GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7292 ANSWERED ON:15.05.2002 OUT BREAKING MEASLES IN GUJARAT SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the measles has broke out in one camp at Godhra, Gujarat where more than 40 children were infected as reported in the `Times of India` dated April 24, 2002;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have issued instructions to State Government for centralize distribution of medicines to them;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to send Central Team to the affected camps to help the victims?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

- (a): Yes, Sir. From 10th to 27th April, 2002 a total of 49 cases of measles were detected.
- (b) to (d): The Central medical team consisting of four pediatricians visited the Godhra relief camp along with the State and district health officials on 27th April, 2002. On examination of the children in the camp, one case was found to be having chicken-pox and two cases rubella infection. Six children with active measles were detected. Overall, upto 27th April, 2002, a total of 49 measles cases were detected by the State health authorities. The process of immunization against measles was started on 12th April, 2002 to the children who are in the age group of 9 to 59 months by the State Health authorities. Till 27th April, 2002, 107 children have been immunized. The usual complications associated with measles are broncho-pneumonia, otitismedia, diarohea, conjunctivitis etc. for which basic life support and emergency medicines along with ambulance facilities are available at the camp site. No death has been reported due to measles from this camp.

The State Govt. has deputed adequate number of medical and para-medical personnal to this camp.