

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1773

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2013

BAN ON TOBACCO PRODUCTS

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of certain studies/reports which suggest that tobacco consumption has been the main cause for millions of premature deaths in India over the years;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) the schemes/programmes being run by the Government to curb smoking and consumption of tobacco products and the funds released/utilised for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to impose a complete ban on smoking and manufacturing, marketing and consumption of tobacco products including e-cigarettes and hookkah in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a & b) As per the Report on tobacco control in India, (2004) tobacco use is responsible for causing 8-9 lakh deaths annually in India. Further, as per the study conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) titled "Assessment of Burden of Diseases due to Non-communicable Diseases" based on analysis of published literature till 2004, the risk of diseases attributable to tobacco use was for stroke (78%), tuberculosis (65.6%), ischemic heart disease (85.2%), acute myocardial infarction (52%), esophageal cancer (43%), oral cancer (38%) and lung cancer (16%) respectively.

The ICMR's National Cancer Registry Programme which collects information on cancer cases and to some extent information on its related mortality reported that the number of cancers of mouth, tongue and pharynx during the years 2008, 2009 and 2010 was 66,129; 68,160 & 170,261 respectively.

(c) Government of India has launched the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) in the year 2007-08, with the objectives to

- (i) create awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption,
- (ii) reduce the production and supply of tobacco products,
- (iii) ensure effective implementation of the provisions made under "The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003" (COTPA) and
- (iv) help the people quit tobacco use through Tobacco Cessation Centres. The programme is presently under implementation in 21 states covering 42 districts. The funds utilized under the programme are as follows:

Financial Year (INR) Crore	Expenditure
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2010-11	29.32
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2011-12	29.61
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2012-13	10.48
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The state-wise detail of funds released/ utilized under the NTCP for last three years is annexed.

(d & e) The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003" (COTPA) regulates the consumption, production, supply and distribution of the

tobacco products by imposing restrictions on advertisement, promotion and sponsorship of tobacco products; prohibiting smoking in public places; prohibiting sale to and by minors; prohibiting sale of tobacco products within a radius of 100 yards of educational institutions and through mandatory depiction of specified pictorial health warnings on all tobacco product packs. It doesn't ban tobacco products per se. However, the Production, Sale, Storage and Distribution of food products containing tobacco or nicotine such as Gutkha have been prohibited under The Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011 dated 1st August 2011, notified under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

The said Regulation 2.3.4 lays down as under "Product not to contain any substance which may be injurious to health: Tobacco and nicotine shall not be used as ingredients in any food products".