

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4645  
ANSWERED ON:21.02.2014  
MALNUTRITION DEATHS OF TRIBAL CHILDREN  
Rajesh Shri M. B.

**Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the financial assistance or package provided by the Government to tackle the malnutrition attributable deaths of tribal children in Attappady in Kerala indicating its utilisation along with physical achievements thereby;
- (b) whether the Government has reviewed the implementation of the package announced in Attappady in order to tackle the malnutrition death of tribal children;
- (c) if so, the details thereof indicating the shortcomings/flaws noticed therein; and
- (d) the remedial action taken by the Government thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SMT. RANEE NARAH)

(a): As per information received from Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, a special grant of Rs. 433.52 lakhs has been approved for strengthening Health Services in Attappady Block under National Rural Health Mission to tackle the malnutrition attributable deaths of tribal children in Attappady in Kerala. The grant has been given for setting of Nutritional Rehabilitation Centre for children, Tribal Community Development and providing second ANM for Sub Centres, strengthening of Lab Services, renovation and construction of Sub Centres and procurement of equipments. The implementation and monitoring of different health activity components are done by the State and District level functionaries.

(b) to (d): A central team from Ministry of Health & Family Welfare conducted a monitoring visit to review the implementation of package announced in Attappady and following action were taken:

i. A number of posts under the Special Arogya Package have been created for Attappady area with incentives like Difficult Area Allowance of Rs. 20,000/- in addition to their monthly salary to doctors and all other staff are provided 20% extra of their basic pay as special allowance.

ii. A special health survey in 2 different phases was conducted in Attappady Block for identifying and treating cases of anaemia and malnutrition. 841 persons attended the camp and those needed follow up, were referred to the tribal mobile medical camps in their respective Panchayats.

iii. Under Weekly Iron-Folic Acid Supplementation(WIFS) Programme, iron tablets have been distributed through the ASHA kit to adolescent girls. Iron folic acid tablets have been distributed to all Anganwadis for antenatal mothers. Iron folic acid and calcium tablets are supplied through home visits.

iv. Doctors and Staff Nurses have been deputed in PHC Pudur, Government Tribal Specialty Hospital (GTSH), Kottathara, CHC Agali and a vehicle in PHC Sholayur have been provided for strengthening field activities through NRHM.

v. Government Tribal Specialty Hospital (GTSH), Kottathara: 2 Gynaecologists, 1 Anesthesiologist and 15 Staff Nurses have been appointed/engaged for providing health services. Blood storage facility has started functioning, furniture stretches trolley, full arm chairs, visiting chairs, bed-side lockers, Public Address System, token system, intercom facilities and fire extinguisher have been provided through NRHM to GTSH Kottathara. Arrangements have also been made to purchase equipments like Crash cart, Auto-scope, Air conditioner and refrigerator for them. In addition, Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulance in GTSH Kottathara have been converted to Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance.

vi. Medical Mobil Units(MMUs) have been assigned to cover the 3 Panchayats, namely Agali(MMU-1), Pudur(MMU-2) and Sholayur(MMU-3).

vii. Nutrition Rehabilitation Centre(NRC) has been made functional in CHC, Agali with provision of equipments and manpower as per norms.