

## **Odisha CM directed to fill up vacancies of doctors**

BHUBANESWAR: FACING all round criticism after the incidents at Gumudumaha in Kandhamal and Nagada in Jajpur which exposed lack of development in tribal areas of the State, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Friday directed officials to fast-track implementation of welfare schemes in all backward districts. The direction came during review of implementation of different schemes in Nabarangpur district by the CM here.

Nabarangpur was identified by the State Government as one of the four most backward districts of Odisha. The other three backward districts identified by the Government are Kandhamal, Malkangiri and Nuapada. Four senior IAS officers were entrusted to oversee and supervise implementation of development schemes in these districts. As vacancy in the post of medical officers is a major problem in the tribal-dominated districts, a decision was taken to speed up construction of service apartments for doctors and other Government employees.

The CM directed for filling up vacancies of doctors in Nabarangpur on a priority basis. It was found that there are at least four doctors in each of the 11 community health centres (CHCs) in the district. Besides, the number of medical officers present in the district has increased from 51 to 77. It was decided that 100 digital dispensaries will be opened to make health facilities accessible to more people.

It was decided that campaign Jyoti will be launched more vigorously to fight superstitions among tribals. Provision of chemotherapy will be made at the district level for treatment of cancer. Besides, camps will be organised at inaccessible places to identify diseases and start treatment. It was decided that all villages and hamlets in the district will be electrified by March, 2018. So far, 37 of 39 primary health centres in the district have been electrified. The CM also reviewed implementation of different schemes in agriculture and development of road and railway infrastructure in the district.

Minister of State for Commerce and Transport Ramesh Chandra Majhi, Chief Secretary AP Padhi and Secretaries of different departments were present.