

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2215

ANSWERED ON:06.08.2010

HARMFUL USE OF ALCOHOL

Gangaram Shri Awale Jaywant;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the members of the World Health Organisation (WHO) including India have reached a consensus to restrict the harmful use of alcohol;
- (b) if so, the areas identified and action-plan of WHO in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a policy to control the increasing consumption of alcohol in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRVEDI)

(a) The 63rd World Health Assembly under the auspices of the World Health Organisation in its meeting held in May, 2010 passed a Resolution on "Global Strategy to reduce harmful use of alcohol".(b) the Areas identified by the Global Strategy inter alia includes:

- (i) to implement global strategy;
- (ii) to reduce harmful effects of alcohol;
- (iii) to strengthen national efforts to protect at-risk populations, young people and those affected by harmful drinking of others.

(c) &(d) Since issues relating to alcohol fall within the jurisdiction of the State Governments as per the List-II of the 7th Schedule of the Constitution of India, which enumerates the matters on which the State Legislature has the exclusive powers to make laws, in the meeting of the Central Council of Health & Family Welfare held on 30.1.2009, Resolution was adopted aimed at framing a National Policy to control the consumption of alcohol in order to contain the harmful physiological, social and economic effects on society in general and youth in particular. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has accordingly circulated a Concept Note on "Controlling Harm from Alcohol Consumption" to the various stake holders.