

# Article 8: Ban on use of Smokeless Tobacco Products and Spitting in Public places



**FCTC**

WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION  
ON TOBACCO CONTROL

SECRETARIAT-KNOWLEDGE HUB



**NICPR**

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CANCER  
PREVENTION AND RESEARCH  
राष्ट्रीय कैंसर रोकथाम एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान

[www.untobaccocontrol.org/kh/smokeless-tobacco/](http://www.untobaccocontrol.org/kh/smokeless-tobacco/)

# Background

- SLT use induced spitting in public places present a complex challenge to public health.
- Globally experts are divided in their opinion about the adverse health consequences of exposure to public spitting.
- There is historical precedence of spitting ban to curb the epidemic of tuberculosis from late 19<sup>th</sup> Century and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.
- With the known dangers of SHS and end of tuberculosis ‘No Spitting’ sign were replaced by the ‘No Smoking’ signage.



**FCTC**

WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION  
ON TOBACCO CONTROL

SECRETARIAT-KNOWLEDGE HUB



**NICPR**

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CANCER  
PREVENTION AND RESEARCH  
राष्ट्रीय कैंसर सेवक्याम एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान

# Ban on spitting continues

- Prohibition on spitting in public places continues to be imposed for:
  - Controlling communicable diseases;
  - Maintaining public cleanliness and hygiene; and
  - Preventing/reducing SLT use.



**FCTC**

WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION  
ON TOBACCO CONTROL

SECRETARIAT-KNOWLEDGE HUB



**NICPR**

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CANCER  
PREVENTION AND RESEARCH  
राष्ट्रीय कैंसर सेवक्याम एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान

# Ban on spitting in high resource Parties

## ■ **United Kingdom:**

- ▶ To maintain clean pavements, the London Borough of Brent, in 2010, classified spitting paan/khilli paan juice as criminal damage attracting a fixed-penalty.

## ■ **Australia:**

- ▶ The Sydney suburb of Fairfield implemented a regulation against spitting in 2006. Violation attracted fines ranging from AUD110 to AUD1100.

## ■ **Singapore:**

- ▶ Spitting is prohibited in coffee shops and markets, public roads, sideways and any other place that's open to the public. Any violation of the law attracts a fine of up to SGD1,000.



# Ban on spitting in low resource Parties

- **Nepal** is the only country which has banned use of any kind of tobacco products in public places (2011).
- In **Bhutan**, a 2012 regulation prohibits smearing lime and spitting *doma* in public area.
- Hangzhou, a province in **China**, spitting and littering in public places was banned in 2016.
- In **Myanmar**, there is a ban on spitting red betel juice in the streets and public places
- In **Papua New Guinea** (PNG), since 2013, chewing betel nuts and spitting betel nut juices has been banned from the streets.

# Ban on spitting in India

- **Indian Railways** ban spitting on its premises since 2012
- **Metro Rail Corporations** across India have also prohibited spitting in metro
- Several states (**Goa, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh**) have implemented ban on spitting both for cleanliness and to reduce SLT use.
- Prime Minister of India called for nation-wide cleanliness drive on August 15, 2014 and launched the ‘Clean India Mission’
- Most recently the **Uttar Pradesh Government** has banned spitting in public buildings.



# Ban on spitting under local (municipal) laws

- The **Karnataka** municipal law prevents spitting in public and violation attracts fine of INR 100 at the first time and INR 200 subsequently.
- The Bombay Police Act, Section 116, prohibits smoking and spitting in government premises in **Maharashtra**.
- In **Telangana**, the Greater Hyderabad municipal law prescribes action against violators under its sanitation bye-laws with fine of INR 500 upwards.
- The **Bihar** municipal law makes spitting an offence with a penalty of INR 200.



# Evaluation of impact of ban on spitting

- There is lack of scientific literature on the impact of ban on SLT use and spitting in public places.
- However, a study conducted in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India revealed that the most frequent cited reason for quitting tobacco usage was spitting and ash dropping which was embarrassing in-front of others.
- **There is need for undertaking further research on the effects of ban on SLT use and spitting in public places on various SLT prevention and control measures.**







**FCTC**  
WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION  
ON TOBACCO CONTROL  
SECRETARIAT-KNOWLEDGE HUB



**NICPR**  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CANCER  
PREVENTION AND RESEARCH  
राष्ट्रीय कैंसर सेवकथाम एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान