



Narcotics Control Bureau

Press Release

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NCB-CBSE MoU Signing Ceremony and Awareness Program on Prevention of Substance Abuse

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), today signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the CBSE Headquarters, Dwarka, New Delhi, to strengthen cooperation in creating drug-free school environment and raising awareness against substance abuse.

The MoU was signed by Anurag Garg, IPS, Director General, NCB and Shri Rahul Singh, IAS, Chairperson, CBSE in the presence of more than 500 school principals and counsellors associated with CBSE affiliated schools of NCR.

In his address, Shri Anurag Garg, Director General, NCB, highlighted the crucial role of educational institutions in combating the menace of drugs and reaffirmed NCB's support in conducting awareness campaigns, workshops, and counselling programs. He also informed about the MANAS helpline – 1933, where any citizen can provide information regarding drug trafficking as well as seek assistance for counselling or rehabilitation, with complete assurance that their identity will be kept confidential throughout the process. DG, NCB also discussed the increasing use of vapes, which can serve as a gateway to nicotine and narcotics addiction. He further informed that the manufacture, production, import, export, transport, and advertisement of vapes are prohibited and punishable under law, and requested that related information be shared with law enforcement authorities.

Shri Rahul Singh, Chairperson, CBSE emphasized CBSE's commitment to safeguarding the well-being of students by equipping schools, teachers, and parents with the knowledge and resources to prevent substance abuse. He said, a vigilant teacher can easily identify a child using drugs from his/her behaviour in the school.

The MoU provides a comprehensive framework for joint initiatives, including quarterly awareness programs, capacity-building workshops for teachers and counsellors, e-modules on drug prevention, community outreach, and counselling services for students and parents. A pilot program will be launched in 100 CBSE schools, which will further extend outreach through a hub-and-spoke model. Following the signing

ceremony, an awareness program on the prevention of substance abuse was held witnessing over 500 principals, counsellors, and wellness teachers from CBSE-affiliated schools across India. The program featured insightful sessions including:-

- **“Leadership for Empowering the School Ecosystem”** by Shri Ashutosh Agnihotri, IAS, Chairman & Managing Director, Food Corporation of India (FCI).
- **“Refuse the First Dose, Secure the Future”** by Dr. Anees C., IRS, Deputy Director, NCB

The program concluded with an interactive Question–Answer Session, where principals and counsellors from across the country engaged with experts, shared concerns, and sought practical strategies for strengthening drug-prevention initiatives at the school level. This collaboration underscores NCB and CBSE’s shared vision of ensuring a safe, healthy, and supportive school ecosystem that discourages substance misuse and empowers students to make positive life choices.

GLIMPSES



