

**Seventeenth Loksabha**

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**Title: Regarding need to provide sufficient doses and medical support to Maharashtra hospitals to contain measles in slum area of Mumbai.**

**SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH-CENTRAL):** Measles, also known as Rubella, is a highly contagious viral infection which affects respiratory system in young children. Recently, several cases of measles have been reported in Mumbai and nearby districts. Measles continues to affect children in Mumbai and neighbouring districts. This highly communicable disease is responsible for several deaths in Mumbai. However, it is preventable with a vaccine. According to WHO, measles vaccination helped reduce death rate by 73 per cent between 2000 and 2018 worldwide. The measles vaccine is one of the best ways to prevent this infection. It is usually given as a combined Measles-Mumps-Rubella (MMR) vaccine to children between 12 and 15 months of age. The second dose is usually given between 4 and 6 years of age. Unvaccinated children and pregnant women are at a higher risk of measles and its complications.

Timely vaccination and preventive steps can help control the spread. Recently, a Central team investigated measles outbreak and visited slums in Mumbai. The team has been appointed by the Union Health Ministry to assess and manage the situation in Mumbai where several slum areas have seen an outbreak of measles.

Therefore, through you, I would like that the Union Minister of Health should provide sufficient doses and medical support to Maharashtra hospitals to contain measles in slum areas of Mumbai.