

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1986

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2006

INDO US AGREEMENT FOR SURVEILLANCE OF DISEASES

Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

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

- (a) whether India and US have signed an agreement regarding surveillance of various diseases;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether NGOs are likely to be involved in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the role envisaged for them?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) Yes Sir, a Joint Statement was signed between the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Republic of India and the Department of Health & Human Services of the United States of America on Expansion of India –US cooperation on Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases and Diseases Surveillance on 7 June, 2005.

(b)The collaboration focuses on collaborative applied research relating to emerging infectious diseases, strengthening disease surveillance, prevention and control and effective out break investigation and response. The Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), USA and National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD), Dte. General of Health Services, and Indian Council of Medial Research in India are the collaborative parties. The NICD and ICMR will involve other Indian Institutions of excellence, including those belonging to State Governments and the Department of Biotechnology as essential partners in the network for disease surveillance.

(c) & (d) As a part of the Joint Statement both Governmental and non Governmental Organizations in both the countries will be involved. Other regional and international organization partners will be involved as and when needed, on collaborative applied research relating to emerging infectious diseases, strengthened disease surveillance etc.