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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4842 TO BE ANSWERED ON 31ST MARCH 2023

REGULATION TO CONTROL TOBACCO CONSUMPTION

4842 SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS: DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring a regulation to reduce the consumption of tobacco particularly among the youth;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it will come into force;

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address the problem of tobacco consumption among minors in the country;

(d) whether the Government has any plan to introduce the changes in the COTPA, 2003 in order to strengthen the tobacco control policy in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the current status of COTPA Amendment Bill, 2020; and

(f) whether the Government proposes to remove the provision of allowing designated smoking areas under the COTPA, 2003, as is being followed in many countries for tobacco control and also exists in the draft COTPA Amendment Bill to reduce second hand smoking and if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (f): The draft Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) (Amendment) Bill, 2020, was hosted in public domain for pre-legislative consultation.

Various steps have been taken by the Government to protect young children against the harmful effects of tobacco products. As per Section 6 (a) of Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA, 2003) read with Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA, 2003) read with Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Amendment Rules, 2011, there is prohibition on sale of tobacco products to and by persons below the age of 18 years and as per Section 6 (b) of COTPA, 2003,

there is prohibition on sale of tobacco products in an area within a radius of one hundred yards of any educational institution.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has also issued the "Guidelines for Tobacco Free Educational Institution (Revised)" for effective implementation of Section-6 of COTPA, 2003. States are taking effective measures with Education departments for implementation of these Guidelines. Regular and sustained awareness is carried out about the adverse effects of tobacco usage on health through various anti-tobacco campaigns. Public Health is a State subject and the primary responsibility for enforcement of the Act, lies with the State Governments for effective implementation of the provisions of COTPA, 2003.
