GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1787 ANSWERED ON:22.07.2014 TOBACCO ABUSE VIOLATIONS Kumar Shri P.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to incorporate tobacco abuse violations as part of the monthly crime review;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether crimes of various nature have increased during the recent months; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (d): No Madam. The Control of Tobacco Products Act (COTPA) covers prohibition of advertisement and regulation of trade and commerce, production supply and distribution of tobacco products. The Prohibition of Smoking in Public Places Rules-2008 does not allow smoking in any public places where non-smokers may be present in public places like workplaces, shopping malls, airports, bus and train stations, hotels, cinema halls shops and restaurants. Separate spaces only be allowed for the purposes of smoking and no other services will be allowed in hotels with 30 or more rooms or restaurants with 30 or more tables can have a smoking area. The Act provides clear display of prominent non smoking signs eg. "Smoking here is strictly prohibited' is mandatory at all public places.

The Ministry of Heath and Family Welfare being the nodal Ministry on tobacco related issues on public health coordinates all activities with the States and issues guidelines and directives for enforcement of COTPA and other health oriented objectivity for rehabilitation.

No data is maintained centrally on incidents of smoking in violation of the COTPA.