

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4942

ANSWERED ON:02.09.2011

**BAN ON SMOKELESS TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

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

- (a) the number of persons affected due to the use of smokeless tobacco products including Gutka, Pan Masala and Khaini during the last three years and the current year so far, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government in association with the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) has formulated certain recommendations/measures to successfully implement the ban on smokeless tobacco products;
- (c) if so, the details of the recommendations alongwith the time by which these are likely to be implemented in the country;
- (d) whether the Government has received proposals from the State Governments to put a complete ban on the smokeless tobacco products; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken/proposed thereon, State/UT-wise?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) As per the data from Population Based Cancer Registries under the National Cancer Registry Programme of Indian Council of Medical Research, the estimated number of cancer of tongue, mouth and hypopharynx was as under:-

Year 2008	66,129
Year 2009	68,160
Year 2010	70,261

(b) & (c) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in joint collaboration with the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and the World Health Organization (WHO) has organized a National Consultation on Smokeless Tobacco on 4th – 5th April, 2011 to highlight the magnitude of the problem of smokeless tobacco use and possible policies to regulate / control its use in India. The recommendations of the national consultation is annexed.

(d) & (e) A representation of State Government, Kerala has been received to put a complete ban on all tobacco products.

In compliance to the instructions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of Ankur Gutkha Vs. India Asthma Society, this Ministry in consultation with the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare (NIHFW), prepared the report on the contents of gutkha, tobacco, pan masala and similar articles manufactured in the country and harmful effects of consumption of such articles and the same was submitted before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Further, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has notified the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011 vide notification F. No. 2-15015/30/2010 dated 1st August, 2011. The said notification has come into force from 5th August, 2011 and prohibits the use of tobacco and nicotine as ingredients in any food products.