

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1813  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2015**

**MORBIDITY ASSOCIATED WITH TOBACCO USAGE**

**1813. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI:**

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

- (a) whether tobacco use accounts for forty per cent of all cancers in India;
- (b) whether it is also associated with high morbidity and mortality caused due to respiratory problems, heart diseases and TB among others;
- (c) if so, whether Government has drawn any strategy to put into operation stringent tobacco control measures;
- (d) whether the existing anti-tobacco law has many loopholes; and
- (e) if so, how Government proposes to plug these loopholes and make the law more effective with stringent penalties?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

(a): As per the report of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), National Cancer Registry Programme , Time Trends in Cancer Incidence Rates 1982-2005; (2009) , nearly half of the cancers in males and one-fourth of cancers among females are tobacco related.

(b): As per World Health Organization (WHO) the use of tobacco is a major risk factor for 4 (four) major Non Communicable Diseases namely Cardio Vascular Disease, Cancers, Diabetes and Chronic Respiratory Disease. WHO studies also show that smoking substantially increases the risk of tuberculosis (TB) and deaths from TB. As per the Global Adult Tobacco Survey – India Report (2010) 40% of the TB burden in India may be attributed to smoking.

(c): The Government has taken a series of tobacco control measures, including the following:

(i) Enactment of the “Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, (COTPA) 2003”.

(ii) Ratification of WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control

(iii) Launch of the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) in the year 2007-08, with the objectives to (i) create awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption, (ii) reduce the production and supply of tobacco products, (iii) ensure effective implementation of the anti tobacco laws and (iv) help the people quit tobacco use through Tobacco Cessation Centres. The programme has been approved for gradual upscaling to all states and districts during the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year plan.

(iv) Issuance of the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011 dated 1<sup>st</sup> August 2011, under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, which lays down that tobacco and nicotine shall not be used as ingredients in any food products.

(v) Notification of rules to regulate depiction of tobacco products or their use in films and TV programmes.

(vi) Public awareness campaigns on harmful effects of tobacco use and provisions under the COTPA, through a variety of media.

(vii) Increase in the Central Excise Duty and decrease in the dutyfree allowance of cigarettes and other tobacco products.

(d) & (e): A Committee was constituted to review and suggest amendments to the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA). The Committee has made a number of recommendations with regard to, inter alia, prohibition of smoking in public places, advertisements at point of sale, minimum legal age for sale of tobacco products, loose sale of tobacco products, depiction of tar and nicotine contents and the penal provisions etc. The draft amendment bill along with the Notes on clauses were placed in public domain, as part of pre-legislative consultations, with a view to eliciting comments/views of the stakeholders including the general public, upto 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2015.

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