## Shortage of 35 doctors in the 11 agency mandals in AP

VISAKHAPATNAM: THE management of the Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), Paderu, has decided to reopen all the recently closed government schools. The ITDA management has also decided to provide residential quarters for the employees who are working in the agency areas. The ITDA management has also decided to cancel deputation of teachers to the Kasturba schools.

The general body meeting of the ITDA was held in Paderu on Sunday and took various key decisions. While presiding over the meeting, collector and ITDA chairman N Yuvaraj said that a vision document was being prepared for the development of the agency areas.

According to the document, the issues of village, panchayat and mandals would be categorised and cleared. The ITDA members also stressed the need for an action plan catering to the needs of the agency areas.

The collector said there was a shortage of 35 doctors in the 11 agency mandals. Though the government was recruiting doctors on contract basis, the latter were joining PG courses and not willing to join in the agency areas. On lack of residential quarters in the agency, the collector said in each mandal headquarters a dormitory would be set up with accommodation for 15 persons.

The lunch and dinner facilities would also be provided to the employees with the help of SHGs, Yuvaraj said. With the new facilities, the employees would stay put in the mandal headquarters and perform their duties, he added.

The collector directed the Education department to recall all the teachers sent on deputation to Kasturba girls high schools. He also asked the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan officials to notify the vacancies.

Emulate Odisha

The collector said about the Odisha government's successful implementation of an action plan in Rayagada village to control malaria. A similar action plan would be implemented in 20 select tribal villages this year.