

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2836
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2015
SALE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS NEAR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per an estimate, 5,500 adolescents start using tobacco every day in India, if so, the details thereof along with the response of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products near the educational institutions and violation of other antitobacco laws have been reported from various parts of the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon during the last three years and the current year, State/ UTwise; and
- (d) the fresh measures being taken by the Government for proper compliance of anti- tobacco laws, particularly near the educational institutions across the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) to (c): As per independent studies conducted in India, 5,500 children and adolescents start using tobacco daily.

The enforcement of the Cigarette and other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), 2003 lies with States. The data on the number of people fined/challaned for COTPA violation (for the period from April, 2012 to December, 2014) as received from various states is at ANNEXURE.

(d): To improve monitoring of enforcement, the Ministry has approved phase-wise expansion of the National Tobacco Control Programme in the country and also taken following steps:

- 1) Ministry has written to states to institutionalize COTPA enforcement by including it in the 'monthly crime review meetings' at district level and also making it a part of the "Social Policing' agenda.
- 2) Guidelines for Law Enforcers have been developed and disseminated to states.
- 3) Toll free helpline has been set-up to report specific violations of the provisions under the anti-tobacco law.
- 4) National and Regional level advocacy workshops are organized to sensitize law enforcers / stakeholders from different departments on their role in implementation of tobacco control laws and other measures for tobacco control.
- 5) States have been provided funds to conduct regular training /sensitization programmes for Law Enforcers.
- 6) The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has developed Guidelines for Tobacco Free Educational Institutions. These guidelines have been adopted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).
- 7) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has issued a circular No 58 dated 20th November, 2009 to all affiliated schools to follow the guidelines relating to protection from exposure to Second Hand Smoke.
- 8) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has issued an advisory dated 30th May, 2014 to all affiliated schools against allowing students to participate in the events sponsored by any firm or a subsidiary of a firm which promotes the use of tobacco in any form. It has also advised that Schools/Students should not accept any prize or scholarship instituted by a tobacco promoting firm.
- 9) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has issued an advisory dated 07th January, 2015 to all affiliated schools to display boards in Hindi and English for 'Tobacco free Educational Institution'.