

Measures for discouraging use of tobacco

*178. SHRI DEREK O BRIEN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of tobacco related deaths in the country over the last three years;
- (b) the country's global ranking on the issue of pictorial warnings on tobacco products; and
- (c) the measures being taken by Government to discourage the sale and use of tobacco and tobacco products?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA) : (a) As per the 'Report of Tobacco Control in India' (2004) Published by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, each year, 8-9 lakh deaths in India can be attributed to tobacco use. The estimated number of tobacco related cancer deaths in India during the years 2011 to 2014, as per the National Cancer Registry Programme of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), are as follows:

Estimated number of tobacco related cancer deaths in India

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014
No. of estimated Mortality Cancer Cases	1,34,143	1,38,261	1,42,671	1,47,269

(b) As per the report "Cigarette Package Health Warnings – International Status Report (2014)" published by Canadian Cancer Society, India is ranked 136 on its status of compliance with the Cigarette Package Health warnings. This ranking is based on the size of the existing pack warnings *i.e.* 40% of the principal display area limited to the front panel only.

(c) The Government has taken a series of measures to discourage the sale and use of tobacco and tobacco products, including the following:

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", having *inter alia* the following salient provisions:—

- (i) Section – 4: Ban on smoking in public places— to protect the health of non-smokers from harmful effects of tobacco smoke (second hand smoke).
- (ii) Section – 5: Ban on direct/indirect advertisement of tobacco products including sponsorship and promotion.

- (iii) Section – 6a: Ban on sale of tobacco products to and by minors (less than 18 years of age).
- (iv) Section – 6b: Ban on sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institutions.
- (v) Section – 7: Display of pictorial warnings on tobacco products packages.
- II. Ratification of WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), which enlists key strategies for reduction of demand and supply of tobacco.
- III. Launch of the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) in the year 2007-08 with the objectives to (i) create awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption, (ii) reduce the production and supply of tobacco products, (iii) ensure effective implementation of the anti-tobacco laws and (iv) help people quit tobacco use through Tobacco Cessation Centres.
- IV. Issuance of the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011 dated 1st August 2011, under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, which lays down that tobacco and nicotine shall not be used as ingredients in any food products.
- V. Steps to Institutionalize enforcement of COTPA by including it in the ‘monthly crime review meetings’ at district level.
- VI. Notification to regulate depiction of tobacco products or their use in films and TV programmes.
- VII. Public awareness campaigns on harmful effects of tobacco use and provisions under the COTPA, through a variety of media.
- VIII. Development of Guidelines for Tobacco Free Educational Institutions which have been adopted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).
- IX. Increase in the Central Excise Duty and decrease in the duty free allowance of cigarettes and other tobacco products.

Shortage of cabin crew in AI

*179. DR. K. V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the national carrier, Air India, has been unable to maintain its schedules due to shortage of cabin crew; and