ORIGINAL IN HINDI

Government of India Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3683 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2015

PICTURES ON PACKETS

3683. SHRI NANA PATOLE: (**OIH**)

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the practice of using the pictures of Gods/Goddesses and other holy symbols by the companies on the packets of their products which are thrown away in garbage after use;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the corrective steps being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to introduce stringent law to prohibit use of such symbols on products and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (d): Section 295A of the Indian Penal Code, prohibits deliberate insult to religious feelings of any class of people,. Violation of Section 295A entails punishment of up to three years. The existing law prevents and prohibits deliberate insult to religious feelings and sentiments of any class of people. These provisions are adequate to deal with such issues.
