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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1604 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH JULY 2023

SALE OF SINGLE CIGARETTES

1604. SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL: SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the fact that the sale of single cigarettes facilitates smoking among the youth and people with less financial resources and that having greater accessibility of single cigarettes reduces the likelihood of such smokers making an attempt to quit smoking;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to ban the sale of single cigarettes by further strengthening the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL)

- (a) & (b): As per Section 7 of Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA, 2003), no person shall produce, supply or distribute cigarettes, unless every package of cigarettes bears on its label, the specified warning. 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. Various States and Union Territories have issued orders under Section 7 of COTPA, 2003 to ban sale of loose cigarettes/loose tobacco/beedi.
- (c) & (d): 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.
