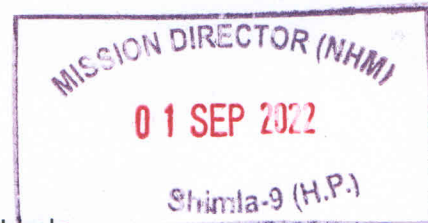


I/153501/2022

**Proceedings of the meeting of the "State Level Coordination and Monitoring Committee"-SLCC for Tobacco Control held on 18.8.2022 under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary (Health) to the Govt. of HP in the Committee room at HP Secretariat Shimla -2**

The following were present in the meeting

1. Dr Anita Mahajan Director Health Services HP
2. Dr Rajneesh Pathania Director Medical Education HP
3. Dr Gopal Beri Dy MDNHM HP
4. Ms Shristi Pandey SP L&O Police HQs Shimla
5. Mr Milap Shandil Dy Dir Food and Civil Supplies HP
6. Dr Divesh Sharma AP Department of Psychiatry IGMC Shimla
7. Dr Alka Gupta OSD DHSR
8. Dr Gaurav Sethi State Team Lead MAMTA NGO HP
9. Dr Vinod Kumar PO HPVHA Shimla
10. Dr Gopal Chauhan SPO NCD/NTCP NHM HP



At the outset the Dy MDNHM welcomed the Chairman and all the participants in the meeting. He reiterated that this meeting was pending for a long time and could not be held on specified intervals due to COVID pandemic.

Dr Gopal Chauhan SPO started the proceedings as per the agenda. The ATR on each point of the previous meeting was discussed in details with valuable inputs from all the participants. After detailed deliberations the following decisions have been taken in the meeting:

1. **Study on assessment of impact of Tobacco control on Tobacco related diseases in HP:** A study shall be conducted in the state to see the proportionate reduction in Tobacco related diseases to ascertain the impact of Tobacco control in the State . The funds for such study are already approved in the PIP under NHM. The study can be conducted in collaboration with IGMC Shimla or Dr RPGMC Tanda . The study shall also include the yearly trends of sale and use of tobacco in HP after introduction of GST. The data shall be collected from the Department of Excise and Taxation for this purpose and analyzed accordingly
2. **Orientation workshops at District level under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioners:** Sensitization workshops shall be held in all Districts under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner with all key stakeholders to prepare a roadmap /plan for ensuring effective Tobacco control with suggestive agenda from the State level. The DO shall be sent from the Pr. Secretary Health to all DCs in this regard
3. **Activation of flying squads for effective enforcement of COTPA 2003 :** The DHSR shall activate the District and Block level flying squads for search and seizures to ensure effective enforcement of the provisions of the COTPA 2003 and compile the monthly report in this regard and share the progress report with the SLCC
4. **Strengthening of Tobacco Cessation services at IGMC Shimla :** HOD Psychiatry IGMC Shimla shall submit a proposal to strengthen the De addiction/Tobacco cessation facilities at IGMC. The proposal shall be examined at NHM level and processed for further approvals

*SPO NTCP*

I/153501/2022

5. **Optimum utilization of Toll Free Helpline 104 for Tobacco cessation services:** The Toll Free helpline -104 shall be optimally utilized for Tobacco cessation services and for this, the capacity building measures shall be strengthened. However wide publicity shall be ensured about the Tobacco cessation services through the State specific Toll Free Helpline 104 and National Tobacco quit line number 1800112356. The 104 helpline shall ensure the follow up of each tobacco user till quitting and also ensure effective TB Tobacco collaboration by follow up of each TB patient with tobacco use and submit the monthly progress report to NHM
6. **Addition of more members in the State and District level Committees :**It has been decided to Include DHSR, Director Higher & Elementary Education, Director Panchayati Raj, Director AYUSH Department, HOD PSM Dr RPGMC Tanda and representative of MAMTA NGO in HP as member of this committee for better representation and effective implementation of the Tobacco Control activities up to grass root levels . The draft of the re-constitution of the State level Committee shall be submitted by the member Secretary for approval. Similarly all the Deputy Commissioners cum Chairman may add more members in the District level Coordination and Monitoring Committee /DLCC for ensuring effective Tobacco control
7. **To make model Tobacco Free Institutes:** The DCs must select few offices to be made as Model Tobacco Free before replication. The Tobacco control agenda shall be discussed in all District ,Block and Panchayat level meetings and ATR be ensured
8. **Effective implementations of Tobacco Free Educational Institute guidelines:** In order to protect school children from Tobacco use the Tobacco Free Educational Institute notification dated 20.7.2020 and guidelines issued there under shall be implemented in letter and spirit in a mission mode as topmost priority. All the DCs shall monitor the progress and submit the progress report to the SLCC on monthly basis
9. **Implementation of the Tobacco Free Panchayat Scheme:** The budget announcement regarding Tobacco Free Panchayats scheme shall be implemented and the protocol prepared at NHM level shall be shared with RD department by sending a DO from Pr Secretary Health to the Pr Secretary RD Department. At least one Panchayat in each RD /Health Block shall be identified and made Tobacco Free before 31.3.2023 .The MAMTA NGO and HPVHA shall be involved in this process and possibilities of funding support shall be explored from NHM
10. **Implementation of the Tobacco vendor licensing act 2016 :** DHSR shall ensure the effective implementation of the Tobacco vendor licensing Act 2016 as an effective supply reduction measure for Tobacco control. The licensing of the vendors shall start immediately and not later than September 2022
11. **Use of social media for awareness generation :** The social media platforms shall be used for IEC activities to aware people about the harms of Tobacco use through Director Public Relations and NHM by all possible means including audiovisuals aids
12. **To curtail the Hooka bars and indirect advertisement of Tobacco products :** It was deliberated that the rising number of Hooka bars, indirect advertisement, promotion and sponsorship of Tobacco products is a matter

I/153501/2022

of concern throughout the State (mainly in MC areas, District Head quarters and large towns). As a result of this, the teenagers and youth are falling prey to such activities and are attracted for tobacco use and finally landing in drug addiction. Such issue need to be tackled through awareness notices, media sensitization and finally through enforcement. In case there is a need, the cases shall be booked under Section 5 of COTPA which deals with direct or indirect advertisement, promotion and sponsorship of tobacco products. All the DCs and Commissioners MCs shall monitor all such activities closely and take appropriate actions as per the prevailing laws and regulations to address such issues. The awareness shall be spread up to all MC and Gram Panchayat wards levels about such issues. The Department of tourism shall adhere to the provisions of COTPA 2003 in all establishments

13. **Identification of Champions for effective IEC** : The champions ( ex smokers and cancer survivors) shall be identified by the CMOs for awareness generation about harms of tobacco use at all levels
14. **Deposit and use of funds collected as fine under COTPA enforcement** : The deposit of fine under COTPA enforcement and its utilization shall be continued as per the existing practices and policy decisions taken thereof, however proper audit of funds shall be ensured at all levels
15. **Health promotion policy in the State** : The draft of the Health promotion policy shall be circulated to all the members for inputs before submission for approval

In conclusion, the Chairman requested all the members and key stakeholders to take all necessary steps to reduce the Tobacco use prevalence among adults in HP from existing 12% to below 10% by 2025 and below 5% by 2030 as per the SDGs commitments. He advised to hold the meetings regularly in future. He acclaimed the Tobacco Control efforts in the State to demonstrate substantial reduction in Tobacco use as per GATS-2 & latest GYTS reports. He suggested to strengthen the Tobacco control activities which were slowed down in the state due to certain reasons including COVID. He advised that a concrete strategy shall be prepared and implemented to ensure effective Tobacco control to reduce the Tobacco related diseases with special focus on protection of youth from Tobacco use.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to and from the chair

  
Principal Secretary (Health)  
Cum Chairman SLCC  
(Tobacco Control)