

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to impose a complete ban on the consumption of tobacco in the country; and

(c) if so, by when a ban is likely to be imposed thereon, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): (a) Yes.

(b) No. However, there is ban on smoking in public places except designated smoking areas, ban on sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products to and by persons below the age of eighteen years and within 100 yards of educational institutions and ban on promotion/advertisement of cigarettes and other tobacco products, under Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement, Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA, 2003) and Rules made thereunder. Further, there is ban on manufacture, storage, distribution or sale of food products containing tobacco or nicotine, such as Gutkha, *vide* the Food Safety Regulations issued in 2011 under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

(c) Does not arise.

Toxicants in cold drinks

†2346. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of toxicants in the cold drinks of various companies have been found to be more than prescribed limits in the investigation of these beverages;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government against the offending companies;

(c) whether Government has provided this information of toxicants in cold drinks of these companies to the citizens so that they avoid using such beverages; and

(d) the steps taken to save the public from the harms that may accrue to them by the usage of the said beverages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) to (d) Permissible limits of metal contaminants and insecticide residues for soft drinks and carbonated beverages

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

are prescribed in Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011. Standards for carbonated beverages (non-alcoholic) have been prescribed in sub-regulation 2.10.6 of Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011.

Complaints/concerns received regarding toxicant level in cold drinks/carbonated beverages are forwarded to concerned Food Safety Commissioners of States/Union Territories since enforcement of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, Rules and Regulations made thereunder primarily rests with States/UT Governments. However, no specific data pertaining to toxic content in soft drinks has been reported by any of the States/UTs.

To ensure the availability of safe and wholesome food regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of food products are being carried out by the Officials of Food Safety Departments of respective States/UTs to check compliance of the standards laid down under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and rules and regulations made thereunder. In cases where the food samples are found to be non-conforming, recourse is taken to penal provisions specified under FSS Act, 2006 .

Rise of Non-communicable diseases

2347. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a joint study conducted recently by Indian Council of Medical Research and a few other agencies concluded that six out of ten Indians succumb to NCDs like heart ailments, diabetes, tuberculosis, etc. in comparison to one in three in 1990;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for largest share of NCDs in Kerala, Goa and Tamil Nadu despite their being relatively prosperous States; and

(d) whether Government has any plan to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): (a) and (b) A study was conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in collaboration with Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), University of Washington on the India State-level disease burden initiative study and