

Tobacco Industry Interference (TII) Monitoring Report

February 2023

Report Prepared
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February 2023, Dhaka, Bangladesh


Prepared by: WBB trust

Supported by: The Union

Summary:

A total 07 industry interferences were reported in February, 2023. Notable among these we identified that, “Hotel Noorjahan Grant” located at Dargah Gate, Sylhet, “Japan Tobacco Company (JTI)” organized a colorful musical and dancing event with cigarette wrappers by “Camel” band. and Officials of British American Tobacco Bangladesh (BATB) looted hundreds of crores of money in the name of corporate social responsibility (CSR) program.

With the technical assistance of the Union, WBB Trust has collected all the information and prepared a brief report about the interferences done by the tobacco companies.

Date	News and source	Evidence
TII on CSR		
23 February 2023	<p>Although the government is very positive about tobacco control, tobacco companies are breaking the law in many ways themselves and encouraging others to break the law. Recently at “Hotel Noorjahan Grant” located at Dargah Gate, Sylhet, “Japan Tobacco Company (JTI)” organized a colorful musical and dancing event with cigarette wrappers by “Camel” band. Videos and pictures circulating on social media show a large number of youngsters participating in the event. Such attempts to get the young generation addicted to smoking in violation of the Tobacco Control Act are a clear violation of the “Smoking and Use of Tobacco Products (Control) Act, 2005.</p> <p>Link Link</p>	


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	<p>working in domestic cigarette industry organized this program. Helali Farooq, convenor of Rajshahi Region Officer-Employee Association, presided over the human chain. Other officials-employees, workers and farmers spoke in it under the direction of the new secretary Rezaul Karim.</p> <p>Link Link</p>	
TII on Misleading		
13 February, 2023	<p>Vaper Society urged organizations and activists campaigning against vaping products in Bangladesh and elsewhere often refer to studies that allegedly found links between cancer and heart disease to vaping.</p> <p>Link</p>	<p>Anti-vape campaigners fail to recognise retraction of misinformed studies</p> 
TII on Others		
18 February, 2023	<p>Since the beginning, tobacco companies have been using various tactics to thwart the government's efforts to control tobacco. This time they have become active in preventing the amendment of the law. In addition to taking various initiatives for this purpose, a letter has been written to the National Board of Revenue with the wrong interpretation of the law.</p> <p>Link</p>	<p>তামাক আইনের সংশোধনী ঠেকানোর অপতৎপরতা</p> 