Illegal Cigarette Trade Poses A Huge Threat to India

The Tobacco Institute of India (TII) brought out the third Edition of its publication on the Growing Illegal Cigarette Trade in the country titled *Illegal Cigarette Trade Poses a Huge Threat to India*. Recognizing the urgency with which the issue should be addressed, the new Publication presents more recent data and updated information on diverse aspects of the Illegal Cigarette Trade in India besides giving a global overview of the problem.

This TII Publication attempts to provide an insight into the extent, growth, driving factors and impact of illegal cigarette trade in the country and the ways to combat it.

Through this new publication, TII makes the following observations with regard to the thriving Illegal Cigarette Trade in India:

» Illegal cigarette trade in India has grown unabated
» High cigarette taxation is the primary driver of illegal trade
» Cigarette smuggling impacts farmer earnings
» Illegal cigarette trade funds organized crime and terror groups
» India is a major victim of cigarette smuggling
» Hasty implementation of WHO Illicit Tobacco Trade Protocol will not help counter illegal trade in India
» Illegal trade takes away livelihood, causes revenue losses and defeats tobacco control objectives
» Systemic policy intervention is needed to curb illegal cigarette trade in India