

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2613  
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2001  
BAN OF SMOKING  
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;SHYAMA SINGH;UTTAMRAO NATHUJI DHIKALE

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

- (a) whether WHO has urged developing countries to adopt stringent measures including ban on public smoking in view of tobacco related diseases;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;
- (c) the total funds provided by WHO for the care of patients during each of the last three years; and
- (d) the action plan chalked out of national level to prevent the ill-effects of tobacco on health?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) : Keeping in view the adverse impact of tobacco on health, all the Member States of the WHO resolved to implement tobacco control strategies through legislative means and increased public awareness.

(b) : A Bill namely, the Cigarettes and other Tobacco products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce Production, Supply and Distribution) Bill, 2001 with a view to discourage use of tobacco products was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 7.3.2001. This Bill, inter-alia, seeks to ban smoking in public places. It has been referred to the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development of Rajya Sabha for consideration on 12.3.2001.

(c) : WHO has not provided any funds specifically for care of patients addicted due to use of tobacco in the last three years.

(d) : In addition to steps on introduction of legislation listed at reply to part (b), the Government has taken steps to create awareness amongst the public about the ill effects of use of tobacco products through Television, Radio as well as Department of Field Publicity under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting . In addition, the following other steps have also been taken;

1. Under the Cigarettes (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1975, manufacturers or persons trading in Cigarettes are required to display a statutory warning . Similar warning is required to be displayed on advertisement also.
2. Instructions have been issued through the Cabinet Secretariat prohibiting smoking in Hospitals, Dispensaries, Educational Institutions, Conference rooms, Domestic Air Flights, AC Sleeper Coaches, Sub-urban Trains etc.
3. Direct tobacco related advertisements are prohibited on Doordarshan and All India Radio. The Cable TV Regulation Act has been recently amended prohibiting tobacco advertising on Cable TV also.
4. Under prevention of Food Adulteration rules, a warning `Chewing of Tobacco is injurious to Health` has also been made mandatory on packets of Gutka.