

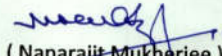
20-2-2017

Enclosed is the news item clipping of the Statesman, an English daily dated 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2017, the news is captioned "Poor service plagues Health Centre".

Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department, Govt. of West Bengal is directed to submit a detailed report in this respect by 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2017.



( Justice Girish Chandra Gupta )  
Chairperson



( Napanajit Mukherjee )  
Member



( M.S. Dwivedy )  
Member

Encl : News Item dt.20-02-2017

Ld. Registrar to keep NHRC posted about cognizance taken on the subject by WBHRC.

KATA PLUS

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# POOR SERVICE PLAGUES HEALTH CENTRE

DEOLPUR PHC YET TO START INDOOR FACILITY, THE FOUNDATION OF WHICH WAS LAID IN 2015; CMO SAYS

BY RAVINDER SINGH

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Kolkata, 19 February

The more than eight decades old Primary Health Centre (PHC) at Panchla in Howrah has fallen prey to the false promises of politicians that are forgotten soon after their poll victory.

The Deolpur Primary Health Centre, around 22 kilometres from the state secretariat, has been in existence since 1932. Hundreds of villagers of Panchla gram panchayat and other areas depend on it for treatment, but the PHC is yet to start

an indoor patient facility despite the foundation stone being laid with much fanfare nearly two years ago. The plaque erected outside the building bears the names of heavyweight politicians of the ruling party such as ministers Arup Roy, Rajib Banerjee, MP Prasun Banerjee among others who had attended the ceremony.

Local residents said the laying of foundation stone on 15 July 2015 should have been the culmination of their long struggle for an indoor unit, but the delay in starting the services has left them disappointed. "Peo-



ple from neighbouring villages of Deolpur, Balrampur and Joypur depend on the health facility, but it offers treatment for simple dis-

eases such as cough and cold and fever. We face a lot of difficulty in the absence of the inpatient facility. The ceremony of laying the foun-

dition stone was just an eyewash to grab our votes," said Subrata Chakraborty, a local resident who filed an RTI enquiry to find out the status of the indoor unit.

Villagers said they have to make a tiring journey of around 20-25 kilometres to reach the next nearest health facilities in Uluberia, Gaboria, and Howrah.

"We have to take a risky trip to take patients to the hospital, especially pregnant women, in the absence of street lights. The condition of patients often turns critical because of delay in treatment," rued Gopal

Chandra Polley, a local resident.

He pointed out that Anganwadi School is being run on the premises of the health centre.

Polley added, "Some children visit the centre daily but the local anganwadi inside the campus puts them at risk of contracting diseases. PHC is frequented by patients suffering from various diseases."

Human waste and liquor bottles lay scattered in the campus surrounding the PHC, putting the health of children and patients at risk.