Progress in Tobacco control

Why in News?

\n\n

WHO has recently released its Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic, 2017 - Monitoring Tobacco Use and Prevention Policies.

\n\n

What are the highlights of the report?

\n\n

\n
- The report tracks the progress between two rounds of the Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS) in 2009-10 and 2016-17.
\n
- More than half of the top national performers on tobacco control are **low- and middle-income countries,** showing that progress is possible regardless of economic situation.
\n
- India, Bangladesh and Bhutan are on top of the list of South East Asian countries in terms of positive outcome of tobacco control.
\n
- The prevalence of tobacco use in **India** has fallen from 34.1% to 28.6% from GATS-1 to GATS-2.
\n
- 11 Indian cities are in the list of 100 best performers globally.
\n

\n\n

What were the notable measures in this regard?

\n\n

\n
- **MPOWER measures** were introduced by WHO in 2007 to assist in the country-level implementation of measures to reduce the demand for tobacco.
\n
- A few countries have adopted new laws making all indoor public places and workplaces smoke-free.

\n
- A few countries have advanced to best-practice level with their tobacco use **cessation services** including India.
\n
- Adoption of **pictorial warning** labels on tobacco packaging has yielded positive results.
\n

\n\n

\n
- With increase in the size of pack warnings to 85% of both front and back panels on all tobacco products, India now has the third largest pack warning label among all countries.
\n

\n\n

\n
- The **National Health Policy, 2017** has set a target of “relative reduction in prevalence of current tobacco use by 15% in 2020 and 30% by 2025”.
\n
- Raising taxes to increase tobacco product prices is one of the most effective and cost-effective means to take forward the progress.
\n

\n\n

Quick Facts

\n\n

mCessation programme

\n\n

\n
- The programme commenced in India in 2015, providing **personalised tobacco cessation advice** including support using mobile phones.
\n
- It was a joint WHO-International Telecommunication Union initiative with the support of Ministries of Health and Family Welfare and Communication and Information Technology.
\n

\n\n

Reports and conventions

\n\n

\n
- The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control **(WHO FCTC)**, the first international treaty negotiated under the auspices of WHO, was adopted by the World Health Assembly in 2003.
\n
- The WHO produces two key, complementary reports on global tobacco control
\n

\n\n

\n
1. the **Global Progress Report** on the Implementation of the WHO FCTC, which uses self-reported data from member states.
\n
2. the biennial **Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic.**
\n

\n\n

\n\n

Source: The Indian Express

\n

