

Violation of designated smoking areas

1699. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to ensure that designated smoking areas are complying with the specifications laid down in the COTPA, 2003;

(b) if so, what are those steps; and

(c) whether Government, in the interest of public health, has taken any steps or is planning to take steps to remove designated smoking area from various airports in India, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) and (b) Section-4 of COTPA, 2003 prohibits smoking in public places provided that in a hotel having thirty rooms or a restaurant having seating capacity of thirty persons or more and in the airports, a separate provision for a designated smoking area or space may be made.

The enforcement of provisions of COTPA, 2003 and Rules made thereunder is the responsibility of the States/Union Territories. For effective implementation of this Section, Central Government has notified authorized officers from various Departments and also advised States/Union Territories, from time to time, for strict compliance of COTPA, 2003.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

E-cigarettes Ordinance

1700. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to implement the Prohibition of Electronic-Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Ordinance, 2019;

(b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to introduce a Bill to replace the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Ordinance, 2019; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) and (b) The Government of India prohibited electronic-cigarettes and like devices through promulgation of 'The Prohibition of Electronic-Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Ordinance, 2019 on 18th September, 2019.

All the States/UT Governments; Director General of Police of all States/UTs and Stakeholder, Central Government Ministries/Departments were requested to take necessary steps for implementation of the provisions of the Ordinance. Implementing agencies were also sensitized through a Video Conference for ensuring the implementation of the Ordinance. Further, a stakeholder Meeting was organized with Central Government Ministries/Departments for implementation of the Ordinance.

(c) and (d) The Bill to replace the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Ordinance, 2019 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 22.11.2019. The Bill has been passed by the Lok Sabha on 27.11.2019 and by the Rajya Sabha on 02.12.2019.

Status of AIIMS set-up under PMSSY

1701. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of AIIMS under Phases II, III and IV of the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) and the details thereof;
- (b) whether the six AIIMS under Phase I are operating at full capacity;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government has planned any future AIIMS or medical colleges for Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) The present status of setting up of New AIIMS under Phase II, III and IV of the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) is given in the Statement (*See below*).