

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2208
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH DECEMBER, 2015**

CONSUMPTION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

**2208. SHRI RAM PRASAD SARMAH:
SHRI PREM DAS RAI:**

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

(a) the total production and consumption of cigarettes *vis-a-vis* other tobacco products *i.e.* chewing tobacco, beedis, khaini and the estimated number of farmers and workers engaged in tobacco farming and industry in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to tax chewing tobacco, beedis, khaini and other such traditional tobacco products at par with cigarettes to deter people from consuming them, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has taken note of marketing and consumption of a number of illegal cigarettes in the country, if so, the details thereof indicating the volume of them seized during each of the last three years and the current year, State/ UT-wise;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check smuggling and marketing of illegal cigarettes in the country; and

(e) the fresh measures being taken by the Government to curb smoking and consumption of tobacco products including imported cigarettes in the country?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

(a): As per information received from the Tobacco Board-Department of Commerce, details regarding production and consumption (domestic sales) of cigarettes in the country during the last three years are at Annexure 1; details regarding estimated number of farmers and workers engaged in tobacco farming and industry in the country are at Annexure 2; and details regarding number of FCV Tobacco Growers registered with the Tobacco Board in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka are at Annexure-3.

The information regarding production and consumption of other tobacco products *i.e.*, chewing tobacco, beedis, and khaini is not available with this Ministry.

(b): As per information received from the Department of Revenue, there is no such proposal currently under consideration of the Government.

(c) & (d): As per information received from the Anti-Smuggling Unit of Department of Revenue, the Department has detected several cases of smuggling of foreign cigarettes in the country. The details of Cigarettes of foreign brands seized during the last three years and current year are at Annexure-4.

In this regard, the field formations including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) have been sensitized and alerted to keep a strict vigil so as to prevent/check smuggling of foreign brand of cigarettes in the country.

(e): The Government has taken a series of measures to deter people from consuming various tobacco products, including imported cigarettes:

- I. Enactment of the “Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, (COTPA) 2003”.
- II. Ratification of WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.
- III. Launch of the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) in the year 2007-08, with the objectives to (a) create awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption, (b) reduce the production and supply of tobacco products, (c) ensure effective implementation of the anti-tobacco laws and (d) help the people quit tobacco use through Tobacco Cessation Centres.
- IV. Notification of rules to regulate depiction of tobacco products or their use in films and TV programmes.
- V. Notification of rules on new pictorial health warnings on tobacco product packages.
- VI. Launch of public awareness campaigns through a variety of media.

Annexure 1

Details regarding production and consumption (domestic sales) of cigarettes in the country during the last three years

(Quantity in crore pieces)

Year	Production	Consumption
2012-13	11701.49	10322.46
2013-14	11010.11	10178.49
2014-15	10526.89	9322.85

Annexure 2

Details regarding estimated number of farmers and workers engaged in tobacco farming and industry in the country

Sector	Number in Lakhs	Source
Farmers	60.00	22 nd Report of the Parliamentary Committee on Subordinate Legislation (10 th Lok Sabha)
Farm Labour	200.00	
Bidi Workers	48.00	Reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 979 on 01/03/2006
Tendu Leaf Pluckers	22.00	Government of Madhya Pradesh
Traders/Retailers	50.00	ORC-MARTG Research Data
Total	380.00	

Annexure-3

Details regarding number of FCV Tobacco Growers registered with the Tobacco Board in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka

Crop Season	Growers		
	Andhra Pradesh	Karnataka	Total
2012-13	47415	42289	89704
2013-14	47247	42263	89510
2014-15	45962	42362	88324
2015-16 (as on 30/11/2015)	45053	42366	87419

Annexure-4

Details of Cigarettes of foreign brands seized during the last three years and current year

Year	Cigarettes of foreign brands seized (in thousands)
2012-13	51768.88
2013-14	26435.92
2014-15	114330.00
2015-16 to date	55890.06
Total	248424.86