

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3714
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2011
HARMFUL EFFECTS OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab

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

- (a) whether Hon`ble Supreme Court has issued an order dated 7th December, 2010 in SLP 16308/2007 to undertake a comprehensive analysis and study of the contents of gutkha, tobacco, pan masala and similar articles manufactured in the country and harmful effects of consumption of such articles;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has excluded cigarettes from the purview of health report submitted to Hon`ble Supreme Court in this regard;
- (d) if so, the reasons for the same; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Yes, the Hon`ble Supreme Court had given directions to the learned Solicitor General in the matter of Ankur Gutkha Vs. Indian Asthama Society (SLP 16308/2007) for instructing the concerned Ministries to approach National Institute of Public Health to undertake a comprehensive analysis and study of the contents of gutkha, tobacco, pan masala and similar articles manufactured in the country and harmful effects of consumption of such articles.

In compliance to the said direction, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in consultation with the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare (NIHFW) has prepared and submitted the report before the Hon`ble Supreme Court.

(c) to (e): Ministry of Health & FW is not a party in the Court case SPL 16308/2007 - Ankur Gutkha Vs. -Indian Asthama Society. The said study has been prepared under the directions of Hon`ble Supreme Court. There was no suggestion/ direction from Hon`ble Supreme Court on the inclusion of cigarette in the said study.