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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2209 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2023

HEALTH FACILITIES IN TRIBAL AREAS

2209. SHRI GUMAN SINGH DAMOR:

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

(a) whether despite higher incidence of water-borne and other diseases in tribal areas, health facilities are not at par with the national average; and(b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) & (b): National Health Mission (NHM) envisages universal access to equitable, affordable & quality health care services that are accountable and responsive to people's needs by supporting the States/UTs in providing financial and technical support for accessible, affordable and quality healthcare, especially to the poor and vulnerable sections in urban, rural, and tribal/hilly areas.

Under NHM, tribal areas have following relaxed norms addressing the need-based intervention in terms of healthcare infrastructure and human resources:

- The population norms for setting up health facilities in tribal areas has been relaxed from 5,000, 30,000, and 1,20,000 to 3000, 20,000 and 80,000 for setting up of Sub Centre, PHC and CHC in tribal and hilly areas.
- Against norm of one ASHA per 1000 population in normal area, one ASHA per habitation in Tribal/hilly and difficult areas.
- Against the norm of 2 MMUs per district in plains, 4 MMUs per district in tribal/ hilly/inaccessible/ remote and hard to reach areas.

Under Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) launched on 15th November 2023, further relaxation in NHM norms has been provided to the PVTG areas as under:

- Maximum 10 MMUs per districts with PVTG areas.
- Provision of one additional ANM on Multi Purpose Centres (MPCs) and making available basic drugs and diagnostics in the PVTG areas.

In terms of infrastructure development, thrust has been given to reduce the gap in availability of health facilities, particularly in Tribal areas. Overall, there has been 49.4% increase in Health Facilities available in Tribal areas as compared to 9.1% increase in all India, between 2005 and 2022 (As per RHS 2022) as shown below:

Type of		All India			Tribal Areas	
Facility	RHS	RHS	%	RHS	RHS	%
	2005	2022	Increase	2005	2022	Increase
SHCs	1,46,026	1,57,935	8.1%	16,748	25,383	51.5%
PHCs	23,236	24,935	7.3%	2,809	3,833	36.4%
CHCs	3,346	5,480	63.8%	643	960	49.3%
Total	1,72,608	1,88,350	9.1%	20,200	30,176	49.4%