

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1743  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2018**

**E-CIGARETTES**

**1743. SHRI M.B. RAJESH:  
DR. KAMBHAMPATI HARIBABU:**

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

- (a) whether the health Ministry is considering any mechanism to ban E-cigarettes or Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) across India, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the recommendations of the working group on Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) and the action taken so far;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to amend the COTPA, 2003 to include provisions to ban or regulate E-cigarettes or Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Health Ministry is aware of any study about the health impact and safety of E-cigarettes or Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) in India, if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (d): Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, conducted a Roundtable discussion on Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) on 4th July 2014, wherein eminent doctors, specialists, scientists and officers of health and drug department concluded that available scientific evidences indicate that the ENDS [and similar technologies that encourage tobacco use or adversely impact public health] are hazardous for an active as well as passive user and it was decided to constitute sub-groups to consider the issue of banning/regulating ENDS in India. The sub-groups have given their recommendations regarding ban/regulation of ENDS, including amendment of existing legislation, which are under consideration of the Government.

The Health Ministry is not aware of any study about the health impact and safety of E-cigarettes or Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) in Indian context. However, in global context, as per the report prepared by WHO, Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) (also known as e-cigarettes) emits nicotine, the addictive component of tobacco products. In addition to dependence, nicotine can have adverse effects on the development of the foetus during pregnancy and may contribute to cardiovascular disease. The WHO report further says that although nicotine itself is not a carcinogen, it may function as a “tumour promoter” and seems to be involved in the biology of malignant disease, as well as of neurodegeneration. Foetal and adolescent nicotine exposure may have long-term consequences for brain development, potentially leading to learning and anxiety disorders.

The available literature suggests that Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) emit nicotine, the same addictive component of tobacco products and harmful for human health.