

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 02.08.2011**  
**ANSWERED ON**

**HIGH CONTENT OF TAR AND NICOTINE IN CIGARETTES SOLD IN THE COUNTRY .**

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Shri     Prakash Javadekar

Will the Minister of COAL COAL PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether it is a fact that various research suggests that cigarettes sold in India contain around 14-15 mg. tar and around 1.6 to 1.8 mg. nicotine;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor when internationally observed permissible limit of tar is not more than 10 mg. and for nicotine is 1 mg. in cigarettes; and
- (c) the proactive steps taken by the Ministry till date to ensure internationally advised and practiced level of tar and nicotine is maintained in Indian cigarettes?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a to c) Central Tobacco Research Institute (Indian Council of Agriculture Research), Rajahmundry has stated that in general the Tar and Nicotine levels in Indian filter cigarettes are in the range of 14 to 15 and 1.6 to 1.8 mg/cigarette, respectively. It is also reported that a few brands with tar deliveries around 10 and less than 10 mg/cigarette and nicotine deliveries around 1 and less than 1 mg/cigarette are available in the market. Various countries have defined different limits of tar and nicotine under their respective legislation. The Government of India enacted as law namely "The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, (COTPA), 2003, which mandate that every package of cigarettes or any other tobacco products produced, supplied or distributed may indicate the tar and nicotine contents on each cigarettes or other tobacco products along with the maximum permissible limits thereof. ....