

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 565**  
**ANSWERED ON 06.02.2023**

**Awareness on Harmful effect of Tobacco at School Levels**

**565 MS. RAMYA HARIDAS:**

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the recent Global Youth Survey Report says that nearly one-fifth of the students aged 13-15 years use some form of tobacco products (smoking, smokeless and any other form) and whether school and teachers are crucial in creating awareness among children and their parents about the harmful effect of tobacco use;
- (b) whether Government has any plan to develop any curriculum to spread awareness among school going children about the harmful effects of tobacco products;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) at what level of education system it may be incorporated?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)**

(a): Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has informed that as per the National Fact Sheet of the Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS-4), 2019, nearly one-fifth (18.1%) of the students (19.3% of boys and 16.9% of girls) aged 13-15 years reported ever use of any tobacco product. However, the current tobacco use was 8.5% which has come down from 14.6% in 2009. Awareness is created among students through school and teachers about harmful effect of tobacco use through various programmes and awareness drives time to time. School heads are also made aware of The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, (CoTPA), 2003.

(b) to (d): The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has already incorporated age-appropriate content related to tobacco, drugs and intoxicants in the syllabus, textbooks and other teaching learning materials. The contents on Drug Abuse are discussed in the NCERT's textbooks of Science for Class VIII, Biology for Class XII, Psychology for Classes XI and XII.

Under the National Population Education Project (NPEP), the Adolescence Education Programme (AEP) and the Ayushman Bharat School Health and Wellness Programme (SHP), special classes of 23 hours in an academic session, 5-6 day training courses for master trainers & Nodal teachers, special lectures in schools, experiential learning activities like Role Play, Folk Dance, Poster making, Creative writing, Debate, Discussion and Skill Building activities are organised with school students for awareness generation on issues related to tobacco, drug / substance misuse.

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has issued 'Guidelines on Protection from Exposure to Tobacco Smoke' to their affiliated schools, conveying the World Health Organisation (WHO)'s guidelines on protection from exposure to tobacco/smoke. CBSE has also been issuing periodic circulars to schools affiliated to it for sensitizing all students about ill-effects of tobacco. Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti has already implemented the "National Tobacco Control Programme" in all Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas. Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan conducts various awareness programmes to sensitize their students about harmful effects of tobacco use through talks in Morning Assembly, competitions through Co-Curricular activities and Adolescence Education Programme.

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