

## Smokeless tobacco - Chhattisgarh

- Although, there is significant decline in SLT use in the state compared to Global Adult Tobacco Survey Report 2009-10 (GATS-1) versus Global Adult Tobacco Survey Report 2016-17 (GATS-2), the percentage still remains almost 15% greater than the national prevalence of 21.4%..
- More than 60 lakh adults in the state use SLT products, this is almost seven times of the population of Raipur city
- Maximum decline is in the use of oral tobacco products i.e. snuff, *mishri*, *gul*, *gudakhu*

**Table 1. Smokeless tobacco prevalence in Chhattisgarh**

Tobacco and Areca Nut use	GATS-1	GATS-2
Current SLT use	47.2	36.0
Betel quid with tobacco	4.8	2.0
<i>Khaini</i> /tobacco lime mixture	21.2	16.1
<i>Gutkha</i> , tobacco lime, areca-nut mixture	11.9	7.8
Oral tobacco (as snuff, <i>mishri</i> , <i>gul</i> , <i>gudakhu</i> )	28.3	19.7
<i>Paan masala</i> with tobacco	NA	1.8
Snuff	NA	0.0
Other SLT	4.6	0.4
<i>Paan masala</i> without tobacco	Non-Tobacco Products	6.1
Betel quid without tobacco,		2.1
Areca nut		3.4

### SLT use and patterns across gender

- Number of females using betel quid and oral tobacco has significantly decreased from higher in 2009-10 to lower in 2016-17 in comparison to men.
- There is a slight increase in *khaini* use by males and only a marginal decline in SLT use in other SLT products categories. Whereas, the decline in SLT use is very significant among females across SLT products from GATS-1 to GATS-2.
- Efforts for SLT control should focus on both male and female users.

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### Access to minors:

- Though age of initiation has increased about two years in the state (16.2 years to 18.5 years), yet 37.3% SLT users (almost 26 lakhs) reported starting tobacco use before the age of 18 years.

### Cessation without any assistance:

- Adults who quit in last 1 to four years has increased from 41.7 to 53.5% in GATS-2.
- There is lack of interest in quitting, the number of users who made quit attempts in past 12 months has decreased.
- More than 60% users were not asked by HCP if they used smokeless tobacco and almost two third users of SLT were not advised to quit by the HCP in the past 12 months.
- Pharmacotherapy (0.0%), counseling (18.7%) and other measures (6.1%) have little role in people quitting SLT use in the state. More than 8.5 in every 10 users responded that they preferred tobacco cessation without any assistance.
- The number of SLT users who thought about quitting because of the pack warnings has increased in the state from more than 36% to almost 58%.

### Economic Aspect

- Majority of Purchase is from stores and kiosks. SLT buyers have not only shifted from kiosk to stores, there is an increase in purchase from street vendors as well. Overall it is the minors (15-17 years of age) who buy more from street vendors. Such unrestricted sales not only make tobacco easily accessible but also create room for illicit trade. This calls for licensed sale to ensure compliance with COTPA and also prevent illicit trade in tobacco.
- The average expenditure for the last purchase has increased more than threefold, from ₹8.20/- in 2009-10 to ₹25.9/- in 2016-17 this is greater than 14 other states and UTs. Three times what an SLT user in Uttarakhand spends and 2.5 times that in Bihar. This is 0.3% of the state GSDP if we consider the last purchase to be weekly and 2% if we consider it daily.

### Advertising

- There is a phenomenal decrease in exposure to SLT advertisements as adults who noticed any type of advertisement or promotion of SLT products at point of sale or at other places decreased from 81.4 to 17.2 from 2010 to 2017.
- However, the numbers of adults who noticed anti-tobacco advertisements during the last 30 days at any location decreased from 91% to about 74%.

### Knowledge, Attitudes & Perception

Non-users are more aware than users about the ill effects of SLT use