

**Department of Public Relations, Chandigarh Administration**  
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**Press Release**

**Chandigarh September 14:-** UT Home Secretary, Mr. Krishna Mohan chaired the first meeting of Chandigarh Tobacco Control Cell held here today. Various steps taken to maintain the Smoke Free status of Chandigarh were discussed in the meeting.

All the representations and complaints related to tobacco control policy would be handled at a single point by Chandigarh Tobacco Control Cell, which will have its office at GMSS Hospital, Sector 16.

A website highlighting the achievements of Chandigarh for promoting the concept of Smoke Free Chandigarh would be inaugurated on September 28. Many international Advisors for this campaign would take part in that function.

Warning boards will be displayed in Hindi as well as English languages at all public places. There will be one Sub Inspector in each Police Station who will be specifically responsible for ensuring compliance of the tobacco control laws under Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution Act, 2003 (COTPA). It was also decided that hereafter police after making seizing under Sector 12 & 13 will launch the prosecution in these cases.

All the public conveyances will put up warning boards in Hindi as well as in English in their respective vehicles, who have not yet followed the directives. Since sufficient time and warning has already being given to the road side tobacco vendors now a sustained campaign to remove such vendors will be launched by Municipal Corporation.

All members were of their view that various tobacco industries who want to defeat smoke free Chandigarh campaign should be dealt with firmly as well as with scientific communication strategy through mass media.

No tobacco shop in new bus stand will be allotted and already allotted shops at old bus stand will be reviewed. Various representations of tobacco industries will be put up for discussion in the monthly meeting of CTCC.

Deputy Commissioner, Mr. R.K. Rao, SSP, Police, Mr. S.S. Srivastava, Director Public Instructions (S) Mr. S.K. Setia, Secretary, Municipal Corporation, Mr. P.K. Sharma, Director Health Services, Mr. M.S. Bains, Director Tourism, Mr. R.S. Verma, Burning Brain Society, Chairman, Mr. Hemant Goswami, Journalist, Mr. Kumar Abhimanyu Singh, Journalist, Mr. Jagwinder Patial, Advocate, A.P.S. Shergill and Mr. Jagdish Singh Sarpal were also present in the meeting.