

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 378
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09th DECEMBER, 2022

BAN ON IMPORT OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC CIGARETTE LIGHTERS

378 SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any letter has been received from the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu urging the Ministry to immediately ban the import of single-use plastic cigarette lighters;
- (b) if so, the response of Government;
- (c) whether Government is aware that matchbox industry is losing its domestic market as a result of import of single-use plastic cigarette lighters imported legally or illegally from countries like China; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by Government to save the livelihood of lakhs of people who are engaged in this industry, which is a major source of employment in southern part of Tamil Nadu?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): Yes, a letter dated 08.09.2022 from the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has been received requesting to immediately ban the import of single use plastic cigarette lighters.

(b) to (d): The matter has been examined by Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade in consultation with Bureau of Indian Standards for notifying mandatory Indian Standards for Cigarette Lighters. Further, Department of Revenue has been advised to check the illegal imports, under-invoicing and mis-declaration while importing Single Use Plastic Cigarette Lighters.
