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Title: Need to check the spread of Hepatitis-B disease in Modasa town of Sabarkantha district, Gujarat.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (SABARKANTHA): Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. I want to draw the attention of the Government that in Sabarkantha District of Gujarat, which is also my constituency, is suffering from a severe Hepatitis B epidemic. In the last fortnight, 19 people have died and there are many more who have been admitted in the hospital. There is only one hospital, which is run by the NGOs. The affected people have not been admitted in the Government hospital nor the Government has so far taken adequate measures, although it was reported in the newspapers.

The Government of Gujarat has requested the Government of India to send a team and they are awaiting the report. Nonetheless, the fact is that it is spreading everywhere and I have seen in the hospital that it is such a severe situation. The Government should take immediate steps not only from Gujarat alone but from here too to send a medical team to see to it that the spread gets stopped. Not only that, those who have lost should be compensated either from the Chief Minister's Fund or from the Prime Minister's Fund or if it is not possible, they should even be compensated through the Calamity Relief Fund, which can be raised, as the natural calamity or man-made calamity. Hence, I would request the Government of India and the Health Ministry to take immediate steps to see to it that its spread get stopped, people get relief and adequate measures are taken.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (KUTCH): I associate with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right.