

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. - 1540
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2022**

MEASLES OUTBREAK IN THE COUNTRY

1540. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the last few months, over 200 cases of Measles including 13 deaths due to the disease have been reported from Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether spike in measles cases have also been reported from some other States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to prevent an outbreak of Measles all over the country?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (d):

As on 12th December, a total of 3,075 cases and 13 deaths due to measles have been reported from State of Maharashtra. Few other States have also reported measles cases in year 2022.

Taking note of upsurge of cases from certain districts/cities of Jharkhand, Gujarat and Kerala, Union Ministry of Health & family Welfare deployed multi-disciplinary Central teams comprising of public health specialists, paediatricians and microbiologists to assess the situation and provide technical support to the States.

The Central teams deployed noted need for further strengthening of disease surveillance activities, ramping up immunization with measles containing vaccines, managing vaccine hesitancy through intensive community awareness to cover all unimmunized children, improving case management through timely detection, referral and clinical management of cases etc. The findings of the Central Teams along with their recommendations were

also formally conveyed to these States to take suitable necessary action to manage the upsurge of measles cases in the community. Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has coordinated with States/UTs to assist in the management of these cases.

A roadmap for Measles and Rubella (MR) Elimination has been prepared and distributed to the States and UTs across India which serves as a guidance tool for planning the elimination activities including strengthening of Measles and Rubella vaccine coverage and surveillance.

Specific advisories have been issued to Maharashtra, Haryana and Jharkhand regarding key actions to be taken following outbreaks as a part of outbreak response.

National workshop has been conducted for apprising the States/UT officers regarding MR elimination.
