

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding dental health.

SUSHRI MAHUA MOITRA (KRISHNANAGAR): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson, Sir. I would like to point out that just as diabetes is an epidemic in India, so is the dental caries, a disease that causes cavities in the mouth and is a cause of progressive tooth decay. This is a huge health burden on India. It is a national burden. The international consensus says that to prevent dental caries and cavities in adults, the minimum amount of fluoride in toothpaste should be 500 ppm. Due to some outdated laws of the Health Ministry, currently there is no toothpaste in India that has more than 1,450 ppm fluoride content. I would request the Health Ministry to bring us in line with international standards and to change the standard practice in this regard because dental caries and cavities are causing a lot of problems.