

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:288

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2003

LEGISLATION TO BAN CONSUMPTION OF TOBACCO

KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY;KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether bidi and chewing tobacco account for 48% and 38% of the tobacco production respectively;
- (b) whether there is any Government infrastructure to verify tar and nicotine contents of their packs;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to bring an effective legislation to ban the consumption of tobacco in any form?

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 288 ANSWER ON 8TH AUGUST, 2003 REGARDING LEGTISLATION TO BAN CONSUMPTION OF TOBACCO.

(a) Available statistics suggest that, on an average, bidis and chewing tobacco accounted for about 24.11% and 20.43% respectively of the total tobacco production during the five year period between 1997-98 to 2001-02.

(b)&(c) There is no Government infrastructure to verify tar and nicotine contents in tobacco products at present. However, the recently enacted `The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003` provides for grant of recognition to testing laboratories for testing of nicotine and tar contents in cigarettes and other tobacco products. Action in this direction has been initiated.

(d) `The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003` provides for measures like total ban on advertisement of tobacco products, prohibition of smoking in public places and ban on sale of tobacco products to persons below 18 years of age and within a radius of 100 yards of educational institutions to discourage the use of tobacco products. The Act covers all tobacco products and is applicable to the whole country.