013-14 was Rs. 24594.45 Crores, which has been increased to Rs 1,17,943.73 Crores during 2023-24 across Union Ministries/Departments.
- 42 Union Ministries/Departments have been allocated Budget Grants under the DAPST for schemes of development for STs in 2023-24.

An online monitoring system has been put in place by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs with web address: <https://stemis.gov.in> for monitoring of Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) / Scheduled Tribe Component (STC)/Development action Plan for Scheduled Tribe (DAPST) funds.

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