

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2963
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2010
BAN OF HOOKAH PARLOURS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether hookah smoke is injurious to health and hookah parlours are a deterrence in the successful campaign against the consumption of tobacco products in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps so far taken by the Government to deter the people from consuming tobacco products in these hookah parlours;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to ban the hookah parlours running across the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI)

(a) to (c): All tobacco smoke is injurious to health. The Government of India has notified Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, (COTPA) 2003, to protect citizens, with special attention to groups at risk such as pregnant women and children, from involuntary exposure to tobacco smoke, and to discourage consumption of cigarettes and other tobacco products including Hookah by imposing various regulatory measures. The salient features of the Act are as under :-

- i. Ban on smoking in public places (Section-4).
- ii. Ban on direct/indirect advertisement of tobacco products (Section-5).
- iii. Ban on sale of tobacco products to children below 18 year & ban on sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institutions (Section-6).
- iv. Specified health warnings on tobacco products (Section-7).

In order to effectively implement the tobacco control Act/Rules, as also to create awareness about the ill effects of tobacco, the National Tobacco Control Programme has been launched in 42 Districts of 21 States. The programme broadly envisages-National level

- i. Public awareness/mass media campaigns for awareness building & for behavioral change.
- ii. Establishment of tobacco product testing laboratories, to build regulatory capacity, as required under COTPA, 2003.
- iii. Mainstreaming the program components as a part of the health delivery mechanism under the NRHM framework.

State level

- i. Dedicated tobacco control cells for effective implementation and monitoring of Anti Tobacco Initiatives.

C. District level

- i. Training of health and social workers, NGOs, school teachers etc.
- ii. Local IEC activities.

(d) & (e) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(f) The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, (COTPA) 2003 does not provide for ban on tobacco products use. The law envisages measures to regulate tobacco use by implementing strategies for reduction of demand as well as supply of tobacco products in the country.