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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1071 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY 2025

INCREASED USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS AMONG WOMEN AND CHILDREN

1071.SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that usage of tobacco products have been increased among women and children;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases registered all over the country; and
- (c) the details of measures being taken by Government to reduce the consumption?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

- (a) & (b): As per the Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS) -I (2009-10) and GATS-2 (2016-17) conducted among age group of 15 years and above there is a decline in tobacco use among women from 20.3% to 14.2%. Further, Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) conducted for school-going children of age group 13-15 years reported a decline in tobacco use from 14.6% (GYTS-3, 2009) to 8.5% (GYTS-4, 2019).
- (c): The measures taken by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) to reduce tobacco consumption are:
 - A comprehensive legislation, namely the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA 2003) has been enacted to regulate the tobacco products and to discourage the consumption of tobacco. The provisions under COTPA, 2003 and the Rules made thereunder prohibit smoking in public places, ban on sale of tobacco products to and by minors, sale of tobacco products within a radius of 100 yards of educational institutions, prohibition on direct and indirect advertising of tobacco products and mandatory display of specified health warnings on all tobacco product packs.

- The National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) was launched in 2007 with the aim to discourage the use of tobacco, create awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption through regular and sustained public awareness campaigns and ensure effective implementation of the provisions under COTPA 2003. As part of these awareness efforts, MoH&FW also launches a 60-day annual Tobacco Free Youth Campaign to educate young people about the dangers of tobacco and empower them to resist or quit its use.
- The Government has enforced a complete ban on electronic cigarettes including heat-not burn products under "The Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Act,2019.
