WHO FCTC Global Knowledge Hub on Smokeless Tobacco

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www.untobaccocontrol.org/kh/smokeless-tobacco/
Global burden of Smokeless Tobacco (SLT)

- Nearly 95% of Global SLT users are in top 23 high-burden countries
- Nearly 80% of Global SLT users are in SEAR
- Nearly 67% of Global SLT users reside in India
Inauguration of the Global Knowledge Hub on Smokeless Tobacco at NICPR - 6th April, 2016
Mandate

- Generate and share expertise, information and knowledge.
- Assist Parties of the WHO FCTC in the area of SLT control.
- Policy oriented additional project.
Website (http://untobaccocontrol.org/kh/smokeless-tobacco/)

WHO FCTC Global Knowledge Hub On Smokeless Tobacco

ICMR - National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research in India is the designated WHO FCTC Secretariat's Knowledge Hub for problems related to smokeless tobacco use. This website provides information on negative health effects attributed to smokeless tobacco use, data and statistics on smokeless tobacco and policy recommendations to regulate and control smokeless tobacco use.
Publications so far.. (2016-17)


- Sinha DN, Gupta PC, Kumar A, Bhartiya D, Agarwal N, Sharma S, Singh H, Parascandola M, Mehrotra R. The Poorest of Poor Suffer the Greatest Burden from Smokeless Tobacco Use: Study from 140 countries. Accepted in Nicotine Tob Res


Inter-Country Meeting on Smokeless Tobacco Policy Control
Inter-Country Meeting on Smokeless Tobacco Policy Control
Definition of Smokeless Tobacco

One of the biggest challenges in regulation of Smokeless Tobacco (SLT) products with respect to various FCTC provisions is the way it has been defined by the Parties under tobacco control or other laws.

Of the 179 Parties, 135 (76%) Parties have defined the term 'SLT product' in their domestic legislation in several different and unique ways:

- **Express definition**
  One hundred and twelve Parties either clearly included SLT under the term ‘tobacco product’ or have exclusively defined SLT products and/or the manner in which SLT products are used - Chewing, Snuff, Sniffing, Euri, Sucking, Inhalation, Inhaling, Smelling, Dipping, Oral use, Nasal, Nasal use, Smokeless tobacco (Fig. 1).

- **General definition**
  Thirteen Parties have made a general definition as follows (Fig. 1):
  - Tobacco product, that is wholly/ entirely or partly/partially made of tobacco/tobacco plant/tobacco leaf/ tobacco extract; OR
  - Any product containing tobacco and intended for human consumption in any manner; OR
  - Tobacco product used in “any other way”, “any manner” or “any form” other than cigarettes/cigar/smoking.

- **Obscure definition**
  Ten Parties have not very clearly defined SLT products under the definition of ‘tobacco products’ or while referring to SLT in their laws (Fig. 1).

- **No definition**
  Forty-Four Parties have either not defined SLT or did not provide any definition of tobacco products including 13 Parties whose laws are not available in English language limiting and analysis (Fig. 1).

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**Factsheet**

Article 6 of the WHO FCTC requires Parties to implement tax policies on tobacco products (including smokeless tobacco products) so as to contribute to the health objectives aimed at reducing tobacco consumption.

Smokeless tobacco (SLT) consists of a wide range of heterogeneous products which are manufactured and sold, in a variety of forms making it difficult to establish a standardized unit for the purposes of pricing or taxing. Price and tax measures on these products are often conflicting and it is important to provide more clarity on this so that tax policies on SLTs can be made more effective.

- **Taxes on SLTs are imposed either as ad valorem or specific by Parties.**
- **In several Parties, there is a federal level excise tax and a state level sales or value added tax.**

  Tax on SLTs varies considerably across Parties, from 0% (i.e. no tax of any kind on SLTs) to 72.4% in Sweden. Similarly, there is larger variation in prices of SLTs across Parties and within Parties across products.

  Although there is no discernible pattern in tax incidence across Parties income group, the retail prices (PPP dollars), were lower for SLT products in low- and lower-middle-income Parties and higher in high-income Parties, on average. This could be explained by the relatively high prevalence of SLT use in LDCs and LAMICs.

- Nineteen out of the 32 Parties reviewed had unit prices of SLTs at least two PPP dollars lower than that of cigarettes (Fig. 1).
- Available estimates show that the price elasticities for various SLTs are largely negative and less than one. Because of this, taxation can be used as an effective tool not only to decrease consumption of SLTs, but also to increase tax revenue.
- Empirical evidence from both India and Bangladesh suggests that high taxation has reduced SLT use in the general adult population.
- Available estimates on affordability of SLTs indicate that these products have become more affordable in India while the affordability has remained the same in Bangladesh over the years.
- The compounded levy system followed in India to tax SLTs have been found quite effective after incorporating speed of packing machines into the deemed production and tax on SLT products and could be emulated in similar settings elsewhere in the world.

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Available on: http://untobaccocontrol.org/kh/smokeless-tobacco/
तंबाकू रोजाना लील रहा सादे तौन हजार जिंदगी

बच्चों में बढ़ती तंबाकू की लत के प्रति जताई चिंता

मुख केंसर से देश में हर चौथे मिनट एक मौत

देश में छह फीसद घटे तंबाकू के उपभोक्ता
चबाने वाले तंबाकू के अवैध व्यापार पर चाबुक

बॉर्ड नॉलेज हब ऑन एसएलटी ने किया दावा

चबाने वाले तंबाकू की गिरफ्त में 70 नहीं, दुनिया के 133 देश

बॉर्ड नॉलेज हब ऑन एसएलटी (एसएलटी) ने नई दिल्ली में अपनी शाखा में लगाया दावा कि तंबाकू के अवैध व्यापार पर चाबुक का प्रमाण लगाया जा रहा है।

शासन के अवैध तंबाकू व्यापार को लेकर यह दावा किया गया है कि तंबाकू के अवैध व्यापार की गिरफ्त में तीन दिन के दौरान 70 हज़ार लोग नियंत्रण में नियंत्रण लाया गया है।

बॉर्ड नॉलेज हब ऑन एसएलटी (एसएलटी) के संस्थापक राजेंद्र गुप्ता का बयान है कि तंबाकू के अवैध व्यापार को नियंत्रण में लाने के लिए नए योजनाएं बनाए जा रही हैं।

कुछ दिन तक से तंबाकू के अवैध व्यापार को नियंत्रण में लाने के लिए नए योजनाएं बनाए जा रही हैं।

तंबाकू नियंत्रण में भारत वर्ल्ड लीडर

भारत द्वारा उदाहरण का कदम करने के लिए राजस्थान में एक तंबाकू कंट्रोल केंद्र की चालू गई है।

प्राक्तन एच.ई.एस. बिल्लू, संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के दौरान तंबाकू के अवैध व्यापार पर चाबुक का प्रमाण लगाया जा रहा है।

तंबाकू के अवैध व्यापार के लड़के अर्थशास्त्र के अवैध व्यापार पर चाबुक का प्रमाण लगाया जा रहा है।

एक दिन में 500 हज़ार लोग नियंत्रण में लाए गए हैं।
Research Work
Submitted Papers

- Smokeless tobacco use attributable oral cancer: A Systematic global review and Meta-analysis: Nicotine Tobacco Research
- Systematic review and Meta-analysis of the association between smokeless tobacco use and coronary heart disease: A Global Perspective- Nicotine Tobacco Research
- Rising face of Risk Factors of Non-Communicable Diseases: Findings from the Myanmar STEPS Surveys (2009 and 2014)
Ongoing Research

- Global progress on policies pertaining to health warnings on tobacco products as per Article 11 of WHO FCTC.
- Evaluation of global policies as per Article 12 of WHO FCTC: A global analysis
- Global progress on policies pertaining to prohibition of sale of tobacco products to minors
- Evaluation of global policies as per Article 13 of WHO FCTC: A global analysis
- Future avenues of Oral cancer biomarkers through RNA-Seq technology
- Global review on policy implementation status in Smokeless tobacco control
- SLTChemDB: Database of Chemical Constituents of Smokeless Tobacco Products
- Implementation of Article 20 of FCTC
Collaborative Ideas
Objectives:

- Evaluate and strengthen domestic policies on SLT taxation in the region
- Evaluate and strengthen the national level policies on ban on TAPS in SEAR
- Encourage Parties to implement larger and stronger health warnings (HWs)
- Collect, compile and create evidence on SLT taxation, HWs and TAPS ban of SLT products in SEAR
- Capacity building.
Creating a repository for SLT relevant Health Warning

- The current repository is for cigarette packages, SLT specific warnings are yet to be collated.

- Purpose: it will serve as a database for Parties to share and implement in their jurisdictions
Parallel to second-hand smoke, the harmful effect of smokeless tobacco is assumed to be spread by spitting in public places.

However, lack of evidence gives us no clear picture.

Need for further research in this area
Some Parties are practicing effective media campaigns against smokeless tobacco use.

Such campaigns need to be highlighted and their outcomes to be shared in an inventory for Parties’ reference and support.
Global webinars related to SLT policy

- Capacity building
- Training of health professionals
- Interaction among stakeholders and other knowledge hubs for research
- Standard Operating procedures (SOPs) for testing and analysis of Tobacco products are presently focused on smoked products.

- Such reference manuals, relevant to Smokeless products, are need of the hour.