

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2174  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY, 2019**

**DEATHS FROM TOBACCO USAGE**

**2174. SHRIMATI ROOPA GANGULY:**

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

- (a) the average number of deaths in the country by severe health diseases such as cancer by tobacco products especially in West Bengal in the last three years, yearwise details thereof;
- (b) whether Government have recently made changes in health warning on tobacco products packing;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other steps taken by Government in the past three years to increase awareness amongst public to quit smoking because of its adverse and life threatening health effects?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

- (a): No such specific data is available with this Ministry. However, the mortality due to tobacco in India is estimated at upwards of 13 lakh.
- (b) & (c): Yes, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, notified new set of specified health warnings on all tobacco product packs covering 85% of display area on both sides of the packs which has come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2018. This coverage comprises 60% pictorial health warning and 25% textual health warning including display of National Tobacco Quit Line number viz “QUIT TODAY CALL 1800-11-2356”.
- (d): The stakeholders are being made aware on a regular basis about the adverse effects of tobacco usage on health through various anti-tobacco campaigns vide different mode of communication including TV, Radio, Print media, social media, films, train wrap etc. and by displaying awareness material in trade fair, mela etc.

Apart from this, States/UTs undertake various IEC activities under National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) in their respective States/Union Territories.

Besides, Union Government has taken several steps to help the people quit tobacco use which inter-alia includes setting up of Tobacco Quitline services, m-cessation facilities, regulating depiction of tobacco products in films & television programmes and mandating specified health warnings on tobacco products packages covering 85% of their principal display area; mass-awareness campaigns.

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