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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2206 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY, 2016

FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL

2206. DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD: SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO: SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR: SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN: SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA: KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH: SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:

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

(a) whether India is hosting the Conference of Parties of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) in this year, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is going to consult other departments to arrive at a national consensus before making any commitments before FCTC on behalf of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government is going to ensure that the Indian delegation includes representatives of various departments of the Government so that a balanced view could be taken before making National commitments, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government is going to ensure that the representatives of the stakeholder including farmers, workers and retailers whose livelihood depends on the Tobacco Industry, become a part of the India delegation, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): India is hosting the Seventh Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 7) to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) under the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade of Tobacco Products, scheduled from 7-12 November 2016 at the India Exposition Mart in NOIDA (District Gautam Buddha Nagar), Uttar Pradesh. A large number of delegates from about 180 countries along with other observers in official relations with the WHO FCTC (approximately 1000—1500 delegates in number) are expected to participate in this event.

(b) & (c): India has ratified FCTC in 2004 and is a party to it.

(d) & (e): No decision has been taken as yet on the composition of an Indian delegation for attending the 7^{th} session of the Conference of Parties under the WHO FCTC in November 2016.