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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2896 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH MARCH 2023

e-CIGARETTES

2896 SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the **MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether e-cigarettes have been banned in the country in 2019 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether e-cigarettes are still available through online stores and local vendors and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether his Ministry has asked all the States and UTs to carry out special drives near school and colleges to prevent marketing and sale of e-cigarettes;
- (d) if so, the detailed guidelines issue to State and UTs in this regard; and
- (e) the punitive steps taken against such seller and marketers under the Prohibition of Electronic E-Cigarettes Act 2019?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (e): The Government of India prohibited electronic-cigarettes and like devices through 'The Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and advertisement) Act, 2019. The Act was notified on 5th December, 2019.

The enforcement of the Act lies with the States and Union Territories. This Ministry has been requesting the States/UTs to take necessary steps for implementation of the provisions of the Act. With the increasing availability of such prohibited devices, as reported through media reports, recently, Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories have been requested to review the compliance status of the provisions of The Electronic Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Act, 2019 and issue necessary instructions for effective implementation of the provisions of the Act through special drives at school and college level to ensure that such products are not sold & used.
