CREATE AWARENESS ON COTPA: KHUTKAR

Panaji: December 17, 2019

Additional Collector, South District Goa, Shri Arvind Khutkar urging the enforcement teams COTPA to conduct vigorous enforcement drives in their respective talukas underscored the need to send a strong message to all and sundry that the committee is serious with regard to violations of the COTPA Act.

Chairing a meeting of the District Level Co-ordination Committee for Tobacco Control at Collectorate, Margao yesterday Shri Khutkar urged the teams to focus on creating awareness among the traders and the users on the after effects of Tobacco products rather than generating revenue through their drives.

The Additional Collector urged upon the Departments to know about their responsibilities and work in the directions to make State tobacco free. Stating that ignorance of law cannot be an excuse Shri Khutkar emphasized upon the departments to work together to eradicate the use of cigarettes and other tobacco products.

Shri Khutkar also emphasized upon the need to create awareness among the general public on the latest new pictorial warnings on cigarette packets and signage. Distributors are not supposed to supply cigarette packs with old pictorial warnings, he remarked.

The Committee also discussed various other aspects like hardships faced by the enforcement wings and the no. of raids that were carried out in various talukas.

Senior government officials from various departments, Block Development Officers and GOA CAN members attended the meeting.

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