

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2826 (H)  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2019

**E-CIGARETTES**

2826(H). SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री ) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rising trend of e-cigarette among the juveniles and youth in the country is proving extremely harmful for their health and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details and the quantum of e-cigarette or electronic nicotine delivery system imported in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the use of vaporizers or e-cigarette has been banned in various countries of the world and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to ban the import and use of ecigarette or electronic nicotine delivery system and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री ( श्री पीयूष गोयल )  
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

- (a) As per a report of WHO, Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems [ENDS] [also known as e-cigarettes] heat a solution to create an aerosol which frequently contains flavourants, usually dissolved into Propylene Glycol or/and Glycerin. ENDS aerosol contains 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 evidence is sufficient to warn children and adolescents, pregnant women, and women of reproductive age against ENDS use and nicotine.

- [b] E-cigarette or Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) has not been separately classified under Import Policy and are being imported under different HS Codes. Import of e-cigarette, its Accessories and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), for the last three years and current year is as under:

<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Value in US \$</b>			
	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19*</b>	<b>2019-2020 (Upto 30th April, 2019)</b>
e-Cigarettes, its accessories and ENDS	38126.34	70171.45	83483.54	Nil

\* Figures pertaining to the financial years 2018-19 are Provisional.

- [c] As per the World Health Organization Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic 2017, the Governments of thirty [30] countries, including Mauritius, Australia, Singapore, Korea [Democratic People's Republic], Sri Lanka, Thailand, Brazil, Mexico, Uruguay, Bahrain, Iran, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates etc have already banned Electronic Nicotine Delivery System (ENDS) in their countries.

- [d] Ban on import is not possible unless there is a legal ban on domestic production, distribution and consumption. Considering that Health is a state subject, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, has issued an Advisory on 28.8.2018 to all States/Union Territories to ensure that any Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems [ENDS] including e-Cigarettes, Heat-Not-Burn Devices, Vape, e-Sheesha, e-Nicotine Flavoured Hookah, and the like devices that enable nicotine delivery are not sold [including online sale], manufactured, distributed, traded, imported and advertised in their jurisdictions, except for the purpose and in the manner and to the extent, as may be approved under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940.

Governments of 14 States viz. Punjab, Karnataka, Mizoram, Kerala, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Ta mil Nadu, Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh, Puducherry, Rajasthan and Meghalaya have prohibited the manufacture, distribution, import and sale of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS).

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