

Nada India Foundation

Himachal Pradesh Tobacco Tax Consultation Report

2022


TAX
TOBACCO



Report

Himachal Pradesh Tobacco Tax Consultation Report

Shimla, Himachal Pradesh
07. 09. 22



Contents

• Acknowledgements	1
• Introduction	2
• Himachal Pradesh Tobacco Tax	3
Consultation Objective	
• Consultation Proceedings	4
• NYIN Forum – Learnings	5
• Recommendations	6
• Shimla Declaration 2022	7
• Annexure 1: Program Schedule	8
• Annexure 2: Participants	9
• Annexure 3: News Coverage	10
• Annexure 4: Social Media	11
• Annexure 5: Economic Burden of Tobacco Excerpt	12

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements are due to all those who participated in the consultation (see Annexure 2) and contributed with their deliberations to the development of this report and Shimla Declaration 2022. I sincerely thank Dr. Rijo M. John, PhD, an Economist and Public Health Policy Analyst and Mr. Narender Kumar, Principal Consultant, National Policy, Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids for leading the technical sessions. Both brought a Global perspective with inputs from other civil Society partners to consultation .

This consultation would not have possible without the collaboration of Dr. Manoj Sharma and faculty members from the Department of Economics Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla. Sincere thanks to the Himachal Pradesh University Shimla for hosting the consultation and providing technical and administrative support in making the consultation a success.

The sustained support and guidance to Nada Young Members for Good Health by Shri Yunus Khan, IAS, State Tax commissioner Himachal Pradesh, will go a long way in making their campaign "Good Health and Tobacco Tax Increase a National Priority" effective. Although we missed his presence during the consultation, Mr. Kulbhushan Gautam Joint Commissioner, Excise and Tax and Deputy Commissioner Himachal Pradesh day long participation resonates with their commitment in making the Tobacco Free India a reality .

The consultation arrangements were managed by Mr Mangal Singh, Nada State Coordinator Himachal Pradesh and supported by Mr Sunny Suryavanshi NYIN State Convener (Health Advocacy HP)

I appreciate the efforts of Mr Akshay Sharma, Nada Media Coordinator for his vibrant designs and putting the report graphically together and his online and print media activities. Social media plays an important role in amplifying the youth voice and to the Nada Young India Network.

Suneel Vatsyayan, Chairperson,
Nada India Foundation

Introduction

- Tobacco has become one of the major risk factors for NCDs among young people, including men and women, between the age group of 15-27 years. It has become an integral part in the Indian socio-cultural context making India the 2nd largest consumer of tobacco, in the world.
- Tobacco causes 1.35 million deaths in India each year. Tobacco not only harms the health but also the economy of our country. Tobacco takes a heavy toll on the addict's family and the cost of treatment of diseases attributable to tobacco use is quite high. Among youth (13-15 years), 30% use tobacco and its related products while 37% are exposed to second-hand smoking in public spaces and 22% are exposed to it at home (WHO 2018, Tobacco-Free Kids 2018).
- Youth are one of the most eager and enthusiastic consumers of the tobacco industry. Hence the Youth are the most vulnerable and easy targets due to prevailing misinformation, ease of availability and societal frameworks. Raising the price of tobacco products through tax increases is the most effective policy not only to reduce tobacco use but also to raise tax revenue. Especially during the time of Covid it's a WIN-WIN policy as it can address the economic shock from the COVID-19 pandemic and directly reduce COVID related co-morbidities. According to GYTS-4, 73.08% bought tobacco products from point of sale vendors, 60.6% saw tobacco advertisements online (OTT and Social media) and offline.



Hence, It is a need of the hour to take steps to protect the children, Youth and our community from the deadly tobacco products leading to heavy economic pressure on the individual's family.

All tobacco products in India have become more affordable over the years

- There has not been any significant increase in tobacco taxes since the introduction of GST in July 2017 According to a recent study, cigarettes, bidis and smokeless tobacco have become increasingly affordable over the past 10 years. The study highlights that the GST has accentuated the increasing trend in the affordability of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco and did nothing to reduce the affordability of bidis
- The annual economic costs from all tobacco products is estimated to be Rs. 177,341 crores in 2017-18 amounting to 1% of India's GDP.
- According to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, MOHFW, achievement of reduced load of NCDs is possible by reducing the consumption or intake of tobacco by 30% by 2025. MOHFW recommends to Ministry of Finance, imposition of high cess on all tobacco products
- In its 'Strategy for New India @75' document released earlier, NITI Aayog, the Think Tank of India, has suggested measures to hike taxes on tobacco.

According to the World Health Organization, raising the price of tobacco products through tax increases is the most effective policy not only to reduce tobacco use but also to raise tax revenue.

- Higher tobacco prices that decrease affordability encourage cessation among users, prevent initiation among non-users, and reduce the quantity consumed among continuing users.
- Tobacco taxes are particularly effective among vulnerable populations such as youth and low-income smokers. A 10% price increase reduces tobacco consumption by 5% in low- and middle-income countries.

Himachal Pradesh Tobacco Tax Consultation

Objective

- To deliberate and exchange views on the need for raising tobacco taxes
- Development of a working group (Think tank) on tobacco tax comprising of economist, CSOs , government officials and young people
- Youth Engagement for “Tobacco Free India”, the public participation a way forward.



Himachal Pradesh Consultation on Tobacco Tax increase was hosted on 7th September 2022 jointly by the Nada India Foundation and the Department of Economics Himachal Pradesh University Shimla on the topic "Tobacco Tax: Youth issues and Concerns".

The consultation witnessed the participation of over thirty, 30, participants from the Department of Health, Himachal Pradesh, Civil Society Organizations, Youth Associations, Economists, Professors and Dean from Himachal Pradesh University and Public Health Professionals and society at large. The consultation was chaired by **Shri Kulbhusan Gautam, Joint Commissioner State Tax, Himachal Pradesh** and moderated by **Mr Mangal Singh, State Coordinator, Nada India Foundation**. It was graced by the presence of panellists including **Dr. Gopal Chauhan, MBBS, State Program Officer Directorate of Health Services, Ministry of Health Government of Himachal Pradesh** , shared his insights regarding the Strategy of the Big Tobacco Industry to target the young minds and influence them to eventually fall into addictions of Tobacco. Bringing economic loss to the dear ones and family while increasing the economic burden on the whole of India.

Dr.Rijo M John Economist & Public Health Policy Analyst enlightened the participants on 'Global Status of India on Tobacco Taxation- Best Practices & Way Forward.

Mr Narender Kumar, Principal Consultant, National Policy, Campaign for tobacco-free kids. His lecture was on " WHY TOBACCO TAX IS IMPORTANT? This was followed by a panel discussion on 'Developing comprehensive policies to increase taxation on tobacco products and curb its use among young" with delegates including **Mr. Sunny Suryavanshi, Convener Nada Young India Network, Prof (Mrs.) Reema Dogra- Economist, Prof (Dr.) Mamta, Dean of Social Sciences, Professor Public Administration.**

The group urged the Himachal Pradesh government to reduce smoking and tobacco use among young people and meet the budget deficits by increasing the tobacco tax on a priority basis.



The annual direct healthcare costs attributable to SHS from all diseases in India in the year 2017 for non-smokers aged 15+ years amounted to

₹566.7 billion

Rijo. M John



Himachal Pradesh Tobacco Tax Consultation

Consultation Proceedings

Dr. Rijo M John Economist & Public Health Policy Analyst shared that Tobacco causes 1.35 million deaths in India each year.



8.5% of children 13-15 years use tobacco which is a major risk factor for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) - Cancer, Cardiovascular Disease, Diabetes, and Chronic Lung Disease. The economic burden of tobacco on India for the age group 35+ is estimated at ₹1773.4 billion (1.04% of the GDP) for the year 2017. Dr Rijo also shared information regarding Direct and Indirect costs. Direct Costs included healthcare costs; medicines and Non-Healthcare Costs included transportation to the clinic, time of family members providing care; Indirect or productivity Costs: lost productivity due to morbidity and premature mortality

Dr. Gopal Chauhan MBBS, State Program Officer Directorate of Health Services, Ministry of Health Government of Himachal Pradesh shared his insights regarding the Strategy of the Big Tobacco Industry to target the young minds and influence them to eventually fall into different addictions of Tobacco thus bringing economic loss to the dear ones and family while increasing the economic burden on the whole of India. The easy availability and accessibility of dangerous tobacco products need to be controlled to protect the future generation. Tobacco Taxes act as the control at Gateways for Tobacco use!



Mr. Sunny Suryavanshi, Convener Nada Young India Network. The young tobacco control leadership is ready to take action against tobacco with the aim of improving youth wellbeing, the NYIN identifies tobacco promotion and availability, affordability and acceptability as a threat to young people from being exposed to tobacco use and to increase tax on tobacco and save lives.



Prof. (Dr.) Manoj Sharma, Chairperson, Department of Economics, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla highlighted the issue of easy availability of smokeless tobacco products due to their cheap pricing. To protect the working class and youth from their addiction tobacco taxes are one of the easiest ways to protect the youth of India from cancer causing tobacco products. He offered Nada Young India all the support.



Mr. Narender Kumar, Principal Consultant, National Policy, Campaign for tobacco-free kids. His lecture was on " WHY TOBACCO TAX IS IMPORTANT?". He enlightened the consultation about the importance of imposing taxes on tobacco and how this would lead to a decrease in the consumption of tobacco in India. According to Mr.Narender increased tobacco taxes are a win – win policy i.e. taxes would reduce consumption upto maximum point, and it is the most effective way to deter children from addictions.



Shri Kulbhushan Gautam, Joint Commissioner, State Tax Excise, Himachal Pradesh highlighted the growth of the nation through GST and a stronghold for the development of India and Promoting Good health he further added. "Tobacco has been kept on the highest slab of 28% by the government of India looking at the harms and sorrow it brings".

Mr Suneel Vatsyayan, Chairperson, Nada India Foundation also awarded Shri Kulbhushan Gautam with the "Good Health Ambassador award, honouring his spirit to stand with the youth of India and responding to their concerns, while they seek guidance and his commitment for future support.

Himachal Pradesh Tobacco Tax Consultation

NYIN Forum on 8th September 2022 :

The NYIN urges all state governments to increase tobacco taxes as it is proven way to reduce smoking and other tobacco use and to save young lives.

Youth need to be empowered so that they are able to address their specific needs like to avoid tobacco use and be vocal about their concerns on tobacco industry tactics in making young people addicted. NYIN also urges the government to protect the people who are not using tobacco (passive smokers).

Role of Youth

- Throughout the development of tobacco control, young people should be at the forefront in advocating for tax increase priorities to improve health and wellbeing.
- Youth representation at committees meetings at state ministries/government bodies/discussions/meetings/policy making
- Capacity building of youth organisations to voice their concerns in matters of taxation of demerit goods

Role of Civil Society Organization

- Civil societies Organization (CSO) and Youth organisations can partner and lead in organising capacity-building events Youth mobilisation and creating opportunities
- CSOs can facilitate Youth Parliament on the subject of Tobacco Tax

Role of State Government

- State governments can write DO letters to Finance Minister and PMO
- State Tax commissioners can initiate proposals for tax increases with the Fitment committee of the GST Council

Role of Department of Economics

- Department of economics can conduct a mini study on the revenue and profits of a tax increase on tobacco
- Young aspiring economists can form Youth Forum on Sensible Tax / De-merit Goods Tax (Think Tank)

Learnings

- The tax policies adopted by the Government of India after Independence also favoured the beedi in comparison to cigarettes.
- The rate of growth of consumption of gutka has overtaken that of smoking forms of tobacco.
- The revision of the highest tax slab is vital to address the need to increase addictive goods including tobacco.
- Although the consumption of tobacco has declined in Himachal Pradesh the average age of initiation of Tobacco has dropped
- Beedi workers, NCD patients and tobacco dependent persons and “victims” are essential stakeholders in the process of tobacco use and availability control.



Himachal Pradesh Tobacco Tax Consultation



Follow Up Action

- Catalysing research for policy action
- Youth engagement and amplifying youth voices on tobacco tax and control.
- Creation of online/ offline dialogue and capacity-building opportunities like Youth Parliament.
- Civil Society and Youth organisations partnerships for a tobacco tax increase and Good Health a National Priority
- NYIN members and civil society will continue to persuade the Excise Tax Commissioner's office to expedite the movement of the proposal to the Fitment Committee of the GST Council.
- The Department of Health is ready to sign a Memorandum of Understanding to take the cause of tobacco control to build an effective partnership with Nada India.
- Health needs and concerns of Beedi workers, NCD patients and tobacco victims (Passive or second-hand smokers) will be voiced effectively through representation on social and traditional media.

Recommendations

Extensive evidence from across the world clearly shows that tax-induced price increases of cigarettes and other tobacco products are highly effective in curbing tobacco use, especially among young users.

GST is the biggest indirect tax reform in India's history and it needs to be evolved keeping in view its impact as a demerit tax.

Tobacco taxes should be adjusted with inflation, products are becoming increasingly affordable, especially among youth, adolescents and the poor population.

The group recommended that a specific compensation cess be applied on bidis at the rate of ₹.1 per stick

Remove companies engaged in tobacco business from the current GST exemption of ₹. 40L



Consultation on Youth voices & Tobacco Tax increase



The Shimla Declaration on Tobacco Tax increase was drafted during a key stakeholder roundtable consultation hosted on 7th September 2022 jointly by the Nada India Foundation and the Department of Economics Himachal Pradesh University Shimla on the topic "Tobacco Tax: Youth issues and Concerns"

The group urged the government to reduce smoking and tobacco use among young people and meet the budget deficits by increasing the tobacco tax on a priority basis. This Declaration is endorsed by key health organisations and the related actions seek to reduce serious harm caused by tobacco consumption in the country and state of Himachal Pradesh in particular considering that:

Key Asks

Making tobacco products more unaffordable and reducing their consumption and thereby minimising its huge economic burden,

Increasing the existing tax burden on tobacco products significantly and minimizing the discrepancy in taxation across different tobacco products,

Simplifying the tobacco tax structure by reducing the number of tax tiers and implementing stronger packing rules

Raising significant additional tax revenue

The Shimla Declaration on Tobacco Tax increase is endorsed and supported by:



Nada India Foundation



Directorate Health Services Himachal Pradesh



Department of Economics HPU Shimla



Helping hand Ngo



Nada Young India Network



Nobel Community Foundation



Umang Foundation



Campaign For Tobacco Free Kids



Youth For Wellbeing



Youvah Ngo

Nada India Foundation

Shimla Declaration



2022

- Catalyzing research for informing policy action
- Youth engagement and amplifying youth voices
Creation of online/ offline dialogue and capacity-building opportunities
- Strengthening the partnerships with Civil Society and Youth organizations' for tobacco tax increase and Good Health a National Priority

Consultation on Youth voices & Tobacco Tax increase



Annexure 1:

Programme Schedule

10:30 AM to 11:00 AM	Registration	Speaker	Mr.Sunny NYIN Convenor (Himachal)
11:00 AM to 11:15 AM	Welcome note	Mr. Mangal Singh, State Coordinator, HP	Priyanka Vohra NYIN
11:15 AM to 11:30 AM	Need for Tobacco tax and Taxes Asks : A national perspective	Mr. Narender Kumar, Principal Consultant, National Policy, Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids	Priyanka Vohra NYIN
11:30 AM- 12 noon	Economic burden of secondhand smoke exposure in India	Dr. Rijo M. John PhD, An Economist and Public Health Policy Analyst	Priyanka Vohra NYIN
12 noon -12:30PM	Tobacco Tax in Himachal Pradesh Concerns and Issues	Sh.Kulbhushan Gautam State Joint Tax Commissioner	Priyanka Vohra NYIN
Panel Discussion		1.Sh.Kulbhushan Gautam 2.Dr Rijo M John 3.Dr Manoj Sharma 4.Dr.Srivastav (Civil Society) 5.Dr Gopal Chauhan	Sh Narender Ji
12:30 PM -1:00 PM	Socio-economic impact of tobacco use in Himachal Pradesh	Dr. Gopal Chauhan, State Program Officer NCDs at Directorate of Health Services Shimla	Priyanka Vohra NYIN
1:00 PM- 1:30 PM	New Youth voices on Tobacco tax	NYIN member & CSO,	Suneel Vatsyayan
1.30 PM -2:00 PM	Lunch		
2:00 PM- 2:30 PM	Tobacco & Economy	Dr. Manoj Sharma, Chairperson Economic Department	Priyanka Vohra NYIN
2:30 PM-3.00 PM	Way forward Shimla Declaration	Prof. (Dr.)Nirjana Negi Department of Economics HPU & Suneel Vatsyayan	Priyanka Vohra NYIN
3:00 PM onwards	Closing Ceremony	Suneel Vatsyayan, Chairperson, Nada India	Mr. Mangal Singh, State Coordinator, HP

Program Schedule: Discuss, Recommend & Act

- Department of Economics, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla and Nada India Foundation
- Venue: Conference Hall, Law Department, Himachal Pradesh University Summer Hill, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh 171005
- Date: September 2022, Time: 11am - 3pm

Consultation on Youth voices & Tobacco Tax increase

Annexure 2: Participants

1	Mr. Akshay Sharma	Media Coordinator, Nada India Foundation
2	Mr. Akshilesh Verma	Deputy commissioner Tax and Excise Department Shimla
3	Mr. Chetan Kumar	PhD Scholar, HPU
4	Ms. Diksha Nanda	NYIN Member
5	Dr Gopal Chauhan	State Program Officer NCDs at Directorate of Health Services Shimla
6	Mr. Gourav Dutt	PhD Scholar, HPU
7	Shri Kulbhushan Gautam	Joint Tax Commissioner, H.P. Govt.
8	Ms. Khushi Joshi	NYIN Member
9	Dr. Mamta Mokta	Dean of social sciences, HPU
10	Mr. Mangal Singh	State co-ordinator Nada India Foundation Himachal Pradesh
11	Mr. Manoj Sharma	Chairperson, Economics Department, HPU
12	Ms. Nancy Attal	NYIN Member
13	Mr Narendra Kumar	Principal Consultant
14	Ms. Pallavi Vatsyayan	Director Nada India Foundation
15	Ms. Priyanka	NYIN Member
16	Mr. Punit	PhD Scholar, HPU
17	Dr. Rakesh	Associate Professor
18	Ms. Reena Dogra	Assistant Professor
19	Mr. Rijo M. Jhon	Public health analyst
20	Ms. Rita	NYIN Member
21	Mr. Ritesh Singh	PhD Scholar, HPU
22	Dr. Sanjeev Kumar	Associate Professor
23	Dr. Sapna Sharma	Assistant Professor
24	Mr. Santosh	PhD Scholar, HPU
25	Mr. Sateesh Kumar	PhD Scholar, HPU
26	Ms. Shivani Katoch	PhD Scholar, HPU
27	Mr. Singh	PhD Scholar, HPU
28	Mr. Suneel Vatsyayan	Chairperson, Nada India Foundation
29	Mr. Sunny Kumar	NYIN Convenor Himachal Pradesh
30	Ms. Tanuj Sharma	Assistant Professor HPU
31	Dr. T.S. Kapoor	Associate Professor HPU
32	Mr. Vinod Kumar	Media (Danik Jagran)
33	Mr. Vipul Singh	PhD Scholar, HPU
34	Ms. Yogmaya	PhD Scholar, HPU

Participants

Consultation on Youth voices & Tobacco Tax increase



Annexure 3:

News Coverage

तंबाकू उत्पादों पर की जाए टैक्स की बढ़ौतरी : सखी

चम्बा, 12 सितम्बर (सखी) : भारत-तंबाकू आर्थात्मिक उत्पादों का दूसरा सबसे बड़ा उपभोक्ता और उत्पादक देश है। तंबाकू का सेवन कैंसर, फेफड़ों की बीमारियों और हृदय रोगों स्थित स्वास्थगत बीमारियों के मुख्य कारकों में से एक है। भारत न केवल सबसे बड़े तंबाकू उत्पादक देशों में से एक है, बल्कि विश्व में तंबाकू के सेवन से होने वाली मृतियों के 1/6वें हिस्से



सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता सखी सूर्यवंशी ने कहा। उन्होंने बताया कि विश्वोत्तर में तंबाकू के सेवन का स्तर लगातार बढ़ता जा रहा है और भारत को वर्तमान तंबाकू नोबि में 'कई विश्वसिद्धि' भी देना जा रही हैं। ऐसे में हमें एक बेहतर एवं तमाम समस्याओं को संज्ञान में लेने वाली तंबाकू नीति के निर्माण को जरूरत है। सरकारों द्वारा समय-समय पर

पारित किया था। इस कारण को सिगरेट और अन्य तंबाकू उत्पाद अधिनियम का नाम दिया गया। लेकिन अब भी तंबाकू खूबे आम बिक रहा है। तंबाकू सेवन के कारण चिकित्सा खर्च में वृद्धि होती है और फेल्सु आम में कर्म आती है, जिससे गरिबी बढ़ती है। उन्हें पीछे के इस्तेमाल में लाने में पहले इसमें लगाए कर्तों में अत्यधिक वृद्धि की जाए, ताकि निम्न वर्गी (निधर, मजदूर, असह्य) के लोग इसकी अवस्था से खराद न जाए।

तंबाकू पर वर्कशाप आयोजित

शिमला। तम्बाकू के सेवन प्रति सरकार और युवाओं को सजगता प्रदान करने की दिशा में बुधवार को हिमाचल प्रदेश युनिवर्सिटी स्थित डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ इकोनॉमिक्स और नाडा इंडिया फाउंडेशन के सहयोग से टबैको टैक्स यूथ इश्यूज एंड कनसर्न पर एक दिवसीय कंसल्टेशन वर्कशाप का आयोजन किया गया। इसमें स्टेट टैक्स के अधिकारी, अर्थशास्त्री, स्वयंसेवी संगठनों, युनिवर्सिटी के प्रोफेसर व छात्रों ने भाग लेकर तंबाकू से जुड़े आर्थिक पहलुओं और धूम्रपान संबंधी विषयों पर गहन चर्चा हुई। तंबाकू से कैंसर, फेफड़े, कार्डियोवास्कूलर स्ट्रोक संबंधी कई बीमारियों के चलते देश में लगभग साढ़े 13 लाख जानें चली जाती हैं। आंकड़े शोध भी चिंताजनक तब हो जाते हैं जब रात आठवाटी

एचपीयू में से 'टोबैको टैक्स- यूथ इश्यूज एंड कनसर्न' पर एक दिवसीय कंसल्टेशन वर्कशाप का आयोजन



शिमला, तम्बाकू के सेवन प्रति सरकार और युवाओं को सजगता प्रदान करने की दिशा में बुधवार को हिमाचल प्रदेश युनिवर्सिटी (एचपीयू) स्थित डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ इकोनॉमिक्स और नाडा इंडिया फाउंडेशन के सहयोग से 'टोबैको टैक्स- यूथ इश्यूज एंड कनसर्न' पर एक दिवसीय कंसल्टेशन वर्कशाप का आयोजन किया गया। वर्कशाप के आयोजक नाडा इंडिया के संयोजक सुनील वात्सायन ने बताया कि इस वर्कशाप का आयोजन इस उद्देश्य से किया गया था कि देश में तंबाकू के आर्थिक पहलुओं के साथ साथ आमंत्रित टैक्स विभाग के

अधिकारियों, बुद्धिजीवियों, अर्थशास्त्रियों और युवाओं के साथ क्लिफायती हो रहे तंबाकू सामग्रियों के घातक परिणामों पर चिंतन मंथन किया जा सके। विशेषज्ञों के मत को मजबूती देते हुये नाडा यूथ इंडिया नेटवर्क ने अर्थशास्त्रियों के टैक्स तर्क के साथ राज्य सरकार और केंद्र के जीएसटी कौंसिल के समक्ष सिफारिशें रखी है कि वे राज्य में सभी तंबाकू उत्पादों में कंपनसेशन सैस में ईजाफा करें जिससे उन्हें दो लाभ होंगे। कोविड के दौरान राजस्व में हुये घाटे की भरपाई के साथ साथ बच्चों और युवाओं को इससे दूर रखा जा सकेगा।

प्रदेश में तंबाकू उत्पाद महंगे कर राजस्व को दें मजबूती, युवाओं की पहुंच से बनाये दूर : विशेषज्ञ

शिमला/टीम एक्शन इंडिया तम्बाकू के सेवन प्रति सरकार और युवाओं को सजगता प्रदान करने की दिशा में बुधवार को हिमाचल प्रदेश युनिवर्सिटी (एचपीयू) स्थित डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ इकोनॉमिक्स और नाडा इंडिया फाउंडेशन के सहयोग से टोबैको



संबंधी विषयों पर गहन चर्चा हुई। अर्थशास्त्रियों और युवाओं ने

नाडा इंडिया का अनुरोध सिगरेट और बीड़ी की जाये मंहगी

अर्थशास्त्री/टीम एक्शन इंडिया



और टोबैको उत्पादों को महंगे कर अक्षर ही इस्तेमाल न होने देना है। ईजाफा पर हान हो के सेवन से घटा घटा है कि लत घटा घटाने में सिगरेट, बीड़ी और स्मोकलेस टोबैको विकल्पों को बढ़ावा देना है। अक्षर पर एक घण्टा का वक्त दिया कि जीएसटी में सिगरेट और स्मोकलेस टोबैको को बढ़ावा प्रदान कर वक्त दिया है जबकि बीड़ी को सखी को कम करने के लिए कुछ नती निकाला गया। अक्षरों ने कहा कि 2017-18 में सभी तंबाकू उत्पादों को वर्कशॉप अधिनियम 1772,34 करों बढ़ाए का अक्षरों ने जो कि भारत के

नाडा इंडिया का अनुरोध-सिगरेट और बीड़ी की जाए मंहगी

चंडीगढ़, 26 जून (पाल) : नाडा यंग इंडिया नेटवर्क ने चंडीगढ़ में 28 और 29 जून को आयोजित होने वाली जी.एस.टी. कौंसिल की बैठक से पूर्व तंबाकू और तंबाकू संबंधित उत्पादों पर कोपेनेशंसन सैस में ईजाफा करने की मांग की है। इस पहल से सरकार को

कोरोना महामारी से उत्पन्न संकट में हुए नुकसान की भरपाई को पूरा करने के साथ-साथ देश के हैल्थ इंफ्रस्ट्रक्चर में सुधार कर युवाओं के लिए एक सुरक्षित और हैल्थी वातावरण बना सके। इटर्नैशनल-डे एगेंस्ट ड्रग्स एब्जुज एंड

ड्रग्स फेक्टर्स टू सेव लाइव्स' नामक वैबिनार में नशे के खिलाफ जुटे संगठनों ने इस आह्वान के माध्यम से सरकार से गुहार लगाते हुए तर्क दिया है कि तंबाकू और इसमें संबंधित उत्पादों पर अतिरिक्त कर लगाकर महंगा करने से लोगों की पहुंच दूर हो सकता है, जिससे एक सेहतमंद

नाडा इंडिया फाउंडेशन के चेयरमैन सुनील वात्सायन के अनुसार 'ट्रेड्स इन एफोर्टिबिलिटी ऑफ टोबैको प्रोडक्ट्स बीफोर एंड आफ्टर दी ट्रांजिशन टू जी.एस.टी. इन इंडिया' पर हाल ही के शोध से पता चला है कि गत पांच सालों में सिगरेट, बीड़ी और स्मोकलेस टोबैको

Consultation on Youth voices & Tobacco Tax increase



Annexure 4:

Media Coverage

Fact Sheet

- According to the MOHFW Achievement of NCDs by reducing the consumption or intake of tobacco by 30% till 2025
- MOHFW recommends Ministry of Finance, High cess should be imposed on all tobacco products
- Tobacco use increases the risk for severe COVID-19 infection, complications, and death. A 10% price increase reduces tobacco consumption by 5% in low- and middle-income countries
- In its 'Strategy for New India @75' document released earlier, NITI Aayog, the Think Tank of India, has suggested measures to hike taxes on tobacco.

Online Platforms

You Tube

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=90ja4QLFbaU>
2. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_ofDunRjk0g
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BamXhCWVdTO>

Online News

1. <https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/himachal/workshop-on-tobacco-tax-at-himachal-pradesh-university-430217>
2. <https://www.punjabijagran.com/punjab/chandigarh-gst-council-meet-nada-indias-demand-ahead-of-meeting-in-chandigarh-cigarettes-and-beedis-to-be-made-more-expensive-9094547.html>

Chandigarh Declaration 2021

1. <https://youthforwellbeing.org/resources>
2. <https://youthforwellbeing.org/young-india-haryana/f/youth-engagement-for-tobacco-tax-increase-a-win-win-policy>

Twitter

1. <https://twitter.com/NadaPehchaan/status/1567788737232519169>
2. <https://twitter.com/NadaPehchaan/status/1567882301648011264>
3. <https://twitter.com/NadaPehchaan/status/1569319142083235846>
4. <https://twitter.com/NadaPehchaan/status/1565202262074413062>

Instagram

1. <https://www.instagram.com/p/CiPCpsGhXeR/>
2. <https://www.instagram.com/p/CiPGG5pBcgP/>
3. https://www.instagram.com/p/CiX1jn_hlNp/
4. <https://www.instagram.com/p/CiXe727vQaC/>

Social Media

- 4300+ Impressions
- 2260+ Accounts Reached

#Youth4TobaccofreeIndia
#TobaccofreeIndia

तंबाकू पर वकशाप आयोजित

शिमला। तंबाकू के सेवन प्रति सरकार और युवाओं को सज्जता प्रदान करने की दिशा में बुधवार को हिमाचल प्रदेश युनिवर्सिटी ऑफ इंफॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी और नास इंडिया फंडेशन के सहयोग से टैको टैक्स यूज इंस्ट्रुज एंड कन्सर्न पर एक दिवसीय कंसल्टेशन वर्कशॉप का आयोजन किया गया। इसमें स्टेट टैक्स के अधिकारी, अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवी संगठनों युनिवर्सिटी के प्रोफेसर व छात्रों ने भाग लेकर तंबाकू से जुड़े आर्थिक पहलुओं और धूम्रपान संबंधी विषयों पर गहन चर्चा हुई। तंबाकू से केसर, फेफड़े, कार्टिनोमास्कूलर स्ट्रोक्स संबंधी कई बीमारियों के चलते देश में

Consultation workshop on 'Tobacco Tax: Y issues and Concerns' organized by HPI



Consultation on Youth voices & Tobacco Tax increase

Annexure 5:

Economic Burden of Tobacco in India: Excerpt from Dr Rijo M John Presentation

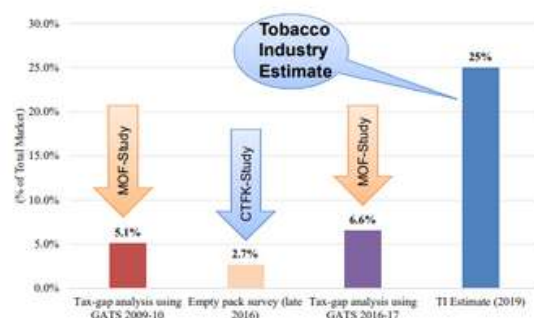
- Tobacco users – 200 million smokeless users and 100 million smokers. 8.5% of children 13–15 yo use tobacco
- A major risk factor for the main non-communicable diseases (NCDs) –
- Cancer, Cardiovascular Disease, Diabetes, and Chronic Lung Disease.
- Economic burden from bidi smoking alone for the age group 30–69 is estimated at ₹805.5 billion for the year 2017
- The average annual tax revenue from all tobacco products (based on the past 3 years), including excise duty, NCCD, GST, and compensation cess, is about ₹537.5 billion
- Affordability is a major determinant for initiation among youths ↑ Taxes ↑ Prices ↓ Affordability? ↓ Consumption
- India has experienced an average annual growth of about 4.8% in per-capita gross domestic product (GDP) over the past 10 year

Current Tax structure (FY 2021-22)

	GST	NCCD	Compensation Cess		Excise Tax (2019-20)
			Specific	Ad Valorem	
Cigarettes					
Non-Filter <65	28%	200	2076	5%	5
Non-Filter 65-70	28%	250	3668	5%	5
Filter <65	28%	440	2076	5%	5
Filter 65-70	28%	440	2747	5%	5
Filter 70-75	28%	545	3668	5%	5
Filter 75-85	28%	735	4170	36%	10
Other	28%	735	4170	36%	10
Bidis	28%	1.02	0	0	0.05
Smokeless Tobacco	28%	25%	0	104%	0.5%

Total tax burden (taxes as % of retail price) is only 52.7% for cigarettes, 22% for bidis and 63.8% for smokeless tobacco

Size of India's illicit Cigarette market



Sources:
 • Goodchild M, Valavan T, Sirha P, Tulu FT. Estimating illicit cigarette consumption using a tax-gap approach, India. Bull World Health Organ. 2020;98(10):645-724.
 • John RM, Ross H. Illicit cigarette sales in Indian cities: findings from a retail survey. Tob Control. 2018;27(6):684-688.
 • TI Online. "Sharp growth in illegal cigarette trade in India due to excessive taxation and extreme regulation on cigarettes", March 2021, The Tobacco Institute of India, New Delhi.

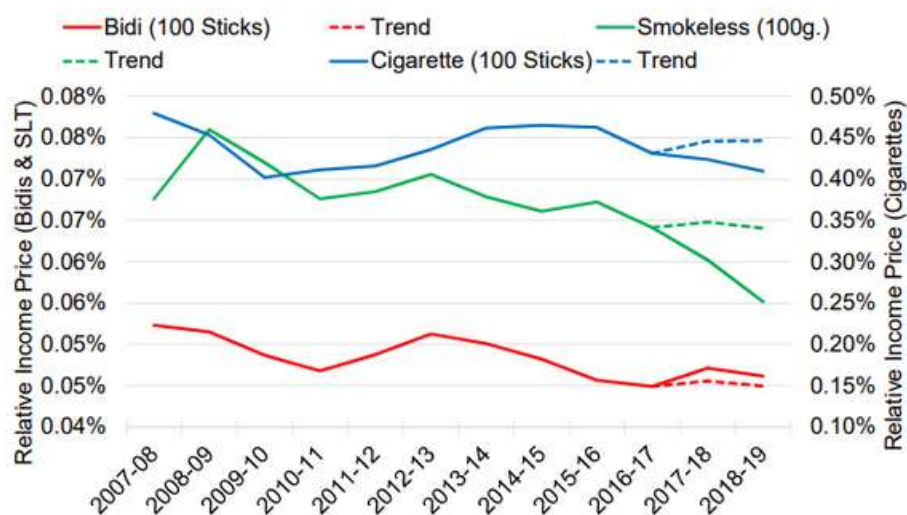
WHO-FCTC Article 6 Guidelines

- All tobacco products should be taxed in a comparable way as appropriate, in particular where the risk of substitution exists."
- "Tax rates should be monitored, increased or adjusted on a regular basis, potentially annually, taking into account inflation and income growth developments in order to reduce consumption of tobacco products. Parties have the sovereign right to determine the level of tax rates to apply.
- The WHO recommends taxes should account for at least 75% of the retail prices of tobacco products

Consultation on Youth voices & Tobacco Tax increase

Annexure 5.1

Affordability of tobacco products in India



Source: John, RM & Dauchy, EP Impact of the GST on the affordability of tobacco products in India. Tobacco Control (2020)

19

Myths on tobacco illicit trade in India

- “Illegal Cigarette trade accounts for as much as 1/4th of the Cigarette Industry in India”
- “The illicit cigarette volume has grown by 44% from 2011 to 2019” and “excessive and skewed cigarette taxation promotes illegal cigarette trade”
- “Extremely high and constantly increasing tax rates on Cigarettes provide a profitable opportunity for tax evasion thereby encouraging growth in illegal trade”
- Industry makes these outlandish claims without the help of any scientifically peer reviewed studies

Global evidence on illicit trade

Unlike what the TI claims, the literature shows:

- Tax increases only have a minimal impact, if at all, on illicit trade
- Weak tax administration and geographic factors play a larger role in determining illicit trade.
- 125 billion out of 400 billion bidi sticks consumed annually in India are tax exempt and many could be deliberate tax avoidance despite bidis having an extremely low tax rate
- India has ratified the WHO Protocol and it should implement measures to effectively address even the relatively lower levels of illicit trade in the country

“Ever since I have been grown up, I have never desired to smoke and have always regarded the habit of smoking as barbarous, dirty and harmful. I have never understood why there is such a rage for smoking throughout the world. I cannot bear to travel in a compartment full of people smoking. I become choked.”

**Mahatma Gandhi
THE STORY OF MY EXPERIMENTS WITH TRUTH
PART 1, CHAPTER VIII**

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Designed by Mr.Akshay Sharma Nada Media coordinator**