



# TOBACCO-FREE



ISSUE VIII: APRIL – MAY 2020

# Times



THE NEWSLETTER

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## Translating Challenge into Opportunity: E-RCTC towards 'Tobacco Free World' in COVID19 Era

**E**-RCTC, which started as a partnership between PGIMER Chandigarh and The International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union) is creating roads towards the most viewed newsletter in field of tobacco control globally in a period of less than two years. The establishment of resource centre was a much-needed step in the country for facilitating speedy implementation of WHO-FCTC, MPOWER and other tobacco control interventions. Besides serving as a one-point platform for various circulars/orders/notifications on tobacco control, it functions as an awareness podium for policy makers, implementers and other stakeholders for various tobacco control updates. E-RCTC also explores emerging issues involved in various domains of tobacco control along with discussion on key policies and regulatory implications which are beneficial for tobacco control. Over time, E-RCTC has become increasingly engaged with world's tobacco problem and organizes various activities along with systematically organizing technical resource material for capacity building of program implementers, academia and researchers for multi-stakeholder engagement and networking.

In this context, E-RCTC organized a seven hour long National Summit on World No Tobacco Day 2020 on 29th May, 2020: "Protecting youth from industry manipulation and preventing them from tobacco and nicotine use". In addition, two webinars were also organized under the banner of E-RCTC entitled "Tobacco-Nicotine use and Corona virus disease (COVID-19)" and "Tobacco Cessation during COVID Pandemic and Beyond, a need and an opportunity" on 23rd April 2020 and 8th May 2020 respectively, both concluding a negative relationship between Covid-19 and Tobacco use. These virtual sessions were organized by E-RCTC in order to utilize the opportunity of lockdown during COVID19 for 'Tobacco-free World'.

## Experts Speak



The E-Resource Centre for Tobacco Control (E-RCTC) provides tobacco control researchers, advocates and policy makers with the relevant and updated information related to tobacco control. Joint efforts of PGIMER, Chandigarh and The Union (SEA), have provided this wonderful source of information. E-RCTC should become the go-to platform for accessing information, data, research or best-case practices regarding tobacco control.

**Mr Sanjay Seth**

Trustee & Head of Tobacco Control Sambandh Health Foundation, Gurgaon

E-RCTC is a first of its kind that serves as a one-point reference centre where program Managers, Researchers, Policymakers and other stakeholders can have access to relevant information about Tobacco Control activities. This is one of the best compilations of updated tobacco control resources in the country.



**Dr. Ajit Kumar Mohanty**

Director, Public Health Government of Odisha



Passion, Persistence and Perseverance describes succinctly the efforts of Professor Sonu Goel to take the initiative of Tobacco Control from Road to Policy. For researchers, academicians, implementors and policy making bodies, consolidated Digital Resource Centre would be helpful. Best Wishes.

**Dr Arun K Aggarwal**

Professor, Department of Community Medicine & School of Public Health PGIMER Chandigarh

## RESOURCES AVAILABLE





# PROJECT UPDATES

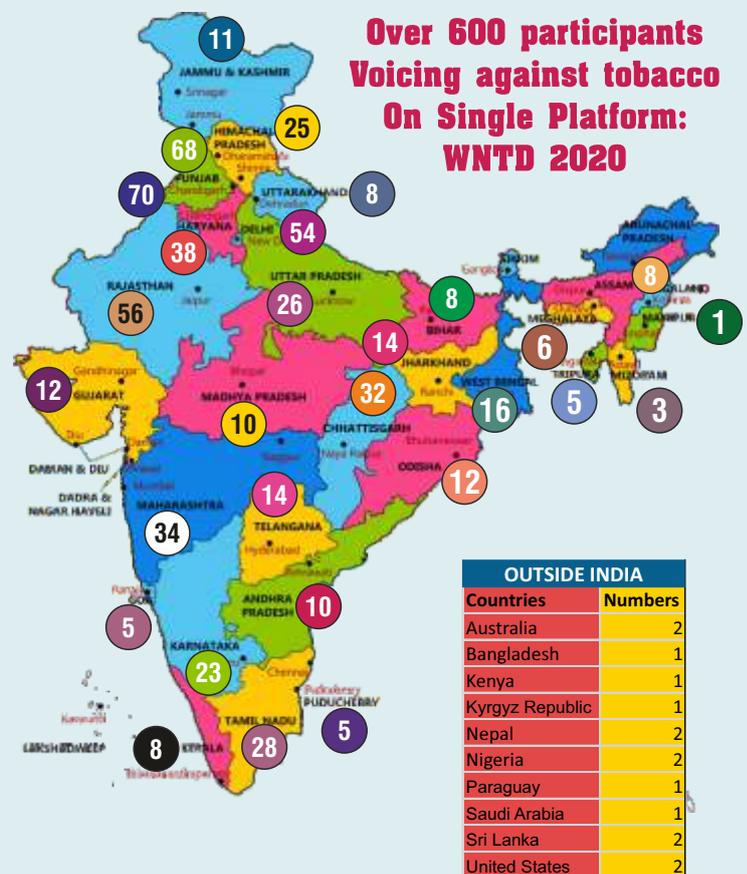
## NATIONAL SUMMIT ON WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY 2020



E-Resource Centre for Tobacco Control (E-RCTC) under the Department of Community Medicine & School of Public Health, PGIMER Chandigarh, in collaboration with Strategic Institute for Public Health Education and Research (SIPHER) and International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union) organized a National Summit to observe World No Tobacco Day 2020 in which about forty experts shared the international and national best practices in the field of Tobacco Control with over 600 participants from across the globe. The deliberations were held in seven sessions dedicated to varied issues based on the theme of WNTD 2020, "Protecting youth from industry manipulation and preventing them from tobacco and nicotine use".

The National Summit focused on supporting youth to abstain from the usage of tobacco and related products, understand tobacco industry tactics, in addition to the strengthening of the National Tobacco Control Programme implementation in the country. The summit had seven sessions including Inaugural session, plenary session, symposia, panel discussions, and short oral & e-poster presentations. The summit witnessed presenters and participants across various domains viz. from policymakers to implementers, advocates, doctors, academia, researchers and civil society organizations. The sessions revolved around the WNTD theme to support the global campaign to unmask myths and expose manipulations of the tobacco and nicotine industry and empower the youth to fight against Big Tobacco. Besides, the sessions focused on achieving Tobacco-Free Generation with national & local perspectives and emerging challenges & opportunities in the SEAR

region. Different states across the country shared their journey of advancing the National Tobacco Control Programme in their respective states along with highlighting best practices on tobacco control. A highly interactive E-poster session highlighting case studies on tobacco industry interference from 8 states was held, besides an oral presentation session.



### FACILITATOR SPEAK

It was indeed a very special WNTD. It was an experience to recon with. The program was very fine. The scientific quality was not compromised in any way and event was uninterrupted. The versatile marketing and promotion abilities were tremendous.

**Dr Mira B Aghi,**  
Behavioral Scientist & Communication Expert

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of this great national summit. It was wonderful to present at the summit.

**Dr. Amit Yadav,**  
Post- Doctoral Scholar,  
Centre for Tobacco Control  
Research and Education,  
University of California, USA

### PARTICIPANT SPEAK

The entire Summit was very well organized and hassle free inspite of being online. The sessions were very informative and comprehensive.

**Dr. Vandana Shah,**  
Professor & Head,  
Department of Oral &  
Maxillofacial Pathology, K M  
Shah Dental College &  
Hospital, Vadodara

## TOBACCO FREE TIMES 7th EDITION RELEASED



**TOBACCO-FREE Times**  
ISSUE VII: JANUARY – MARCH 2020  
**COVID 19**  
THE NEWSLETTER  
www.rctcpgi.org

**REACHED 1 LAC VISITORS GLOBALLY**

**Experts Speak**

**Editor Speak**

India's first E-Resource Centre for Tobacco Control (E-RCTC), an exceptional step towards tobacco-free world, has been captivating the eyes globally. It has been launched by PGIMER Chandigarh in collaboration with The International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union) by Hon. Smt. Preeti Sudan, Union Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on September 14, 2018 amidst senior-most representatives of around 20 organizations working on tobacco control in India. The link to the E-RCTC is <https://rctcpgi.org/>. The E-RCTC has been developed as a one-point resource system which has helped and allowed many researchers, implementers and policy makers to access information within no time. It has helped in strengthening National Control Tobacco Programme (NCTP) to a great extent. Further, this online hub contains latest notifications and circulars by national and state government's related to effective implementation of NCTP. E-RCTC compiles and channelizes the correct and reliable information, and then disseminates it from one source. The portal has helped in increasing the global collaborations between organizations and health care professionals from different corners of the globe who strive to work on diverse tobacco related issues for better enforcement of tobacco control laws in their organizations. It has also enabled researchers to gain knowledge related to the best practices and interventions in tobacco control.

Our virtual resource centre for tobacco control (E-RCTC) is showing the way to global tobacco control leaders as it had already crossed 0.1 million views from over 100 countries. In this challenging and unprecedented times of Corona pandemic, we came up with a special 7th issue of Tobacco Free Times- "Covid-19 and Smoking" to highlight the importance of smoking cessation for reducing the devastating impact of Covid-19 among smokers. I urge smokers to use this opportunity to quit smoking and tobacco industry to stop manufacturing, marketing and selling tobacco to prevent exacerbating Covid-19 crisis.

**Dr. Sonu Goel**  
Director, E-RCTC & Professor  
Department of Community Medicine & School of Public Health, PGIMER, Chandigarh

The E-RCTC is a comprehensive repository for tobacco control information and beneficial for all professional and students engaged in tobacco control. It is not only a one-stop reference centre but also provides a unique opportunity for multiple stakeholders including policymakers, implementers, researchers and tobacco control advocates to write, exchange views and set tobacco control agenda.

**Dr. Monika Arora**  
Director & Professor  
Health Promotion Division  
Public Health Foundation of India, New Delhi

The E-RCTC initiative from School of Public Health, PGIMER, Chandigarh is a unique platform, equipped with all necessary updated information in advancing tobacco control initiatives across the country. Certainly, it would help personal at various levels like program officers, academicians, researchers, service providers and other stakeholders through correct information and facts about tobacco control. It will also support in framing strategy, implementation of tobacco control laws and programs, and to curb the menace of tobacco use.

**Prof. (Dr.) Vikas Bhatia**  
Head, Department of Community Medicine & Family Medicine  
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Gurugram, Haryana

The E-Resource Centre for Tobacco Control is a unique platform from where we can fetch all the information related to tobacco control activities in India. It will immensely help the implementers, academicians, researchers and other stakeholders by providing correct, reliable information and facts about tobacco control.

**Dr. Gurmandeep Singh**  
Assistant Programme Officer, NCTP  
Panaji

Follow us on  

The seventh edition of Tobacco Free Times was released during the Webinar on Tobacco-Nicotine use and Corona virus disease (COVID-19), held on 23rd of April 2020 which was organized by E- Resource Centre for Tobacco Control, PGIMER, Chandigarh. The theme for this edition was "Smoking and Covid-19". The issue focused on utilizing an opportunity of COVID-19 pandemic to quit smoking. The issue presented scientific data which supports the relationship between COVID-19 and smoking, thus calls for exploiting this occasion to educate and provide support to smokers for quitting this risky behavior. The eminent experts from different sectors spoke about the negative relationship in the edition.

## AMID COVID-19, SPITTING BANNED IN PUBLIC PLACES

With an active efforts of the partners in all project states, a circular regarding ban of spitting in public was released in three project states Telangana, Odisha and Puducherry, well before it was released at national-level notification by MoHFW, GOI.



## WEBINAR ON TOBACCO-NICOTINE USE AND CORONA VIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

A Webinar on Tobacco-Nicotine use and Corona virus disease (COVID-19) was held on 23rd April 2020 which was organised by Resource Centre for Tobacco Control, PGIMER, Chandigarh in collaboration with Strategic Institute for Public Health Education and Research (SIPHER), Chandigarh under which various aspects of Tobacco/Nicotine use and COVID-19 disease were discussed by luminaries in tobacco control namely Dr. P.C. Gupta, Dr. Amit Yadav and Mr. Pranay Lal. Besides discussing the relationship between various types of tobacco and nicotine products with COVID19, the position of various global health professional bodies were also discussed. The webinar was highly attended by tobacco control enthusiasts and academicians from various states of India.





# PROJECT UPDATES

## WEBINAR ON TOBACCO CESSATION DURING COVID PANDEMIC AND BEYOND, A NEED AND AN OPPORTUNITY

**E-Resource Centre for Tobacco Control, PGIMER Chandigarh & Strategic Institute for Public Health Education and Research (SIPHER)**

### WEBINAR

Date: 8th May 2020, 12:00 Hours to 13:15 Hours

**Tobacco Cessation during COVID Pandemic and beyond, a need and an opportunity**

**Facebook Live Streaming**

Date: 8th May 2020  
12:00 Hours to 13:15 Hours

**WEBINAR**

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Concerned with the impact of Covid-19 on individual's health, especially in co-morbid conditions such as hypertension, cardiovascular diseases etc., a webinar was organized by E-RCTC in collaboration with Strategic Institute for Public Health Education and Research (SIPHER) supported by The International Union for Tuberculosis and Lung Disease. The webinar talked about the role of tobacco cessation during COVID19 pandemic and utilizing the existing opportunities within health system for quitting tobacco among users. The speakers of the webinar included Dr. Pratima Murthey, Dr. L Swasticharan, Dr. Vikrant Mohanty and was moderated and chaired by Dr. Mira Aghi and Dr. Rakesh Gupta.

## AWARENESS ON WNTD 2020 THROUGH DOORDARSHAN IN MEGHALAYA



Dr. Lana E. Lyngdoh Nongbri, State Nodal Officer, National Tobacco Control Program, and Dr. Star Pala Co-Principal Investigator of the BI Project at Meghalaya, were guests during

interactive e-session in Doordarshan's Health Essential program on 26th May, 2020. They talked on the WNTD theme and shared insights about the ill effects of nicotine (present in tobacco products) on the youth and roadmap of Tobacco Free Meghalaya.

## IEC MATERIALS IN LOCAL LANGUAGES DEVELOPED IN PROJECT STATES TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO THE STATE OFFICIALS PROVIDED FOR DEVELOPING

E-RCTC is providing technical support to all the four project states (Odisha, Telangana, Puducherry & Meghalaya) in developing comprehensive, context specific IEC materials on various aspects of tobacco control (COTPA, MPOWER, Article 5.3 FCTC, General educational materials regarding illeffects of tobacco use) in regional languages.

## E-POSTER COMPETITION FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS AT NEIGRIHMS MEGHALAYA

In an e-poster competition for medical students at NEIGRIHMS Meghalaya on the occasion of World No Tobacco Day 2020, Dr. Noor Topno, Medical Superintendent, NEIGRIHMS; Mr. David T. Umdor, Deputy Director (Administration), NEIGRIHMS; and member representatives of the Rotary Club Shillong graced the event. The dignitaries addressed the need to combat the tobacco issue in the state and their readiness to extend their help in all possible ways to make Meghalaya a "Tobacco-free State".



# WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY 2020 CELEBRATION IN INDIA



World No Tobacco Day is celebrated around the world every year on May 31st



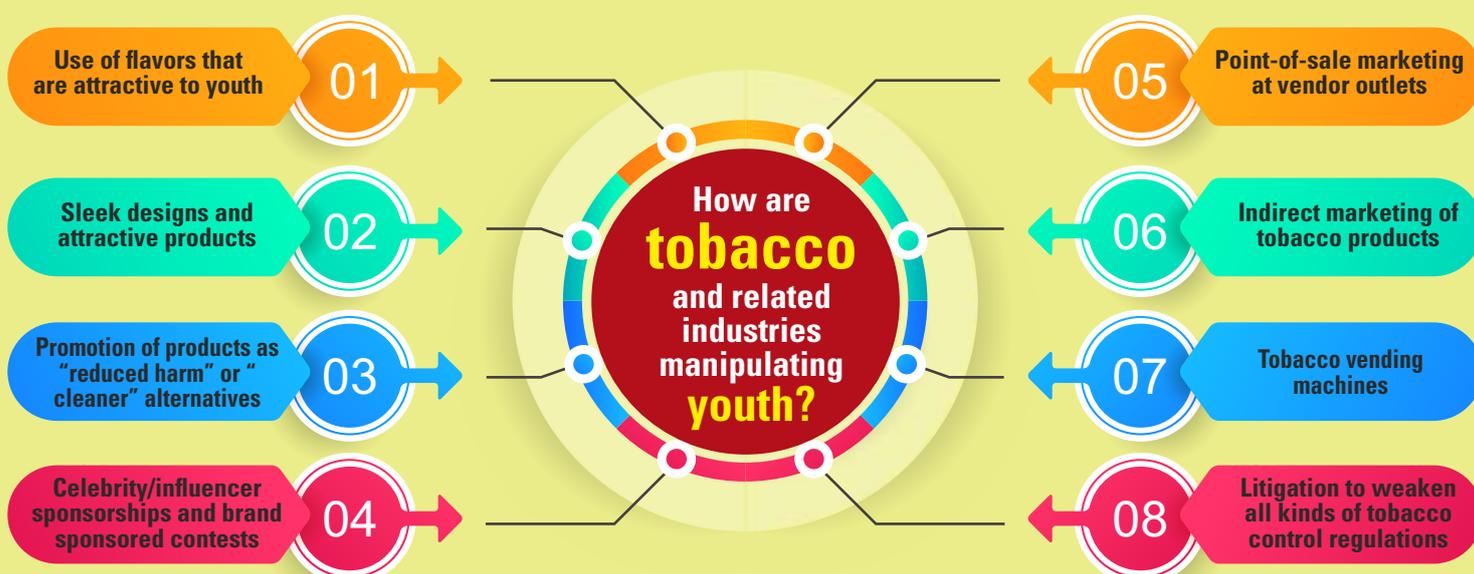
This yearly celebration informs the public on the dangers of using tobacco, the implementers and civil society advocates to continue their vigil of tobacco control, and the policy makers on taking evidence based informed decisions. The Member States of the World Health Organization (WHO) created World No Tobacco Day in 1987 to draw global attention to the tobacco epidemic and the preventable death and disease it causes. In 1987, the World Health Assembly passed Resolution WHA 42.19, calling for the celebration of World No Tobacco Day, every year on 31st May.

The overall objective of the yearly theme is to highlight a priority area of concern and raise global awareness of a specific issue for taking collective action. It also informs what WHO is doing to fight the tobacco epidemic, and what people around the world can do to claim their right to health and healthy living and to protect future generations.

## Protecting youth from industry manipulation and preventing them from tobacco and nicotine use

The theme for **WNTD 2020** is 'Protecting youth from industry manipulation and preventing them from tobacco and nicotine use'. The tobacco industry (TI) has been deliberately employing nefarious strategies to attract youth towards tobacco and nicotine products. The internal industry documents and other scientific literature has unequivocally established the fact that TI has been undertaking falsifying research along with luring high-profile stakeholders to deter, delay or dilute public policies. They aggressively attract a new generation of tobacco users from the people who die each year from tobacco-

attributable diseases their marketing campaigns and tactics. The **WNTD 2020** aims at demystifying the wrong deeds and myths employed by the tobacco industry and expose their manipulation tactics, especially their marketing tactics targeted at youth; equip and empower youth with correct knowledge about the tobacco and related industries' intentions and strategies to peg current and future generations on existing and novel tobacco and nicotine products; and bring forth tobacco control champions which can catalyze change by engaging youth in the fight against tobacco.





# WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY 2020 CELEBRATION IN INDIA

## Initiatives Taken by Different States on World No Tobacco Day 2020

### HIMACHAL PRADESH



The State Government announced a reward of Rs 5 lakhs in case any



gram panchayat becomes tobacco free. In addition, it has aimed to make all the treatment centres, educational institutions and government offices tobacco free.

### HARYANA



The State Government had run around 10 E-rikshaws creating awareness around the state for World No Tobacco day. Challans were issued to shopkeepers for violating guidelines under COTPA Act and hoardings, boards of direct advertisement were taken off with a warning to the shopkeepers for not putting them further.

### RAJASTHAN



Posters explaining the harmful effects of tobacco were released on WNTD2020. Also, the State Government released a



notification under Epidemic Act 1897 on complete ban on spitting smokeless tobacco in public places.

### UTTAR PRADESH



State Government celebrated World No Tobacco Day 2020 by flying large balloons with ill effects of tobacco use written on them. In addition, IEC material was displayed at key offices and public places. Sensitization of

NTCP staff and policy makers through online presentation was carried out. Further, an online meeting was also organized by STCC with CMO, DNO, NTCP staff and NGOs across 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh on Article 5.3 policy on 1st June 2020.



### JHARKHAND

Amidst Covid-19 pandemic, the state Government displayed the hoardings mentioning the risk for tobacco users to develop the viral infection in all the districts. IEC material was displayed stating ban on spitting in public places in Dhanbad district Jharkhand. Also, Bokaro District of Jharkhand announced an online Poster / Slogan Competition on WNTD theme and a symposium was also organized by DTCC (Khunthi) on WNTD, 2020.



# WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY 2020 CELEBRATION IN INDIA



## MIZORAM



Banners were displayed in & around the state to alert the community on the benefits of quitting tobacco.

## MEGHALAYA



The electronic media was addressed by State Program Officer along with other key stakeholders in the state on this year's theme for World No Tobacco Day to spread awareness, educate the youth and community as a whole and to empower the youth towards attaining a "tobacco-free generation". Poster drawing competition was also held in various schools of the state on the eve of World No Tobacco Day.

## GUJARAT

State Government of Gujarat released IEC material regarding the risk of tobacco use in relation to Covid-19 on WNTD 2020. In addition, mask distribution and poster



exhibition was held in Fatehgunj Police Station Vadodra. A webinar on Moving towards Tobacco Free Generation was also conducted by Faith Foundation on 30th May, 2020.

## KARNATAKA

The state has banned consumption and spitting of tobacco products in public places amidst COVID-



19 pandemic. The Health Minister B Sriramulu announced that violators will be punished under multiple IPC sections.

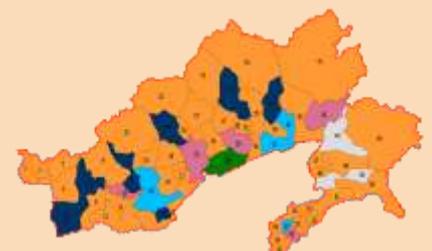
## ARUNACHAL PRADESH



State branch of Indian Dental Association (IDA) began a week-long commemoration of

"World No Tobacco Day", themed "Tobacco Exposed". Tawang district tobacco control cell (DTCC) observed 'Ten members of Riders Club' on their bikes drove in the main through fare of

the town from Tawang Monastery to spread mass awareness on ill effects of tobacco and its products.





# WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY 2020 CELEBRATION IN INDIA

## KASHMIR



The WNTD banners showing the theme of this year were placed at various places across the UT of Kashmir and the Governor stressed upon sensitization of youth

regarding hazards of Tobacco. In addition, 'Quit Tobacco campaign' was started by Government Hospital Gandhinagar, Jammu, providing free counselling and medicines to those who are willing to quit tobacco.



## MANIPUR

Troops of Indian Army and Assam Rifle on the occasion of 'World No Tobacco Day' organised campaign in Senapati, Tamenglong and Kangpokpi districts to spread awareness on the harmful



effects of tobacco use in the present COVID-19 environment. In Tamei, a vehicle-based awareness campaign spread the message of harmful effects of tobacco use and protection from COVID 19.

## TELANGANA

**SWASTAVA CANCER CARE**  
In association with  
Presents  
**TOBACCO AND CANCER SPECTRUM**  
A Virtual address on World No Tobacco Day  
How tobacco causes cancer  
How are cancers affected by tobacco  
Tobacco awareness and cessation programs helping cancer patients

Dr. Ravi Mehrotra  
Dr. Achyut B.R.  
Dr. Sonu Goel

SWASTAVA CANCER CARE organized the virtual spectrum on how tobacco causes cancer and focusing on Tobacco Cessation Programs. The eminent speakers of this spectrum were Dr. Sonu Goel, Professor, PGIMER; Dr Ravi Mehrotra, Professor Emory University Washington and

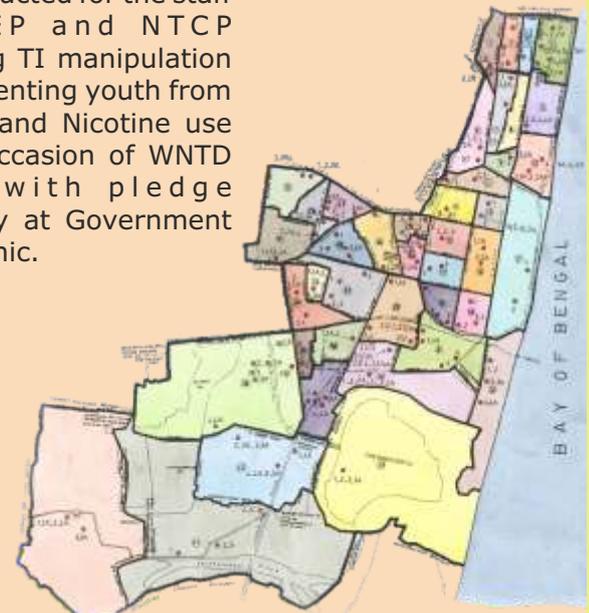


Dr Achyut B R, Scientist, Emory University Atlanta. The webinar focussed on role of tobacco use in cancer along with utilising the current unprecedented COVID19 time in enhancing tobacco control efforts. The webinar also deliberated upon adoption of Ayurveda and Yoga in the daily routine to promote tobacco cessation.

## PUDUCHERRY



An awareness program was conducted for the staff of NTEP and NTCP regarding TI manipulation and preventing youth from Tobacco and Nicotine use on the occasion of WNTD along with pledge ceremony at Government Chest Clinic.



# WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY 2020 CELEBRATION IN INDIA



## CHHATTISGARH



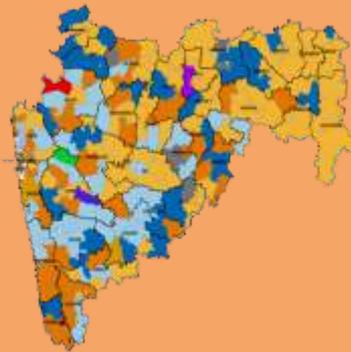
IEC material was displayed in all around the state to alert the community on adverse effect of smoking and spitting in public places during COVID 19 and also about the benefits of quitting tobacco.

## MAHARASHTRA

Media Campaign by Hon. Health Minister of Maharashtra, Mr. Rajesh Tope was started. Strict fine and punishment for smoking and spitting at public places was announced.



In addition to this media campaign by Marathwada Gramin Vikas Sanstha (MGVS), Aurangabad, Maharashtra was also initiated.



## NATIONAL



Indian Medical Association organized a e-Conference with the theme #TobaccoExposed on 31st May. The Speakers include Dr Jagdish Kaur from WHO; Dr. Sonu Goel from PGIMER Chandigarh; Dr. Pankaj Chaturvedi from Tata Memorial Hospital; Dr. Dilip Acharya, from IMA and Dr. Pratima Murthy, from NIMHANS. The e-Conference deliberates upon TI tactics of luring youth, tobacco cessation and quitting techniques along with the role of medical students in tobacco control.

## HRIDAY WNTD 2020 UNDER OUR CAMPAIGN #TOBACCOFREEFUTUREGENERATIONS



## Hriday's Youth Health Ambassadors on WNTD

Various messages from HRIDAY's Youth Health Ambassadors under the campaign #TobaccoFreeFutureGenerations were gathered.



# TOBACCO REPORTER

## Centre calls for ban on spitting to keep a lid on virus

The ministry issued a letter to states calling for a ban on spitting of smokeless tobacco in public places stating that spitting in public places could enhance the spread of the coronavirus. Earlier, ICMR issued an appeal to the public not to consume tobacco products as it increases the production of saliva followed by a strong urge to spit, thus increasing chance of COVID19 spread.

## Temporary ban on the sale of tobacco products- Lockdown is the Best Time to Quit Tobacco



India being the world's second biggest consumer of tobacco products, various states of country issued a temporary ban on the sale of tobacco products (as they come under the category of non-essential products) during the ongoing lockdown.

## Quit smoking, tobacco use at COVID times: Experts

Smokers who develop COVID-19 infection have more complications and greater risk of fatality as smoking worsens lung function and reduce immunity, said Pratima Murthy, Professor and Head, Department of Psychiatry, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, in a statement issued by the VHA. World Health Organization and Indian Council of Medical Research has issued similar statements for quitting smoking in the wake of COVID19 pandemic.

## Public health experts welcomed ban on spitting

Public health experts have welcomed the move by the central government to ban the use of tobacco products and spitting in public places to prevent the spread of coronavirus infection. States like Assam, Chandigarh, Delhi, Jharkhand, Haryana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh among others are also penalising violators for spitting tobacco in public places.

## India suspended tobacco production following the Covid-19 outbreak



The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has requested the Ministry of Industries to suspend the production, supply, marketing and sale

of all kinds of tobacco products to aid the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic. The ministry cited World Health Organization (WHO) which had earlier discouraged the use of tobacco-related products because of the reason that tobacco users are more vulnerable to Covid-19.

## Experts advocated for ban on Menthol Cigarettes

Professor Des Cox, chair of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland's Policy Group on Tobacco, said there is a "misperception" that menthol cigarettes are less harmful than regular cigarettes. However, he said there is "sufficient evidence that menthol cigarettes are just as harmful and are associated with increased nicotine dependence and lower quit rates". Dr Cox said the ban will likely result in fewer children taking up smoking.

## Local health leaders glad 'Tobacco 21' is now state law in US state



Governor Tim Walz signed a bill that raises the age to purchase tobacco products, including vaping and e-cigarette products popular with young people, to 21 years with an enforceable penalty of \$300 on first offenses and more subsequently. The bill brings Minnesota into compliance with the federal government's own Tobacco 21 law, which President Donald Trump signed in December 2019.

## Sunil Grover shares 'cigarette recipe' to deliver anti-cancer message

Sunil Grover, has shared the recipe to make cigarettes as a part of his initiative to deliver a strong message against cancer. The recipe is actually a sarcastic dig by the actor-comedian against the harmful effects of tobacco on our health. He told to pay attention to what Indian Cancer Society say regarding staying away from cigarettes and tobacco.

## People addicted to smokeless tobacco products consumes more nicotine than cigarettes, increase risk of stroke: WHO

World Health Organization (WHO) said that smokeless tobacco products have more than twice the nicotine compared to an average cigarette. Unlike cigarettes which are used periodically, most people addicted to smokeless tobacco products report continuous consumption throughout the day, which increases the level of nicotine.



## Steps to a Healthier Community: Tobacco Control Policy in New York State

Governor Andrew Cuomo enacted a Comprehensive Tobacco Control Policy as part of the state's fiscal year 2021 budget. The policy prohibits the sale or distribution of e-cigarettes or vapor products that have a flavor, unless approved by FDA. The policy also restricts the public display of tobacco and vapor products near schools.

## Telangana way ahead of many States in tobacco control, says Eatala Rajender



Health Minister Eatala Rajender said that Telangana is ahead of many States in implementing tobacco control initiatives and Telangana was the first State to ban spitting tobacco products in public places. He appealed to youth to shun the tobacco usage habit.



# QUIT TOBACCO



पीजीआई चंडीगढ़ विश्व तंबाकू निषेध दिवस सम्मोहन की कोषा योजना

11R दिन के लिए कृतसंकल्पित स्वास्थ्य केंद्र पर मना

दैनिक भास्कर 01-Jun-2020 Page 4

## MEDIA ADVOCACY FOR TOBACCO CONTROL

Meghalaya 5<sup>th</sup> on list of tobacco users in country  
Encourage youth to fight against tobacco: Expert

तम्बाकू निषेध दिवस पर स्वास्थ्य विभाग की टीम ने कार्टे 38 चालान



तंबाकू सेवन से कोरोना संक्रमण की संभावना ज्यादा

एक सिगरेट खत्म करती है जिंदगी के 15 मिनट



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तम्बाकू से देश में हर रोज होती है तीन हजार मौतें

स्वास्थ्य केंद्र पर मनाया विश्व तम्बाकू निषेध दिवस



"Multisectoral convergence for Tobacco-Free India by 2030: Leading the way towards SDGs"

हर चार सेकंड में एक व्यक्ति तंबाकू के कारण गंवा देता है जान

IMA wants govt strictness on tobacco post-COVID



Send us your feedback, comments and suggestions at [rctcupdates@gmail.com](mailto:rctcupdates@gmail.com),  
Editorial Team : Chief Editor - Dr Sonu Goel, Professor, PGIMER Chandigarh

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