

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1222

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2010

GLOBAL TOBACCO NETWORKING FORUM-2010

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan; Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Civil Society Organisation have expressed deep concern over the involvement of Government in the tobacco trade event, 'Global Tobacco Networking Forum-2010';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Tobacco Board of India has sponsored and organized the Global Tobacco Networking Forum; and

(d) if so, the details and the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Some of the voluntary non government organization, namely, Institute of Public health, Bangalore, Health Related Information Dissemination amongst Youth (HRIDAY), New Delhi, Kerala Voluntary Health Services, Kottayam, International Network of Women Against Tobacco (INWAT) and Rajasthan cancer foundation have expressed their concern over the sponsoring of Global Tobacco Networking Forum-2010 by the Tobacco Board.

(c) & (d) "Tobacco Reporter" a leading international tobacco magazine has organized this event from 4th – 9th October, 2010 at Bangalore. The Tobacco Board is only co-sponsoring the field trip for the visit of delegates to Mysore and to tobacco fields and auction platforms in Karnataka which is in line with its mandate given under Tobacco Board Act, 1975. The Tobacco Board's mandate, inter-alia, includes improving productivity, quality of tobacco and creating brand image internationally for FCV tobacco, along with the maintenance and improvement of existing markets, development of new markets outside India for Indian Virginia tobacco and its products, devising of marketing strategy in consonance with demand for the commodity outside, including group marketing under limited brand names, etc.