



NATIONAL CONSULTATION ON HEALTH ECONOMICS: CURRENT EVIDENCE, EMERGING CHALLENGES, AND FUTURE PATHWAYS

WITH TECHNICAL SUPPORT FROM VITAL STRATEGIES

Date: 25th September 2026
Venue: Kenilworth Hotel, Kolkata

Time	Session	Speakers/Experts
09:30-10:00	Registration and Networking	
10:00-11:30	Session I: Inaugural Session	
10.00-10.10	Welcome Address and Introduction to the National Consultation	Dr. Nirmalya Mukherjee Chief Executive, CPHR-MANT
10:10-10:25	Overview of objectives and expected outcomes	Dr. Amit Yadav Deputy Director, Vital Strategies
10:25-10:35	Keynote Address: Tobacco Taxation in Global Perspective	Dr. Son Dao Technical Consultant, Vital Strategies
10:35-10:45	Address by the Guests of Honour	Dr. Rana J Singh Director, South-East Asia, Vital Strategies
10:45-10:55	Address by the Guests of Honour	Prof. (Dr.) Nandimath Omprakash V Vice Chancellor, NUJS Kolkata
10:55-11:05	Address by the Guests of Honour	Dr. Yogesh P Singh Vice Chancellor, NLU Tripura
11:05-11:20	Brief on Factsheet: Tracking the Fiscal Shift: Pre- and Post-GST 2.0 Reform Price Dynamics, Tax Share Burden, and Public Health Outcomes	Dr. Paramita Bhattacharya Director-Research, CPHR-MANT
11:20-11:25	Release of Factsheet	
11:25-11:30	Vote of Thanks	Dr. Sajda Khatoon Assistant Director-Research, CPHR-MANT
	Group Photo	
11.30 – 11.45	Tea Break	
11.45-13.00	Session II: Economics and Fiscal Policy for Better Public Health	
11.45 -12.00	Keynote Address: Health Economics and the Role of Fiscal Policies in Advancing Public Health	Professor Sarit Kumar Rout IIPH Bhubaneswar
12.00-13.00	Panel Discussion: Sin Products, Taxes and Public Health: Navigating India’s Economic, Legal and Policy Landscape Moderation: Dr. Puneet Chahar, Technical Advisor, Vital Strategies	Chair: Dr. Yogesh P Singh, Vice Chancellor, NLU Tripura & Professor Vivekananda Mukherjee, Department of Economics, Jadavpur University Panellists: 1. Professor Kumarjit Mondal, Department of Economics, University of Calcutta

		2. Dr. Sounak Thakur, Department of Economic Sciences, IIT Kanpur 3. Professor Sarfaraz Ahmed Khan, WBNUJS Kolkata 4. Professor Tushar K Nandi, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS), IISER, Kolkata 5. Mr. Anup Kumar, Senior National Policy Consultant, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids 6. Professor Bhaskar Goswami, Department of Economics, University of Burdwan 7. Dr Sanjay Kumar, Associate Professor, WBNUJS 8. Ms. Paramita Chakraborty, Department of Economics, Shri Shikshayatan College
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch	
	Session III: Tobacco Economics and Policy in India	
14.00 – 14.15	Keynote Address: Tobacco Economics in India: Emerging Evidence, Challenges and Policy Priorities	Dr. Pritam Dutta Fellow-II, NIPFP
14.15 – 15.15	Panel Discussion: Tobacco Taxation and Pricing in India: Balancing Public Health, Revenue and Equity Moderation: Dr. Shivam Kapoor, Senior Technical Advisor, Vital Strategies	Chair: Professor Achin Chakraborty, Centre of Excellence in Public Policy Law and Governance, IIT Kharagpur & Professor Siddhartha Mitra, Department of Economics, Jadavpur University Panellists: 1. Professor Poulomi Roy, Department of Economics, Jadavpur University 2. Dr. Prashant K Singh, Scientist E, ICMR-NICPR 3. Professor Jayata Sen, Department of Economics, West Bengal State University 4. Dr. Swapan Chakraborty, Department of Economics, St. Xavier's University 5. Dr. Sakhi Roy, Amity School of Economics, Amity University 6. Dr. Sanchita De, Dept. of Basic Science & Humanities, UEM, Kolkata 7. Dr. Subhajit Majumdar, Department of Economics University of Gour Banga 8. Dr. Shashwati Banerjee, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Shibpur
15.15 – 15.30	Tea/Coffee Break	
15:30 – 16.30	Session IV	Open Discussion
15.30 – 16.00	Open Discussion on Summary of key deliberations; Identification of priority policy issues; Development of key recommendations and future directions	Chair: Mr. Pranay Lal, Independent Consultant Moderation: Dr. Puneet Chahar, Technical Advisor, Vital Strategies
16.00 – 16.30	Valedictory Session & Vote of Thanks	Dr. Paramita Bhattacharya Director-Research, CPHR-MANT