

**Demand to open more Medical Colleges/Nursing Training Institutes and another AIIMS
in Bihar**

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार) : महोदय, कोविड महामारी के दौरान समूची दुनिया बेबस नज़र आई। इस आपदा ने मानव जीवन को पंगु बना दिया। हर आयु वर्ग तथा हर आयु वर्ग के लोग इससे प्रभावित हुए। इस आपदा ने यह भी बताया कि हमें स्वास्थ्य सुविधाओं के विस्तार तथा इसके बुनियादी ढांचे के विकास पर और बल देने की जरूरत है। हमें उन क्षेत्रों में स्वास्थ्य संबंधी बुनियादी ढांचे को खड़ा करने की आवश्यकता है, जहाँ इसका नितांत अभाव है। सरकार ने अपनी ओर से तैयारी शुरू भी कर दी है तथा इस वर्ष के आम बजट में स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र के लिए 2.23 लाख करोड़ रुपये का आवंटन किया है। सरकार द्वारा यह घोषणा की गई थी कि स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र में पिछड़े राज्यों पर विशेष ध्यान दिया जाएगा तथा आबादी के आनुपातिक घनत्व को ध्यान में रखते हुए एक से अधिक एम्स भी खोले जाएंगे। यह भी कहा गया था कि प्रत्येक जिले में नर्सों की ट्रेनिंग के लिए संस्थान भी खोले जाएंगे।

महोदय, अभी भी ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में जिला अस्पतालों में पर्याप्त संख्या में डॉक्टर तथा नर्सिंग स्टाफ उपलब्ध नहीं हैं, जिसके चलते सही उपचार नहीं मिल पाता है।

महोदय, मैं इस विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि बिहार में स्वास्थ्य संबंधी बुनियादी ढांचे को सबल बनाने के लिए प्रस्तावित मेडिकल कॉलेजों तथा नर्सिंग प्रशिक्षण संस्थानों को शीघ्रता से खोला जाए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Prasanta Nanda.

**Demand to review parameters for Renewable Energy Purchase Obligation (REPO) for
States like Odisha**

SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA (Odisha): In recent times, it is observed that Renewable Energy Purchase Obligation (REPO) is being raised every year irrespective of its availability in the concerned States. This poses a great problem for the States which are not endowed with renewable energy resources. It is learnt that REPO target of 41 per cent has been fixed for Odisha State by the year 2030. This target is too ambitious for the State of Odisha considering the fact that it has got limited potential for Solar RE as well as RE from small hydro sources. Renewable energy like wind, biomass is almost negligible in the State.

In fact, Odisha is considered as a State in terms of availability of renewable energy potential where projects such as solar power projects, hydel project can be implemented on commercial basis. Other renewable energy projects have lesser scope of implementation on commercial basis. Such naturally disadvantaged States, therefore, ought not to be penalised for not achieving stiff REPO targets.

As an alternative, it is suggested that States can comply with REPO target from

the available renewable energy resources as per the potential. Therefore, I propose that the future REPO target for the State may be based on the available potential renewable energy. The above step will not only incentivize in fulfilling the REPO target but will also help in progress of both the solar and non-solar energy sectors in equal phase as per the available potential.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I would like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Amar Patnaik.

Demand to review norms for paddy procurement and delivery of rice in Odisha

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, post Covid economic revival is contingent upon continued growth of the agricultural sector and upliftment of our farming community. In Odisha, paddy procurement is one of the important means which ensures that lakhs of farmers get MSP for their paddy sold to the Government. The State is saddled with two important problems, which need immediate intervention of the Central Government. The Odisha State Civil Supplies Corporation has so far borrowed a sum of Rs. 15,000 crore to run the decentralized procurement programme on behalf of the FCI. This high volume of bank loans is mainly due to the non-release of subsidy by the Department of Food and Public Distribution. The OSCSC has pending subsidy claims towards provisional and advance subsidy totaling Rs. 7,300 crore. Since all resources including sanctioned limit of bank finances have been exhausted by OSCSC, further paddy procurement from farmers may be severely affected. The pending subsidy, therefore, needs to be released urgently.

Intimation from FCI is to limit the delivery of surplus parboiled rice of our State to the extent of 50 per cent of last year's FCI delivery and not to accept any surplus in the form of parboiled rice during the Rabi season of the current KMS 2020-21. Under instruction from the hon. Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Naveen Patnaik, a delegation of hon. Members of Parliament met the hon. Minister of Food to air their grievances. Though he assured that this stipulation will not be applied this year, it is necessary to remove this restriction by FCI permanently for Odisha. I demand an urgent intervention in this regard.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.