

15 months on, yet no notification

Survey: 89 pc unaware about anti-tobacco laws

SANGEETA Johal
Chandigarh, July 18

IT IS not that people, including those who consume tobacco, are unaware about the harmful effects of tobacco. According to a recent survey conducted in the city by Burning Brain Society (BBS), as a part of World Health Organisation's project, around 84 per cent of the respondents strongly believed that tobacco causes death and over 97 per cent of the respondents said they would like it if their loved ones did not consume tobacco.

Government's claims of complete ban of tobacco sale to children were also contradicted, when about 80 per cent of people said they have seen children buying or consuming tobacco products. About 79 per cent of the respondents strongly believed that the Government is not at all serious about the tobacco issue.

Moreover, the awareness level among Chandigarh residents about the anti-tobacco laws was surprising. About 89 percentage of the people expressed complete ignorance about the anti-tobacco laws and only 25 per cent had some idea about the rights of a non-smoker. However, around 56 per cent claimed that they had protested smoking in public areas and 78 per cent said they do not allow anyone to smoke in their house, office or in front of the children, but 21 per cent



of these respondents said the status or relation of the person is the deciding factor.

The survey was conducted mainly to find the awareness level of the residents of Chandigarh and

LAIIDBACK ATTITUDE

EVEN AFTER 15 months of promulgation of anti-tobacco laws by the Union government, the notification has yet to be issued by UT Administration, the reasons best known to them. The announcement of the notification was done in February 2004 and a letter was issued in March 2004 by the Union Health Secretary to all chief secretaries of the states for making necessary notification under the act to empower the officials to take necessary action against the violators. Till now all others, except Chandigarh and Haryana, have given the notification.

Panchkula regarding anti-tobacco laws, their concern about the issue and their attitude towards the tobacco menace. BBS chairperson Hamant Ramtirth Goswami said, "The poor awareness level about anti-tobacco laws is a result of apathetic attitude of the senior UT Administration officials, who failed to bring out even the requisite notification about the people empowered to act under the law."

दैनिक ट्रिब्यून aids for CAT: Ex-servicemen

चंडीगढ़, शनिवार, 9 जुलाई 2005

ए. कुमार

चंडीगढ़, 8 जुलाई। सरकार द्वारा 2 अक्टूबर से फिल्मों में धूम्रपान के दृश्यों पर रोक लगाने के आदेश जारी कर दिए गए हैं। पुरानी फिल्मों में भी जब भी कोई व्यक्ति धूम्रपान करता दिखाई देगा तो उस दृश्य के नीचे वैधानिक चेतावनी जरूरी होगी कि धूम्रपान स्वास्थ्य के लिए हानिकारक है। फिल्म में धूम्रपान के दृश्यों से तो दर्शकों खासकर युवा वर्ग पर गलत संदेश जाता ही है कि सिगरेट पीने से व्यक्ति हीरो बन जाता है, परंतु थियेटर में तो नाटकों में पात्र खुलेआम मंच पर धूम्रपान करते हुए धुरं के छल्ले छोड़ते हैं। इससे तो प्रत्यक्ष रूप से जातवर्ण में प्रदूषण फैलता है। क्या फिल्मों की धूम्रपान निषेध है? चंडीगढ़ में भी धूम्रपान निषेध है।



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मंच पर भी धूम्रपान बंद हो?

इस बारे में? चंडीगढ़ में पिछले कुछ वर्षों से धूम्रपान जैसे खतरे से लोगों को आगाह कर रहे तथा धूम्रपान के विरुद्ध बड़ी गंभीरता से एक मुहिम छेड़ चुके 'बर्निंग ब्रेन' सोसायटी के श्री हेमंत गोस्वामी का इस बारे में कहना है कि खुलेआम सार्वजनिक स्थलों पर धूम्रपान तो वैसे ही निषेध है। जहां तक नाटकों में पात्रों द्वारा धूम्रपान की बात है यह तो 'नाट्य शास्त्र' में भरतमुनि ने भी लिखा है कि किसी भी प्रकार का मद्यपान मंच पर करना वर्जित है। इस तरह के दृश्यों में कलाकार प्रतीकात्मक रूप से केवल भाव भंगिमाओं तथा शारीरिक हाव-भावों से अपनी भावनाएं व्यक्त कर सकता है। इसके मंच पर धूम्रपान से धुआं

उड़ाना वैसे ही गलत है। थियेटर जैसे सार्वजनिक स्थलों पर तो भारत सरकार के आदेशों के अंतर्गत धूम्रपान वैसे ही निषेध है। इसलिए मंच पर स्मोकिंग बिल्कुल नहीं होनी

लोगों ने व्यक्ति की मिलीजुली प्रतिक्रियाएं

चाहिए।

'थियेटर लैब' चनडीगढ़ के निर्देशक उमेश कांत के विचार इस विषय में बिल्कुल भिन्न हैं। उनका कहना है कि किरदार की डिमांड के अनुसार मंच पर सिगरेट, बोड़ी पीना

बहुत जरूरी है। मंच पर सिगरेट पीना देख कोई भी सिगरेट पीना नहीं सीखता जिसने सिगरेट पीनी है उसने पीनी है जिसने नहीं पीनी उसने नहीं पीनी है। उन्होंने आगे बताया कि यदि चर्चिल पर नाटक करना हो तो उसके हाथ में सिगार दिखाना बेहद जरूरी है नहीं तो यह नाटक संभव ही नहीं है।

चंडीगढ़ के डी रंगकर्मी व निर्देशक श्याम जुनेजा भी मंच पर धूम्रपान को गलत नहीं मानते। उनका कहना है कि नैचुरल एक्टिंग के लिए सिगरेट जरूरी हो जाती है। आप क्या-क्या बैन करोगे। फिर तो सिगरेट बनाना ही बैन कर देना चाहिए। स्टेज पर सिगरेट पीने से इसे कोई बढ़ावा नहीं मिलता।

इंडियन थियेटर विभाग की स्नातकोत्तर तथा टीवी व रीमॉन्स अदाकारा पिकोश का मानना है कि जब आप मंच पर बाकी चीजें प्रतीकात्मक रूप में दिखा सकते हैं तो सिगरेट क्यों नहीं। मंच पर स्मोकिंग बैन होनी चाहिए। रंगकर्मी जुल्लिकार खान इस बारे में बोले नाटक में स्मोकिंग से कभी गलत संदेश नहीं जाता। मंच पर हर समय स्मोकिंग नहीं दिखाई जाती जब कैरेक्टर की डिमांड होती है तभी स्मोकिंग दिखाई जाती है।

वरिष्ठ रंगकर्मी रविंदर हैप्पी भी मंच पर सिगरेट बैन करने के पक्षधर नहीं हैं। उन्होंने भी कहा कि यदि कोई चीज बैन करनी है तो उसे पूर्णतया बंद कर देना चाहिए। सार्वजनिक स्थलों पर सिगरेट क्यों बेची जाती है उन्हें भी बंद कर देना चाहिए।



Smokers beware! Admn notifies Anti-Tobacco Act

SANGEETA Johal
Chandigarh, July 21

FINALLY, THE UT Administration today notified the Anti-Tobacco Act, 2003, with immediate effect. It has empowered few officers to act under this law.

This lull of 15 months over the notification ended today, which was otherwise supposed to come into force from May 1, 2004.

According to the law, smoking in the public places could invite a fine of Rs 200. Besides this, there is a caution for the tobacco shopkeepers, too, as selling of tobacco products to minors or within the radius of 100 yards of the educational institutes will invite a fine of Rs 200 for each instance.

In a notification issued by the UT Home Secretary Krishna Mohan, all the police officers, not below the rank of sub inspector in UT, and all the food inspectors and drug inspectors of the Health Department, Chandigarh, can initiate action against the violators of Anti-Tobacco Act, 2003.

Expressing his jubilation over the notification, Hemant Goswami, chairperson of Burning Brain Society (BBS) said, "It is important that the delay of 15 months in notifying the relevant provisions of the

Award not to have Red & White name

HT Live Correspondent
Chandigarh, July 21

IN RESPONSE to a PIL filed by the Burning Brain Society (BBS), tobacco company Godfrey Phillips India Ltd, today declared in the High Court through an affidavit that it shall be dropping the name of the cigarette brand "Red & White" from its award functions.

As per the press statement given by petitioner, Hemant Goswami, Chairperson BBS, the PIL was filed on February 2005 asking the Punjab and Haryana High Court to restrain the tobacco companies from using their brand names for indirect advertisement and for proper enforcement of anti-tobacco legislation.

Regarding the involvement of the officers who attended the function as judge, Dr C.P. Bansal, Director Health Services, Chandigarh, through an affidavit said that at this stage it would not be correct to comment as to the violation of the provision of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2003, as it is yet to be examined by the officers who would be authorised by the notification.

During the hearing, the petitioner also objected to the still functional website in the name of their cigarette brands. The court asked the counsel of the tobacco company to make sure that the website is made non-operational.

It may be mentioned during the recently held Red and White Bravery Awards at Hotel Mountview in January 2005, BBS strongly protested against it and asked the government officials not to participate in such kind of functions sponsored by cigarette companies as this gives them legitimacy.

act is now covered and the provisions of the Anti-Smoking Act immediately enforced with full zeal."

It may be mentioned that the Punjab government has already notified the said Act on November 30, 2004.



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Smoking in public? Pay Rs 200 as fine

UT Notification On Tobacco Act Comes Into Effect

Times News Network

Chandigarh: UT Administration submitted an affidavit in the high court that the notification empowering the officers to act under the cigarettes and other tobacco products Act 2003 has been brought out on Thursday.

As a result of this notification, now people smoking in public, shopkeepers selling tobacco products to minors shall be fined Rs 200 each time they do so. The officer having the powers to compound the offence shall be the sub divisional magistrate (central).

The notification was supposed to come into effect on May 1 2004. Burning Brain Society had filed a PIL asking the Punjab and Haryana High Court to restrain from indirect form of advertisement and proper implementation of the tobacco Act.

The UT Administration also declared through an affidavit that it had issued a notification authorising inspectors holding the charge to act under Sec-

NO 'RED AND WHITE'

Brain Burning Society has also filed a PIL asking the Punjab and Haryana High Court to stop using the name "Red and White" in the Red and White bravery award to promote its product. The Godfrey Phillips India Ltd, on Thursday, also filed an affidavit saying that it would drop the name of the cigarette brand from its award.



tion 4 and 6 of the cigarette and other tobacco products Act. Also, officers of the rank of sub-inspector in police, food inspectors and drug inspectors have been empowered to act under the Act.

Hemant Goswami, chairperson of the Brain Burning Society said: "Merely notifying the Act is not enough though it is of great significance. It is important that the delay of 15 months in notifying the relevant provisions of the act is now covered and the provisions of the anti-smoking Act are immediately enforced."

Smoking fine in place

UT Administration submitted an affidavit in the high court that the notification empowering the officers to act under the cigarettes and other tobacco products Act 2003 has been brought out on Thursday. As a result of this notification, now people smoking in public, shopkeepers selling tobacco products to minors shall be fined Rs 200 each time they do so. **P3**

Change in CrPC

जिस पर अदालत ने पुलिस को 22 जुलाई के लिए नोटिस जारी कर दिया।

जारी होगा तंबाकू प्रोडक्ट्स एक्ट संबंधी नोटिफिकेशन: हेमंत

भास्कर न्यूज • चंडीगढ़, 21 जुलाई। बर्निंग ब्रेन सोसायटी के चेयरपर्सन हेमंत गोस्वामी ने वीरवार को दावा किया कि चंडीगढ़ प्रशासन तंबाकू प्रोडक्ट्स एक्ट 2003 को लागू करने संबंधी जरूरी नोटिफिकेशन जारी करेगा।



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Smoking ban gets teeth

Notification on Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products Act issued

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JULY 21

UT Administration today told the Punjab and Haryana High Court through an affidavit that the notification on Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products Act, 2003, has been issued.

The declaration came in response to a PIL filed by Burning Brain Society on the delay being caused in issuing the notification of the Act and to ban tobacco companies from doing indirect advertisements through their awards and for proper implementation of the Act.

The Administration also

MNC to change name of awards

Burning Brain Society Chairperson Heman Goswami told *Newsline* that tobacco company Godfrey Philips through an affidavit in the Punjab and Haryana High Court today stated the company would drop the name of the cigarette brand "Red and White" from its award functions. Goswami said the UT also told the court that since now officials have been empowered under the Act, it would be investigated whether Red and White awards constituted an offence.

told the HC that it has issued a notification authorising SHOs under Sections 4 and 6 of the Act. Under the Act, smoking is banned at public places and shopkeepers selling tobacco products to minors would be fined Rs 200 for each instance.

The compounding officer

having the power to compound the offence under Section 28 would be of the Sub Divisional Magistrate (Central) level. All officers above the rank of Sub-Inspector of police, food inspectors and drug inspectors have been empowered under the Act.

Tagore Theatre



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