

Measures to curb tobacco use among women and children

Tobacco use among women declines from 20.3% to 14.2%: GATS Surveys

Use of tobacco among school children aged 13–15 drops from 14.6% to 8.5%: Global Youth Tobacco Survey

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As per the Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS) -I (2009-10) and GATS-2 (2016-17) conducted among age group of 15 years and above there is a decline in tobacco use among women from 20.3% to 14.2%. Further, Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) conducted for school-going children of age group 13-15 years reported a decline in tobacco use from 14.6% (GYTS-3, 2009) to 8.5% (GYTS-4, 2019).

The measures taken by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to reduce tobacco consumption are:

- A comprehensive legislation, namely the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA 2003) has been enacted to regulate the tobacco products and to discourage the consumption of tobacco. The provisions under COTPA, 2003 and the Rules made thereunder prohibit smoking in public places, ban on sale of tobacco products to and by minors, sale of tobacco products within a radius of 100 yards of educational institutions, prohibition on direct and indirect advertising of tobacco products and mandatory display of specified health warnings on all tobacco product packs.
- The National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) was launched in 2007 with the aim to discourage the use of tobacco, create awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption through regular and sustained public awareness campaigns and ensure effective implementation of the provisions under COTPA 2003. As part of these awareness efforts, MoH&FW also launches a 60-day annual Tobacco Free Youth Campaign to educate young people about the dangers of tobacco and empower them to resist or quit its use.
- The Government has enforced a complete ban on electronic cigarettes including heat-not burn products under “The Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Act, 2019.

The Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Shri Prataprao Jadhav stated this in a written

reply in the Rajya Sabha today.

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