

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding setting up of a Medical College in Rayagada district of Odisha.

SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA (KORAPUT): Rayagada district being an Aspirational District with large tribal population needs support especially in health services. The establishment of Medical College has been a long-pending demand. In 2014, the then Health Minister of Odisha announced in Assembly a Medical college for Rayagada and started procedures but nothing has been done. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Hon'ble PM has given its approval for the establishment of 75 additional Government Medical Colleges by 2022 and it was also decided that new Medical Colleges would be set up in underserved areas having no Medical Colleges with at least 200 bedded District Hospital and preference will be given to Aspirational Districts. Rayagada comes under the aspirational district of Odisha identified by NITI Aayog. Rayagada is an Adivasi dominated district with most of the families coming under BPL categories and it comes under the Schedule-V areas. Hence, I urge upon the Minister of Health and Family Welfare to take a necessary action immediately.