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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3119 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH DECEMBER, 2024

E-CIGARETTES

3119. SHRI HIBI EDEN:

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

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to stop/prevent the sale of e-cigarettes in the country despite prohibition on e-cigarettes by the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act of 2014;
(b) if so, the details thereof and If not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any comprehensive date of substantive violations of the Act and action taken thereto is available with the Government; 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 (SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

(a) to (d): 'The Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and advertisement) Act (PECA)', 2019 has been enacted by the Government of India on 5th December, 2019 to prohibit electronic-cigarettes and like devices and same was communicated to all States/UTs for its implementation.

As per PECA, 2019, sale of e-cigarettes and like devices are banned in the country. Government of India has taken various steps to prohibit the sale of e-cigarettes including an intiative of launching "*Online Violation Portal*" for public to report complaint about any violation of PECA, 2019. An Expert Committee has been constituted to review the online complaints for taking appropriate action against the violations. Government of India has also taken initiative to enhance enforcement of PECA 2019 through annual Tobacco free youth campaign launched since 2023. The details of the cases of violations of PECA, 2019 as reported by the States/UTs during the 2023-24 and 2024-25 is at **Annexure**.

Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), Department of Revenue informed that they are keeping a constant vigil and take operational measures, inter alia, based on intelligence, passenger profiling with the aid of Advance Passenger Information System (APIS), risk-based interdiction and targeting and non intrusive inspection like baggage and container scanning for purposes of thwarting smuggling of e-cigarettes through their Custom field formations and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI). Field formations of CBIC are regularly sensitized to newer methods of smuggling by way of issuing Alert/ Modus Operandi Circulars. On detection of contraband smuggling cases, action is taken in accordance with law, including seizure of smuggled e-cigarettes, arrest and prosecution of the persons involved. During the period April to November 2024 they have seized 4.20 lakhs e-cigarettes.

S	State/UT	2023-24			2024-25		
No			Stocks seized				Value of stocks
				stocks (INR)		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	(INR)
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	ASSAM	0	0	0	0	3	5037
5	BIHAR	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	CHANDIGARH	1	1	3500	0	0	0
7	CHHATTISGARH	0	2	2	0	0	0
8	DELHI	1	39	0	0	0	0
9	GOA	1	1	55000	0	0	0
10	GUJARAT	16	129	306650	7	379	651100
11	HARYANA	65	285	33912	0	0	0
12	HIMACHAL PRADESH	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	JAMMU & KASHMIR	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	JHARKHAND	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	KARNATAKA	6	4034	33547000	0	0	0
16	KERALA	3	1	0	0	0	0
17	LADAKH	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	LAKSHADWEEP	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	MADHYA PRADESH	33	191	480800	0	0	0
20	MAHARASHTRA	130	108	19768621	38	38	10493756
21	MANIPUR	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	MEGHALAYA	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	MIZORAM	0	0	0	0	0	0
24	NAGALAND	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	ODISHA	2	700	13000	0	0	0
26	PUDUCHERRY	2	0	0	0	0	0
27	PUNJAB	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	RAJASTHAN	0	0	0	0	0	0
29	SIKKIM	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	TAMIL NADU	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	TELANGANA	6	5	200000	0	0	0
32	THE DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI & DAMAN & DIU	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	TRIPURA	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	UTTAR PRADESH	2	960	4500000	2	2568	10184000
35	UTTARAKHAND	0	0	1	0	0	0
36	WEST BENGAL	1	0	0	0	0	0