

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 611
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH JULY 2023**

CANCER RESEARCH AND AWARENESS

611. SMT. VANDANA CHAVAN:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that India has one of the lowest prices of tobacco in the world;
- (b) whether there is a consideration to increase taxes on tobacco;
- (c) whether the Standing Committee has recommended utilization of additional revenue for cancer research and awareness; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL)**

(a) to (d): As per Rajya Sabha's Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare 139th Report on Cancer Care Plan & Management: Prevention, Diagnosis, Research & Affordability of Cancer Treatment, the Committee notes that India has one of the lowest prices for tobacco products and there is a need to increase taxes on tobacco products. The Committee recommends the Government to raise taxes on tobacco and utilize the additional revenue gained for cancer prevention and awareness.

As per information received from Tax Research Unit, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, in Union Budget 2023-24, the Seventh Schedule to the Finance Act, 2001, has been amended to increase the rate of National Calamity Contingent Duty (NCCD), a duty of excise, on specified cigarettes by about 16%.
