

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3939  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2019**

**TRIBAL HEALTH**

**3939. SHRI BALABHADRA MAJHI:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has set up a sub-committee on Tribal Health to assess the health situation of Tribal people in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details and the outcome of problems and solutions suggested by the Committee for Tribals in M.P., Odisha, HP, Andhra Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b): An Expert Committee on Tribal Health was constituted jointly by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs which submitted its report to the Ministry. The Report is available in public domain at <http://www.nhm.gov.in/nrhm-updates/598-report-of-the-expert-committee-on-tribal-health.html>

(c): The committee has not given any state specific recommendations. The status of Tribal Health has been summarized in the report as under:

Tribal people have the poorest health status and they carry a triple burden of disease. Moreover, despite the high reliance of the tribal people on the public health care system in Scheduled Areas, it continues to be characterized by low output, low quality and low outcome delivery system, often targeting wrong priorities. An important reason behind this is the near complete absence of community participation in the planning, design and implementation of health services. Therefore, restructuring and strengthening of the public health care system, in accordance with the needs and aspirations of the tribal communities, and with their full participation, should be the highest priority for the Ministries of Health and Family Welfare, both at the Centre and in the states.

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The gist of the broad key recommendations include:

- Promise of Universal Health Assurance and Ayushman Bharat should begin with tribal areas.
- 70% resources for tribal health to go for Primary Health Care including prevention and promotion.
- Move the health care delivery towards the communities.
- Engage & empower local STs for health (Panchasheel policy).
- Health care basket should be broadened.

The steps taken by the Ministry include:

- (i) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Tribal Affairs to implement Health and Wellness Ambassadors initiative under Ayushman Bharat in Ashram and schools funded by Ministry of Tribal in all the functional Eklavya Model Residential Schools, ashram schools and other school supported by MoTA.
- (ii) Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been requested to schedule a dissemination workshop.
- (iii) As desired by NITI Aayog, the Ministry is identifying 10 to 15 critical recommendations and an Action Plan to be shared with States to enable preparation of State specific plan of action.

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