



TOBACCO-FREE *Times*

www.rctcpgi.org

Issue XII : January-February, 2021

E-RCTC RE-LAUNCHED (VERSION 2.0):

A Promising Beginning to have a Significant Impact on Tobacco Control Globally

E-Resource Centre for Tobacco Control, a joint initiative of PGIMER and The International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases (The Union) has emerged successfully over the tenure of last two years. Officials at administrative levels has been approaching E-RCTC for accessing latest advisories and notifications to counter tobacco use. Researchers and academicians are continuously seeking this platform to acquire knowledge related to best practices and innovations in tobacco control. In order to build the capacity of individuals who are willing to or already contributing to attain "Tobacco-Free World", the portal has been re-designed in terms of its content and structure for its better accessibility.



Continued on page 2...



More than 40% youth of Odisha, an eastern state of India is under the grip of Smokeless Tobacco. It is a huge challenge to face and allay the rampant use of Tobacco use so as to prevent Oral and Head & Neck Cancers in this part of India. Spreading awareness and enforcement of tobacco sale to the adolescents must be in focus to deal with the burden of Tobacco use. We have been doing a lot of activities through Govt initiatives like prohibition of spitting in public places, establishment of Tobacco free office premises, places of worship starting from Jagannath temple in Puri. This requires collaboration from Civil societies for community participation and social mobilisation. Still there is a lot to do in this regard. This E-Resource Centre for Tobacco Control (E-RCTC) has given an opportunity as a resource pool for providing necessary information on tobacco control themes and activities. Best wishes for more success.

- Dr Susanta Kumar Swain

Addl. Director NCD cum State Nodal Officer -NTCP, Odisha

EDITOR'S SPEAK

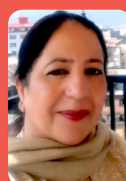


It gives me an immense pleasure to announce the re-launch of E-RCTC portal (version 2.0) with a newer look and better accessibility of its content for building the capacity of public health professionals working in the field of tobacco control. In addition to this, the 12th edition focuses upon an emerging issue of Tobacco Vendor Licensing (TVL), its need, benefits and its implementation across the globe. With this, I urge the state and national level government to introduce and enforce TVL which will help in controlling the sale of tobacco products and further reduce the children's access to cigarettes and other tobacco products.

- Dr Sonu Goel

Director, E-RCTC & Professor, PGIMER Chandigarh

EXPERTS SPEAK



Tobacco use in India is intertwined with our colonial past and like a many-headed hydra has mutated from hookah and cigarettes to e-cigarettes and e-hookahs. E-Resource is one such initiative that brings all tobacco control activities under one umbrella. I find the website informative, user-friendly, and extremely interesting. More power to Dr. Sonu Goel and Team!

- Dr. Rehana Kausar

State TB Officer, Jammu & Kashmir



In this digital era, keeping pace and utilizing technology to its fullest is vital. The e-RCTC platform has made information accessible to all the anti-tobacco warriors defying the boundaries to win this battle against tobacco. The initiative of team PGIMER to augment our learning lifecycle is commendable.

- Dr. Kavipriya Raja

State Nodal Officer, Oral Health Programme, Puducherry



While it's important to advise people not to start tobacco use in any form, it is also our responsibility as health care providers to encourage tobacco users to quit. Personalizing the risk of continuing tobacco use, motivating them with the positive aspects of quitting tobacco, supporting them in the quit attempt and addressing the underlying risk factors are important aspects of cessation support and we must train all health providers in these aspects.

- Prof. Pratima Murthy

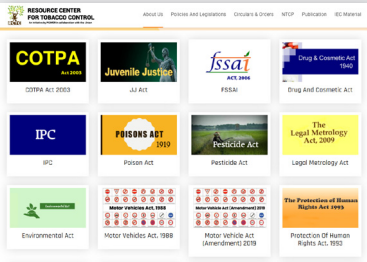
Professor and Head, Department of Psychiatry, NIMHANS, Bengaluru



GLIMPSES OF E-RCTC(VERSION 2.0)

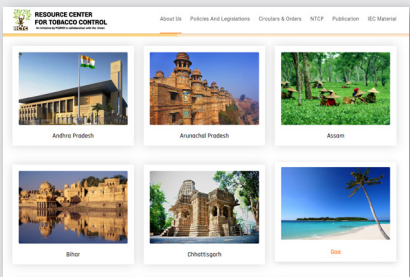
Policies and Legislations

Policies and Legislations at various levels (Global National and sub-national) has been showcased comprehensively.



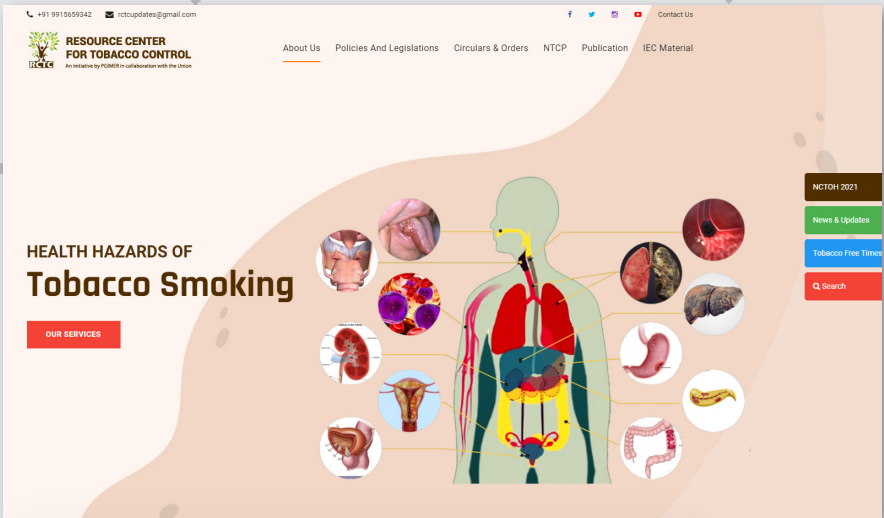
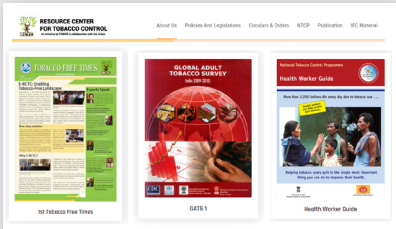
Circulars and Orders

Any order in relation to tobacco control at state/national level is updated when released, on the portal.



Publications

The publications are multidisciplinary and includes research from the social, psychological, epidemiological, prevention, and economic arenas. It covers all aspects of the health impacts of tobacco use and smoking cessation.



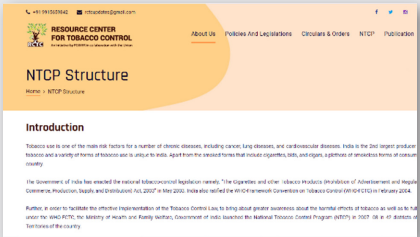
Media/IEC Material

Under IEC, posters, flyers, leaflets, brochures, booklets, messages as a means of promoting desired & positive behaviors in the community to curb the tobacco menace.



Articles

A piece of writing included with others in a newspaper, magazine, or other publication in regard to various emerging issues of tobacco are being placed on the portal.



PROJECT UPDATES

A “Virtual Dialogue in Support of amendments in COTPA Act 2003: Need of the hour” held on 29th January 2021.



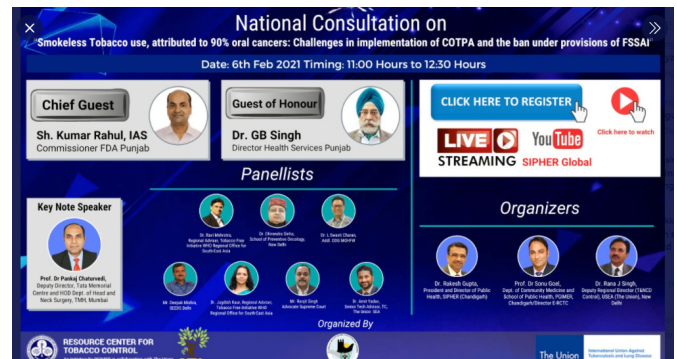
A “Virtual Dialogue in Support of amendments in COTPA Act 2003: Need of the hour” was organized by E-Resource Centre for Tobacco Control (E-RCTC) under Department of Community Medicine & School of Public Health, PGIMER Chandigarh, and The Union South-East Asia (The Union) in collaboration with Strategic Institute for Public Health and Research (SIPHER), Association of Professional Social Workers & Development Practitioners (APSWDP) and Integrated Association of Medical, Basic and Social Scientists (IAMBS) on 29th January, 2021.

A Capacity Building Workshop successfully held: Meghalaya



The capacity building workshop at West Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya was successfully conducted on 4th February, 2021 in collaboration with the NTCP-West Khasi Hills, Meghalaya at Bishop Hall, Tiehsaw, Nongstoin. The Deputy Commissioner of West Khasi Hills – Shri. Tableland Lyngwa, graced the workshop as the Chief Guest.

A “National Consultation on Smokeless Tobacco Use, attributed to 90% Oral Cancers: Challenges in Implementation of COTPA and the ban under provisions of FSSAI” held on 6th February, 2021.



A “National Consultation on Smokeless Tobacco Use, attributed to 90% Oral Cancers: Challenges in Implementation of COTPA and the ban under provisions of FSSAI” was organized by E-Resource Centre for Tobacco Control (E-RCTC) under Department of Community Medicine & School of Public Health, PGIMER Chandigarh in collaboration with The Union South-East Asia (The Union) on 6th February, 2021.

A “National Consultation on Tobacco Vendor Licensing (TVL) in India” held on 20th February, 2021



A “National Consultation on Tobacco Vendor Licensing (TVL) in India” was organized by E-Resource Centre for Tobacco Control (E-RCTC) under Department of Community Medicine & School of Public Health, PGIMER Chandigarh, Strategic Institute for Public Health and Research (SIPHER), and The Union South-East Asia (The Union) on 20th February.

Tobacco Free Times 11th Edition Released

Tobacco-Free Times 11th Edition, a regular bi-monthly theme-based newsletter was released during “A Virtual Dialogue in Support of amendments in COTPA Act 2003: Need of the hour” held on 29th January 2021 with the theme “Tobacco Product Waste”.



Circular on prohibition of smoking in public places and sale of tobacco products to the minors issued: Meghalaya

The Deputy Commissioner, East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehria passed an order stating the prohibition of smoking in public places and sale of tobacco products to minors with **order No. EJHD/Genl-20/Tobacco/2020/74**.

Formation of IEC Material: Meghalaya, Odisha, Puducherry

The IEC material (pamphlets) previously made to strengthen tobacco control, COTPA implementation, Tobacco Control Laws, Tobacco / COVID, cessation services has been revised and updated. Moreover, the preparation of signages for Point of Sale is under process.

Notification issued on "Tobacco Free Premise" at all institutions / Government Offices: Odisha

A notification issued has been issued from the SNO, NTCP reiterating the advisory on association with tobacco consumption issued by WHO and ICMR, and spitting ban in public places under Epidemic Diseases Act 1897 by Govt of Odisha.

Technical Support provided for the conduction Sensitization program on NTCP: Meghalaya

Technical Support to the NTCP-SNO was provided during the conduct of the Sensitization program on NTCP at the Office of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council (KHADC) which was held on 9th February, 2021 for Members of District Council (MDCs).

Manuscript of "Perception of threat and efficacy for SARS-CoV-2 infection among users and non-users of tobacco" submitted for publication

The manuscript for the study titled "Perception of threat and efficacy for SARS-CoV-2 infection among users and non-users of tobacco– a cross-sectional analytical study in Meghalaya, Odisha, Puducherry and Telangana" was successfully submitted to a journal for publication.

Report of Endline& Baseline Assessment in compliance to COTPA prepared

The report for baseline and end line assessment in compliance to COTPA has been successfully completed in Meghalaya, Puducherry and Telangana. In addition, the same has been initiated in Odisha.

Various Advocacy Meetings held- All Project States

A total of forty (40) meetings were held with Nodal Officers like Director, Public Health, State Nodal Officer, State Consultant - NTCP, State Consultants - RKSK and School Health Programme, NHM, Assistant Director, Higher Education, School & Mass Education Department, Deputy Director, Higher Education Dept to discuss on implementation of project activities and interventions under NTCP / along with adhering the guidelines on "Tobacco Free Premises".



TOBACCO VENDOR LICENSING:

FORGING AHEAD FOR “TOBACCO-FREE PLANET”

What is tobacco vendor licensing?

Vendor licensing of tobacco refers to the licensed sale of tobacco products without which vendors are not allowed to sell it with non-tobacco products such as candy, sweets, chips, chocolates, soft drinks etc. Vendors that sell both kinds of the above-mentioned products can lure non-tobacco users to try tobacco products. It means all vendors that sell tobacco products should obtain a valid license from the government in order to sell tobacco products to its consumers.

Do you know...?

Tobacco outlets are more highly concentrated in disadvantaged communities, including low-SES and racial and ethnic minority neighborhoods. There are 32 percent more tobacco outlets in urban versus non-urban areas, even controlling for population size, and poverty confers a greater risk for high tobacco retailer density in both urban and rural settings.

Why do we need Tobacco Vendor Licensing?

Under-regulated point-of -sale: -

- Large no. of POS/Vends
- Informal Vending Channels.



Sale within 100 yards of educational institutions: -

- Sale to and by minors.
- Sale of loose cigarettes.



Direct & Indirect Product promotion/ display/advertisement

- Power walls
- Posters and Stickers
- Banners



What are the salient features of vendor licensing?

- Local governments may entail licensed vendors to pay an annual application fee which can fund administration in enforcement activities (store inspections and compliance checks).
- Develop procedure and protocol for license issuance and renewal along with developing operational guidelines, license forms/formats etc.
- License Suspension/Revocation: Failure to meet eligibility requirements or performance standard license can be revoked/suspended. Penalty/fine may also be charged on violation of the law.



How tobacco vendor licensing system can aid in many governmental purposes?

- Identify all businesses selling tobacco to consumers in the city/community.
- Enable government superior control over where tobacco can be sold and what kind of businesses can sell tobacco products.
- Government can levy various terms and conditions on license to support ensure responsible retailing.
- It provides an effective enforcement mechanism to ensure that vendors observe with their applicable laws



What are the benefits of Tobacco Vendor Licensing?

Reduce availability of Tobacco products	Comply with all TC Laws	Generate Revenue to conduct Enforcement drives / inspections checks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">No of VendorsDensity of VendorsBan of sale in specific venues (grocery stores, Supermarkets, milk booths, restaurants, pubs & hotels, etc.)Ban sale of tobacco products in specific locations (e.g. within 100 yards of educational institutions, commercial areas, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">COTPA Act 2003; sec 4,5,6,7JJ Act 2015;Food Safety & Standards Act 2006;Ban on sale of single stickEliminate Illicit and counterfeit productsENDS Act, 2019 (Prohibition of e-cigarettes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establishes a self-financing mechanism for comprehensive enforcementEstablish minimum price for tobacco products

How the marketing of tobacco products attracts young generation?

There is a direct causal relationship between youth seeing tobacco marketing, and youth trying tobacco products and ultimately progressing to regular use.

- Attractive displays in retail shops.** Vendors near schools are frequently paid to display nicotine and tobacco products in their retail shops, along with sleek point-of-sale display boards, attractive marketing materials and bright, colorful cases to attract young customers. Modern, attractive retail spaces with a wide variety of products that appeal to youth are also now commonly used to market new and novel products.
- Advertising materials and products at eye-level of children.** In many countries, nicotine and tobacco products can be found at children's eye levels and near shops selling toys, electronic gadgets, sweets, snacks or soda.



Best Practices: International and National

International: Global Communities are adopting tobacco retailer licensing laws as one way to combat the public health problems associated with tobacco use, to help reduce tobacco-related health disparities, and to ensure compliance with tobacco laws. Tobacco vendor licensing is a powerful tobacco control tool that can be used in a variety of different ways. By requiring a license for the sale of tobacco products, a community can then set limits on the location, number, density and type of tobacco retailers.

Some of the countries with evident good global practices on TVL are mentioned below:

Countries across world	Neighbouring countries (South East Asia Region)
Hungary	Bangladesh
Australia	Thailand
Scotland	Singapore
Ireland	Vietnam
USA	Pakistan
Canada	
Netherland	

National – India

1. Central Government's Take on Tobacco Vendor Licensing

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issued an advisory on 21st September, 2017 to state governments for:

- Develop an institutionalized mechanism for authorizing sale of tobacco products through Municipal/Local government Authorities.
- Restrict sale of any non-tobacco products such as confectionaries (candies), chips, biscuits, soft drinks, etc.

2. Initiatives by State/Local Governments Across India

About 41 jurisdictions have issued Vendor Licensing Notifications till date: ranging from state level orders to district level & Municipal Corporation

State Legislation (1)	
Himachal Pradesh (Prohibition of Sale of loose cigarettes & beedis, and regulation of retail business of cigarettes & other Tobacco products Act, 2016)	
State Level Orders (6)	
Rajasthan	West Bengal
Uttarakhand	Assam
Madhya Pradesh	Karnataka
Municipal Corporation level Orders -ULBs (33)	
Jharkhand	13
West Bengal	7
Uttar Pradesh	5
Madhya Pradesh	6
Bihar	1
Punjab	1



Glimpses of state specific initiatives:

1. Example from Ranchi (Jharkhand)

Ranchi Municipal Corporation notified TVL through Jharkhand Municipal Corporation Act, 2011. It became the first urban local body (ULB) across India to institutionalize TVL by putting in place an operational guidelines to issue licenses which was released in the presence of the Hon'able Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Municipal Commissioner on 8th Dec 2020. It not only brought the officials in sync with the necessity and benefits of vendor licensing, but also, explained the legal powers that could be used under the Jharkhand Municipal Act, 2011 to introduce vendor licensing in the state which are as mentioned below:

- Section 455 (schedule 13 and 187) of Jharkhand Municipality Act, 2011: stipulates distribution, sale, storage, packaging and processing of any tobacco product is not permissible without a valid license or authorization.
- Section 482 (2) mandates a fee may be fixed by the municipality, and such fee shall be payable by the person to whom the license or the permission is granted.
- Section 483 (3) states that any license or permission granted under this Act or the rules or the regulations made thereunder may, at any time, be suspended or revoked by the Municipal Commissioner or the Executive Officer or the Officer by whom it was granted.

2. Example from Siliguri (West Bengal)

- Section 201 of the West Bengal Municipal Act, 1993 (item no 139 of Schedule II of Section 201)
- Section 273 of the West Bengal Municipal Corporation Act 2006 (Schedule IV).

Based on powers conferred upon both the provision aforementioned acts which, obligate that sale, storage, processing, packaging, manufacturing (by any method) of all kinds of tobacco products without a valid license is prohibited within the jurisdiction of Siliguri Municipal Corporation of West Bengal.

3. Tobacco vendor licensing made mandatory in the state of Uttarakhand

Uttarakhand Municipal Act 1959, in exercise of power conferred by section 2(46) read with sections 114/437/438, passed an order dated 03.12.2019, covering 90 urban local bodies that cover 8 Municipal Corporations, 41 Municipal Councils and 43 Nagar Panchayats to adopt the concept of TVL. The order prohibits the marketing, manufacturing, storage, packaging and processing of any tobacco products in the state without a license. Licensed vendors will also be required to comply with the provisions set out in the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA) 2003 and the and Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.

4. Punjab made license must for tobacco vendors

The Punjab government directed all municipal corporation commissioners to ensure closure of all tobacco vends/shops in the state running without a license under the Punjab Tobacco Vends Fees Act on September, 2015

5. Bihar: Patna Municipal Corporation bans free and open sale of tobacco products in its jurisdiction

In an unprecedented move, Patna Municipal corporation has put an embargo on free sale of all kinds of tobacco products in November, 2017 thus becoming the 1st Municipal Authority in the country to issue such an order for tobacco control.

6. Notification issued in Greater Jaipur for Licensing

NGO Vaagdharma after their persistent efforts was able to implement tobacco vendor licensing in one of the two divisions of the Municipal Corporation, Jaipur, Rajasthan from February 2021.

7. Tobacco vendor licensing demanded in Haryana

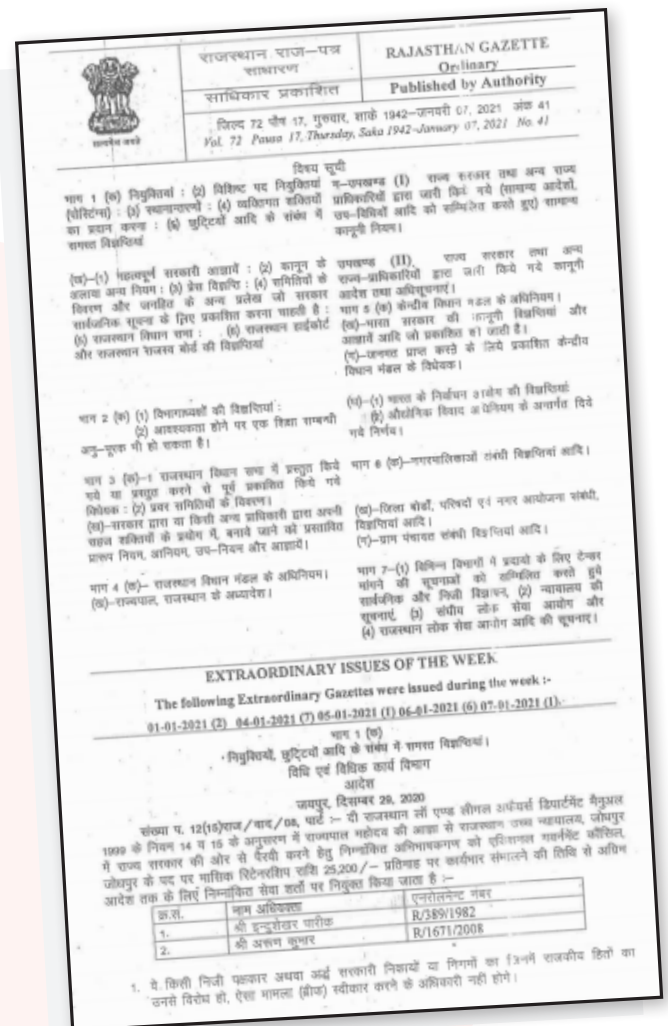
A New Delhi based NGO (Consumer VOICE) urged the Haryana government for adoption of Tobacco Vendor Licensing in the state of Haryana on the occasion of National Consumer Day to check health hazards on December 26, 2020

8. Karnataka State government to implement TVL

The state government explored their existing Karnataka Municipalities Act 1976, to adopt and implement steps to license tobacco vendors and passed a state-wide notification dated 31.12.2020 wherein, it published the draft Karnataka Municipalities Model Bye-Laws and Rules 2020.

9. TVL regulation in State of Himachal Pradesh

The Himachal Pradesh Prohibition of Sale of Loose Cigarettes and Beedis and Regulation of Retail Business of Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2016, this Act makes



registration for carrying retail business of any tobacco products compulsory and further sets out imprisonment and payment of fine for violation of the provision.

9. Uttar Pradesh: The state of Uttar Pradesh explored their Act of 1959 and based on powers conferred under their Municipal Corporation Act 1959, sections 437, 438 (1) 438D (2), 541, 542 and 543 passed a relevant order dated 22.11.2019 publishing the Lucknow Municipal Corporation (Determination, Regulation and Control of License Fee for Sale of Tobacco Products and License Fee) By-Law 201, prohibiting sale of tobacco products without license

10. Rajasthan: Rajasthan government through their Municipalities Act 2009, section 282(1) read with sections 269/340, passed an order dated 04.01.2018, directing that, there will be no storing, processing, distribution and sale in tobacco products without permission/authorization/ license under the Rajasthan Municipal Act, 2009. It further mandated that retail shops authorized/licensed for selling tobacco products will comply with the provision of the Cigarettes and other Tobacco products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulations of Trade and Commerce Production, Supply and Distribution) Act 2003 and Rules, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006 and Regulations and not sell tobacco products loose and any non-tobacco products such as toffees, candies, chips, biscuits, soft drinks etc., to protect children from the exposure to tobacco products.



Who all can implement TVL?

Tobacco vendor licensing is a multi-sectoral approach which enables deliberation and collaboration among various stakeholder groups (e.g., government, civil society, and private sector) and sectors (e.g., health, environment, and economy) to jointly achieve a common outcome.

TVL implementation also rests upon individual communities to decide who will implement and enforce a TVL law. Multiple

departments might be involved: one agency/department may issue the license (the city manager, for example, or the agency that issues general business licenses), while another agency, such as the environmental health or police department, may monitor compliance.

Various sectors which can be involved to boost tobacco vendor licensing in the country can be:



What are the suggested Criteria of TVL?

- PoS should comply with COTPA, 2003; Juvenile Justice Act, 2015; Food Safety & Standards Regulations, 2011; ENDS 2019 and other prevailing law related to TC and guidelines issued by State and Central Govt.
- No littering of cigarette butts or other tobacco products-aligns with Smart City Mission and Swacch Bharat Abhiyan initiatives by the central government.
- Operational hours: The registered premise will be operated between 10.00AM(opening time) to 8.00PM (closing time).
- Vends to remain close on National Commemorative Days i.e., Republic day/ Independence Day/ 2nd October/ etc.
- Prohibit accessibility of matchbox or lighter or electric point or other burning material at the vend.
- Exclusive sale of Tobacco Products-Vends to prohibit sale of confectionary items i.e. chips, chocolates, candies, etc. with tobacco products.
- **Population based Tobacco vends:** establishing a maximum number of retailers proportional to population size (e.g.one vend per 10,000 population)

Conclusion

Although the tobacco control movement nationwide is mature, much work still needs to be done to control tobacco's availability to minors, to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke and to stem the tide of death and disease caused by tobacco.

Tobacco retailer licensing is an effective tool to help state and local officials ensure that retailers comply with all tobacco control laws. Those who are craving to obtain tobacco license in India must follow the licensing guidelines and Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2003 (COTPA). Furthermore, it's essential to bring all the tobacco products and cigarettes under a regulatory structure. Since the tobacco industry is mainly targeting youngsters and thus, introducing vendor licensing and implementing it religiously would make the things fair for one and all.

While, this newsletter focuses on states with progressive tobacco retailer licensing laws, all states and local governments should consider adopting and implementing a licensing system to help ensure a responsible retailing environment in the country.

EXPERT QUOTES



Inspite of strict implementation of tobacco control laws, the tobacco industries are making novel products to attract the youth. So, TVL is a very important strategy not only to strengthen the existing tobacco control laws but also reduces the easy accessibility of tobacco products to youth and minors.

Sh. Rajeev Pandey, Assistant Director at Urban Development Directorate, Uttarakhand, Government of Uttarakhand



Vendor licensing is exactly where we are supposed to be active. The vendors who are selling the tobacco products should possess a license or else they won't be allowed to sell the tobacco products. We will have a very good long term effect on tobacco control by introduction and enforcement of tobacco vendor licensing.

Dr. L Swasticharan, Additional Director DG, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GOI



TVL is a major component in the regulation of sales of tobacco products as it works as an additional responsibility to follow the regulations and guidelines put up by the authority.-

Dr. Kamal Garg, PCS, Municipal Commissioner, Mohali, Punjab



Tobacco vendor licensing is a multi-sectoral approach which enables deliberation and collaboration among various stakeholder groups. Even though vendor licensing is a newer concept, it will help the government in strengthening the existing tobacco control laws through the mechanism by regulating number and density of tobacco retailers.-

Dr. Nidhi Sejpal, Senior Technical Advisor, The Union, SEA



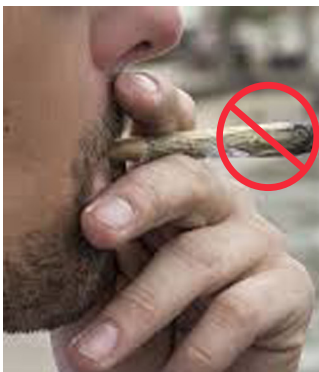
New age of tobacco purchase moved to 21: Mississippi



The sale or distribution of any tobacco product to a person under the age of twenty-one (21) is prohibited. Before distributing any tobacco product, the distributor must verify that the recipient is at least twenty-one (21) years of age by examining the recipient's government-issued photographic identification.

<https://yallpolitics.com/2021/01/20/bill-of-the-day-new-age-of-tobacco-purchase-moved-to-21/>

Smoking marijuana ups smoked-related toxic chemical levels in blood & urine



According to a study published in EClinicalMedicine, people who smoke marijuana have several smoke-related toxic chemicals in their blood and urine and that high acrolein levels may be used as an indicator to identify patients with increased cardiovascular risk, and reducing acrolein exposure from tobacco smoking and other sources could be a strategy for reducing cardiovascular risk," a coauthor said in a statement.

<https://consumer.healthday.com/smoking-marijuana-tied-to-toxic-chemicals-2649862872.html>

Minimum smoking age increases to 21 years in Singapore

The minimum legal age for the purchase, use, possession, sale and supply of tobacco products was raised from 20 years to 21 in Singapore. This is the third and last change to the minimum age requirement under the amendments to the Tobacco (Control of Advertisements and Sale) Act, which were passed in Parliament in November 2017.

<https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/smoking-controls-in-singapore-over-the-years>



Govt reissues norms on tobacco use: Punjab

The Director General of School Education Department in Punjab issued a letter to all DEOs and school heads stating the instructions to make schools and educational institutions tobacco-free.

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/bathinda/govt-reissues-norms-on-tobacco-use-201763>



The Australian Council to increase the number of smoke-free areas

The Australian Council on Smoking and Health has called on all Australian governments to increase the number of smoke-free areas to reduce the number of cigarettes smoked and overcome their addiction to nicotine, make smoking less tempting to young people and support ex-smokers to stay smoke-free.

<https://www.acosh.org/australia-needs-expand-smoke-free-areas/>



Commission cancer plan eyes drastic cuts in tobacco use by 2040: Europe

Europe's Beating Cancer has made a detailed plan towards a "Tobacco Free Generation" by targeting a 30 percent reduction in tobacco use by 2025 over 2010 and less than 5 percent of Europeans use tobacco by 2040. In addition, the Commission will update Council Recommendations on Smoke-Free Environments and recommend that it includes e-cigarette and heated tobacco products to strengthen smoke-free environments such as outdoor public spaces.

<https://www.politico.eu/article/commission-cancer-plan-eyes-drastic-cuts-in-tobacco-use-by-2040/#:~:text=Commission%20Cancer%20Plan%20eyes%20drastic%20cuts%20in%20tobacco%20use%20by%202040,-In%20addition%2C%20by&text=Europe's%20Beating%20Cancer%20plan%20will,text%20seen%20by%20POLITICO%20today.&text=Under%20consideration%20are%20extending%20taxes,taking%20aim%20at%20cigarette%20ads>

Ban on use of shisha and increase tobacco taxation in view of Covid-19: Ghana

The School of Public Health, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology has called for a total ban of Shisha use in Ghana to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Besides, it had made a move towards increasing tobacco taxes, ideally by 50 per cent to generate revenue for supporting healthcare delivery in treating people who suffer from tobacco-related diseases as well as Covid-19.

<https://www.modernghana.com/news/1058628/covid-19-ban-use-of-shisha-govt-told.html>

Smoke-free program launched to go tobacco-free in 2021: Ontario

The Haliburton, Kwartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit promoted a new program for Ontarians aged 18 and above, that offers phone counselling and a free six-week supply of nicotine patches/lozenges to help them become tobacco-free.

<https://www.northumberlandnews.com/community-story/10312843-program-helps-smokers-go-tobacco-free-in-2021/>

SAVE THE DATES

5th

NCTOH



5th NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TOBACCO OR HEALTH

Multisectoral Convergence for Tobacco-Free India by 2030: Leading the Way Towards SDG's
 25th - 27th September, 2021
 PGIMER, Chandigarh, India

SAVE THE DATES

5th

NCTOH



5th NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TOBACCO OR HEALTH

Multisectoral Convergence for Tobacco-Free India by 2030: Leading the Way Towards SDG's
 25th - 27th September, 2021
 PGIMER, Chandigarh, India

SAVE THE DATES

5th

NCTOH



5th NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TOBACCO OR HEALTH

Multisectoral Convergence for Tobacco-Free India by 2030: Leading the Way Towards SDG's
 25th - 27th September, 2021
 PGIMER, Chandigarh, India

SAVE THE DATES

5th

NCTOH



5th NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TOBACCO OR HEALTH

Multisectoral Convergence for Tobacco-Free India by 2030: Leading the Way Towards SDG's
 25th - 27th September, 2021
 PGIMER, Chandigarh, India

CCE directs govt colleges not to collaborate with tobacco industries: Telangana

The Commissionerate of Collegiate Education directed all the Government Degree Colleges

(GDCs) not to collaborate or accept sponsorships in any kind, from any of the tobacco industries/tobacco company related foundations and to refrain from any kind of association with tobacco industries/tobacco company related foundations.

<https://telanganatoday.com/cce-directs-govt-colleges-not-to-collaborate-with-tobacco-industries>

Strengthening Tobacco Control Laws for an India After COVID-19

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India (MoHFW) brought the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Amendment Bill, 2020 to address several lacunae in India's parent tobacco control law.

<https://science.thewire.in/health/cigarettes-other-tobacco-products-amendment-bill-2020-tobacco-control-packaging-public-health/>

Send us your feedback, comments and suggestions at rctcupdates@gmail.com,

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