

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:183
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2005
CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL
Madhwaraj Smt. Manorama

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

- (a) whether India is a signatory to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, ratified by 40 member nations and it is to come into force from February 25, 2005;
- (b) if so, whether under this convention India is bound to make anti-tobacco consumption measures more stringent including prominent display of statutory warning both on the product pack and sale point; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 183 FOR 16TH MARCH, 2005

The Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) negotiated under the aegis of the World Health Organization has come into force from 27th February, 2005. India is a signatory to this Convention and has already translated some of the important provisions of FCTC into its domestic law by legislating "The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 in May, 2003.

The said legislation includes total ban on direct and indirect advertisement of all tobacco products; prohibition on sponsorship of sports and cultural events which encourage tobacco use; ban on smoking in public places; ban on sale of tobacco products to minors; ban on sale of tobacco products within a radius of 100 yards of educational institutions; provision of specified health warnings and mandatory pictorial depiction of warnings like skull and cross bones and such others for the benefit of illiterate persons; and clear indication of nicotine and tar contents on packets and cartons of all tobacco products. The rules framed under this legislation have made it mandatory the display of health warnings at the point-of-sale of tobacco products, containing either "Tobacco causes Cancer" or "Tobacco Kills". This warning is required to be displayed prominently within a stipulated limit of size of the board and area of coverage.

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