

Union Territories who have not issued notification in terms of 2006 Act to appraise the Court with the reasons as to why they have not taken action pursuant to the letter of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare dated 27.08.2012. The court also directed the Secretaries, Health Department of 23 States and 5 Union Territories to file their affidavits within four weeks on the issue of total compliance of the ban imposed on manufacturing and sale of gutkha and pan Masala with tobacco and/or nicotine.

Global Disease Detection Centre

725. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and USA propose to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for establishing and operating a Global Disease Detection Centre in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this will help in protecting spread of infectious diseases;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) which are the fields where both the countries propose to join hands to improve global health-care by preventing spread of pandemic flu and other diseases?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) and (b) A Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment and Operation of Global Disease Detection Center (GDD) in India between Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, the United States of America and National Centre for Disease Control, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India has already been signed on 6th November, 2010. GDD - India Centre is operative since April 2011.

(c) to (e) The MoU envisages cooperation and collaboration in the following areas: (i) Epidemiological strengthening including surveillance and response to Epidemic prone diseases and Emerging Infectious Diseases; (ii) Strengthening public health laboratory capacity; and (iii) Strengthening Public health work force capacity to tackle Pandemic flue and other diseases.

Cancerous diseases amongst tobacco users

726. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of media/research reports on various cancerous diseases amongst users of gudakhu and other tobacco products in Odisha, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;