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Title: Need to withdraw the entire stock of spurious anti measles vaccines purchased from private companies and supplied to Tamil Nadu.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (PALANI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am going to raise a very serious issue. Measles has been a major cause of morbidity and mortality among children below five years of age in India. According to India's Central Bureau of Health Intelligence in 2005, nearly 52,500 children were affected by measles. Serum Institute in Pune has been India's stable supplier of anti-measles vaccines. The Union Health Ministry has been purchasing 350 lakh doses of the vaccines annually for its immunization programme.

However, recently, the Union Health Ministry has allowed one Human Biological Institute, Hyderabad to supply 90 lakh doses. These new anti-measles vaccines were allotted to Tamil Nadu and administered to a number of children. But four children died within a few minutes, soon after the vaccine was given at a Primary Health Centre in Poondi panchayat union of Tiruvallur District in Tamil Nadu.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to withdraw the entire batch of spurious anti-measles vaccines and to protect the children from the recurrence of such incidents in future. I would also urge that suitable necessary action may be initiated against the company, which manufactured these spurious measles vaccines.

MR. SPEAKER: I heard the Health Minister saying that they have been withdrawn.[\[r20\]](#)