

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5962
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2005
FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

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

- (a) whether the Commonwealth Medical Association has urged health ministers of the Commonwealth Countries to vote for full implementation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Globally ;
- (b) if so, whether the World Health Organization has adopted a sweeping anti -tobacco treaty in unprecedented global push to regulate a product that kills one in two of its regular users ;
- (c) whether India has decided to implement it; and
- (d) if so, the steps being considered by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) The Framework Convention for Tobacco Control (FCTC) is the first international treaty negotiated under the auspices of the World Health Organisation (WHO), aimed at curbing tobacco-related deaths and disease. The FCTC was unanimously adopted at the 56th World Health Assembly on 21st May 2003. India is a signatory to this Convention and has already translated important provisions of FCTC into its domestic law by legislating `The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003` in May 2003. The legislation include total ban on direct and indirect advertisements of all tobacco products; prohibition on sponsorship of sports and cultural events which encourage tobacco use; ban on smoking in public places; ban on sale of tobacco products to minors; ban on sale of cigarettes and tobacco products within a radius of 100 yards of educational institutions; mandatory pictorial depiction of warnings like skull and cross bones and such others for the benefit of illiterate persons; provision of specified health warnings and clear indication of nicotine and tar contents on packets and cartons of all tobacco products. Some of the provisions of the Act like ban on direct and indirect advertisement of all Tobacco products, in any form, ban on smoking in public place, ban on sale of tobacco products to minors and sale within a radius of 100 yards of Educational Institutions have already been implemented.