

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 846
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5TH FEBRUARY, 2021**

INCREASE IN AGE FOR SMOKING

846. DR. G. RANJITH REDDY:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government proposes to increase smoking age to 21 years, ban loose sale of cigarettes and increase penalties for smoking at public places;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Government also proposes to do away with 'smoking zones' at airports, restaurants, etc., if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) to (c): As per the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) (COTPA), 2003;

Section-4, prohibits smoking in public places, including restaurants provided that in a hotel having thirty rooms or a restaurant having seating capacity of thirty persons or more and in airports, there is a separate provision of smoking area. Further, as per Rules made under the Act, no service shall be allowed in any smoking area or space provided for smoking. The violation of smoking in public places attracts the fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

Section- 6 prohibits sale of cigarettes or any other tobacco products to any person who is under eighteen years of age; and in an area within a radius of one hundred yards of any educational institution.

Section-7 stipulates that no person shall, directly or indirectly, produce, supply or distribute cigarettes or any other tobacco products unless every package of cigarettes or any other tobacco products produced, supplied or distributed by him bears thereon, or on its label, the specified warning.

The Government of India had placed the draft Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) (Amendment) Bill, 2020 in public domain, as part of pre-legislative consultations, with a view to elicit the comments/views of public.