

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2495  
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009  
TOBACCO CONSUMPTION BY WOMEN  
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

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

- (a) whether about 70 per cent women consume tobacco in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total number of deaths due to the consumption of tobacco in the country during the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the efforts made/being made by the Government to check this practice?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

- (a) No.
- (b) The question does not arise.
- (c) As per report of Tobacco Control in India, approx. 8-9 Lakh persons die annually due to tobacco attributable diseases. No year wise data is available.
- (d) 'The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003' enacted in the year 2003 is intended to discourage the consumption of tobacco, the salient features of which are as under :-
  - (i) prohibition of smoking in a public place ;
  - (ii) prohibition of direct and indirect advertisement ;
  - (iii) prohibition of sale of tobacco products to minors;
  - (iv) Prohibition of sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institutions.
  - (v) Mandatory depiction of specified pictorial health warnings on all tobacco product packs.

Government of India has launched the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) in 42 Districts of 21 States. The proposed national programme broadly includes:

1. Capacity building of the State in the effective implementation of the Tobacco Control Act, 2003 by setting up State Tobacco Control Cells and District Level monitoring cells.
2. Training of health workers, school teachers, etc. on ill effects of Tobacco;
3. Partnering with NGOs, to carry out school programme in the Government Schools.
4. Mass media/ IEC campaign, tailored to local needs.
5. Capacity building of laboratories for tobacco product testing.

Further, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is conducting the first Global Adult Tobacco Survey – India (GATS). The main aim of GATS is to establish the State wise prevalence of tobacco use, ascertain levels of awareness/ knowledge about the ill-effect of the tobacco products.