

# Regulations of Tobacco production in Bangladesh

Sushanta k Singha

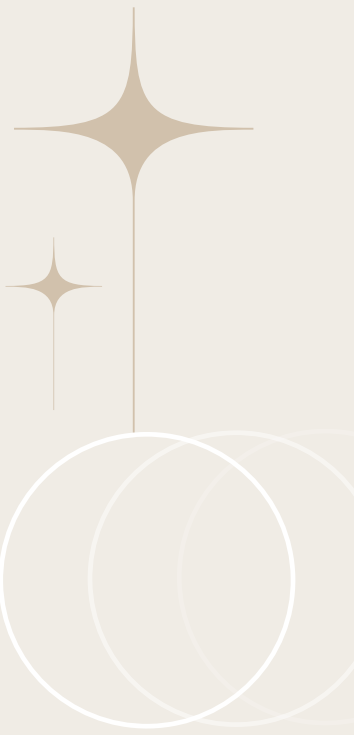
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# Existing Scenario of Bangladesh.....

## THE TRUE COST OF TOBACCO

**TOBACCO REVENUE**  
(Annual)

**BDT 410  
BILLION**



(Estimated annual revenue  
from tobacco)

**HEALTH COSTS**  
(Tobacco-Related)

**BDT 730.63  
BILLION**



(Treatment and related  
economic burden)

**DEATHS IN 2024**  
(Annual)

**199,149**



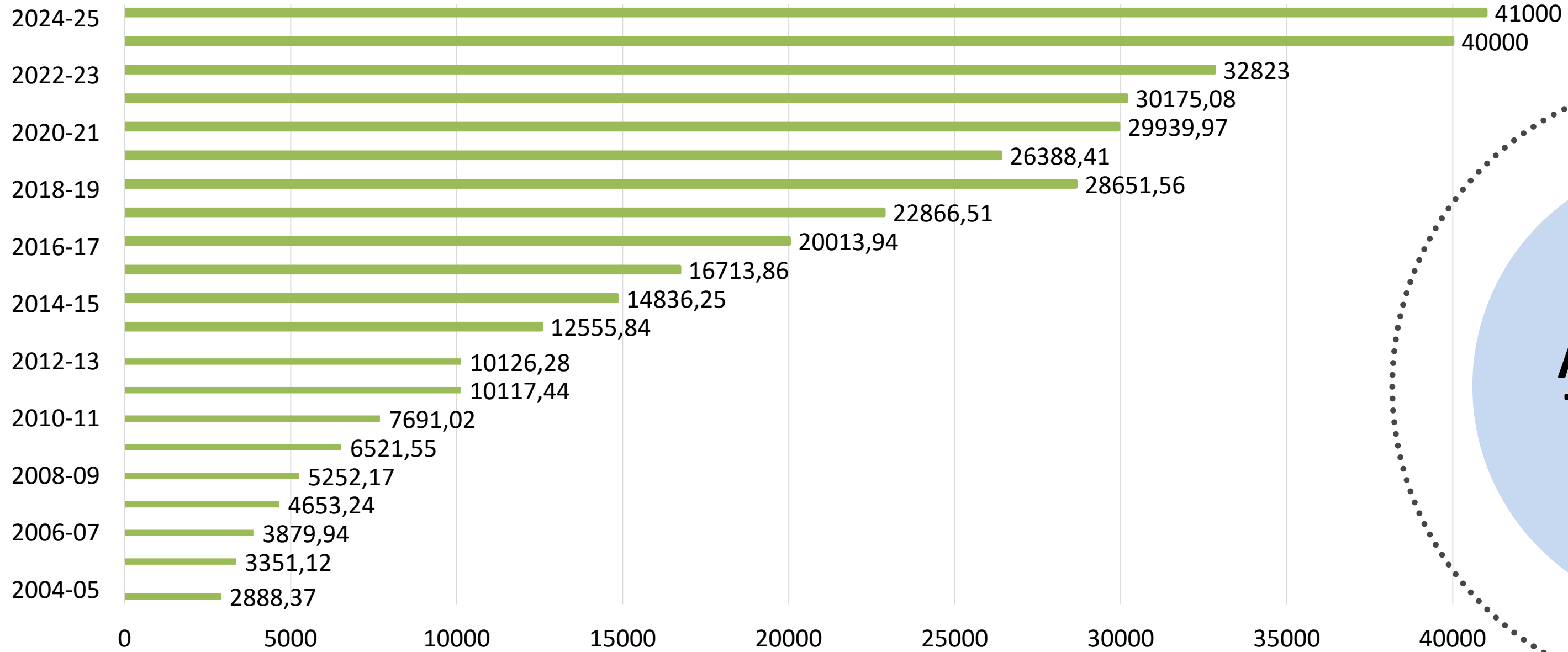
(Estimated annual tobacco-  
related deaths in 2024)



- \* Revenue data from NBR
- \* Health Cost from the Research of University of Dhaka and Economics For Health
- \* Death data from Tobacco Atlas

# Existing Scenario of Bangladesh.....

## Revenue Generated from Tobacco Products



**Ad Valorem  
Tax System**

# Existing Scenario of Bangladesh.....

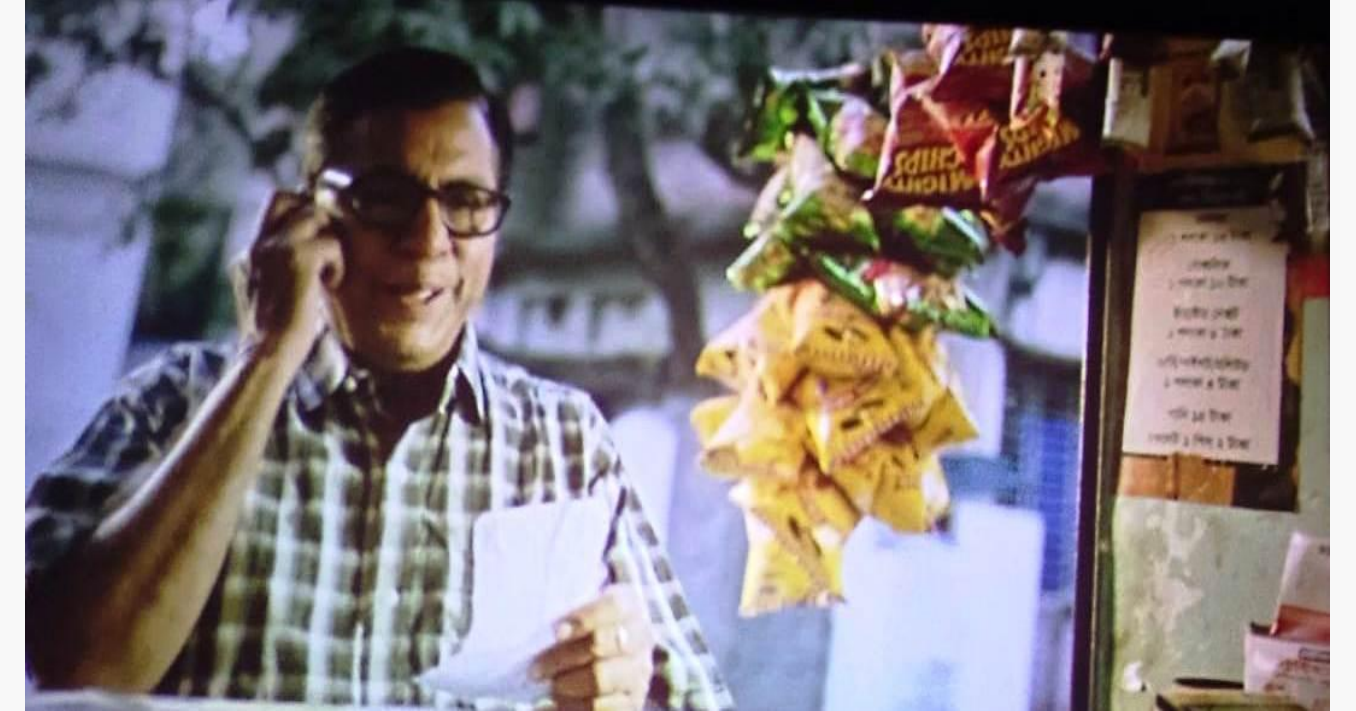
These taxes used for public health policies?

From Health  
Development  
Surcharge  
(HDSC) only  
200 million  
BDT

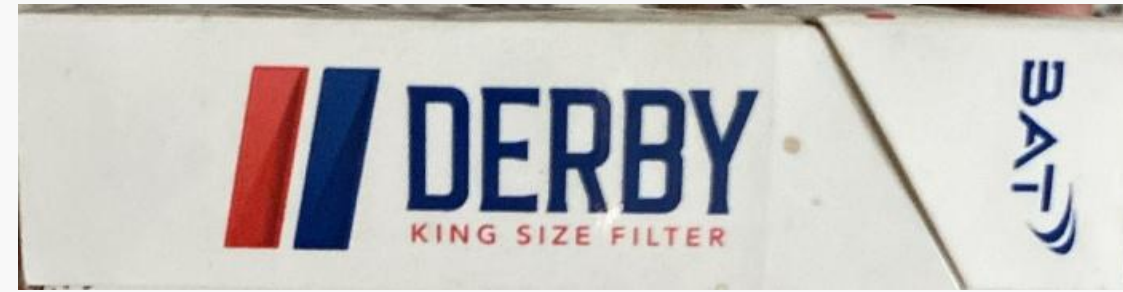
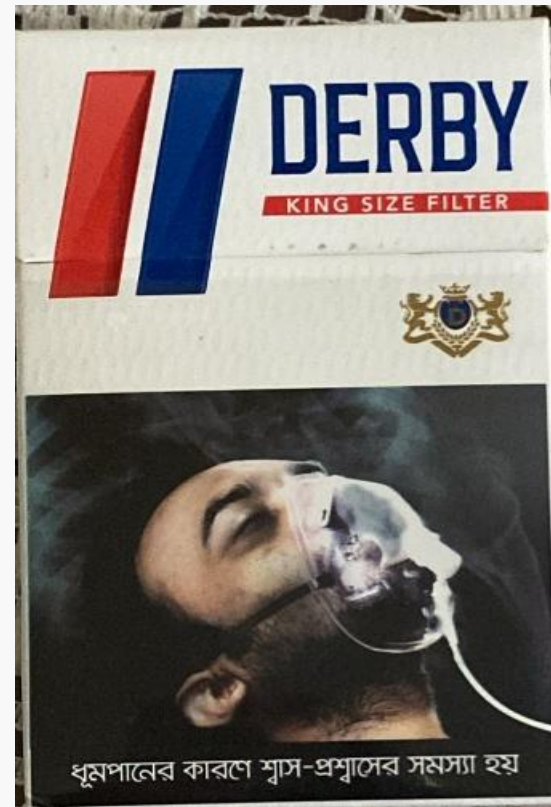
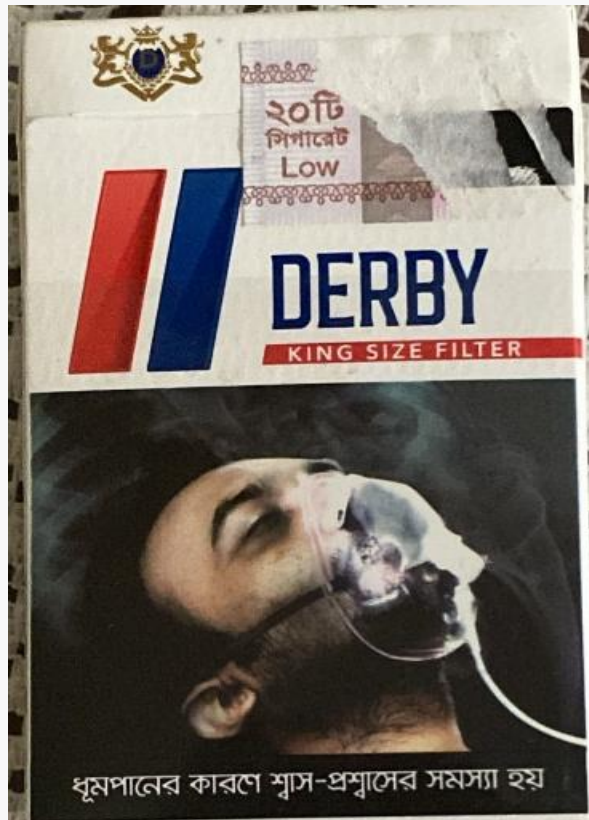
এখানে ন্যায্য মূল্যে পণ্য বিক্রয় হয়

বেনসন	১ শলাকা ২০ টাকা
গোল্ডলিফ	১ শলাকা ১৫ টাকা
লাকী স্ট্রাইক	১ শলাকা ১২ টাকা
স্টার	১ শলাকা ১০ টাকা
পাইলট/ডার্বি/হলিউড	১ শলাকা ৮ টাকা
রয়্যালস	১ শলাকা ৭ টাকা
চকলেট ৮২ প্রতি পিস	চা ৮১০ প্রতি কাপ

বাকি চেয়ে লজ্জা দিবেন না



# Existing Scenario of cigarette Bandroles/tax stumps...



\* 50% Pictorial Health Warning

\* Small text Health Warning

\* No Quit line

\* No Production Date

• No QR Code

• No Single Stick Price

• Manual Stamp / Band rolls

• The existing pictorial health warnings are not effective in encouraging smoking cessation



# Struggle for the new Tobacco Control law 2026



## Challenges

# Fake Letters of TI to Govt. against TC Law

# Court order Violations ( 2016)

# Govt. secretaries on BATB's board

# Smuggling related news & Myths of TI

# Hidden relationship of Law & Health Ministers with TI

**Main arguments (Public health advocates)**

Disease and premature deaths in Bangladesh.

Protection of non-smokers & child.

Loopholes of advertising & promotional activities.

Ban E-cigarette & Nicotine Pouch to protect youths

**Tobacco industry arguments:**

Could increase illicit trade and smuggling

Affect farmers and small cigarette Salers.

# Struggle for the new Tobacco Control law 2026

## Short timeline

**2005:** The Smoking and Tobacco Products Usage (Control) Act

**2013:** Major amendment passed introducing stronger restrictions on advertising, packaging, and smoking in public places.

**2022–2025:** Increased advocacy for a tobacco endgame strategy aligned with the government's vision of tobacco-free Bangladesh by 2040.

**Current phase: Smoking and Tobacco Control (Amendment) Law, 2026 passed 10 April 2026**

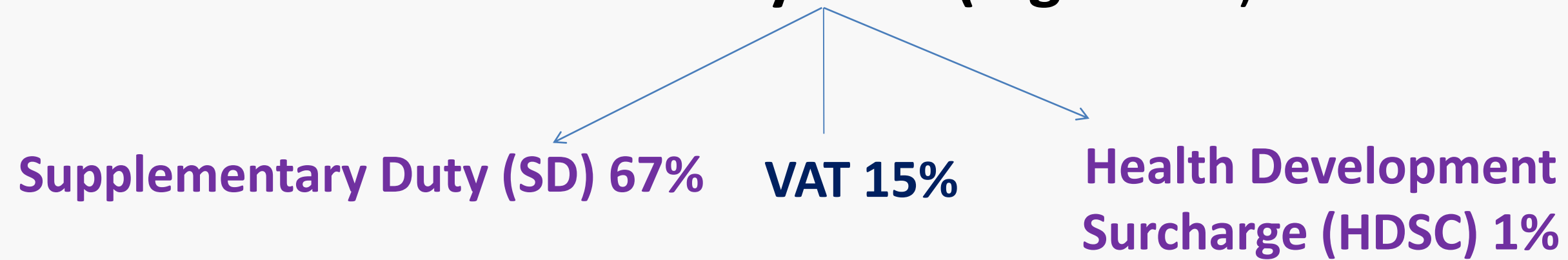
## Tobacco Control groups, Journalist & civil society role

- Conducted research and awareness campaigns
- Mobilized Journalist & Media and public opinion
- Engaged policymakers and parliamentarians
- Unearth the tobacco industry interference through Secretary of Board of Directors at BAT Bangladesh
- Advocated for stronger tax and regulatory measures



# Tobacco tax structure of Bangladesh

## Ad valorem System (Cigarette)



- **Filtered Bidi:** SD 40%+ VAT 15% + HDSC 1% = TT 56 %
- **Non-Filtered Bidi:** SD 30%+ VAT 15% + HDSC 1% = TT 46 %
- **Smokeless Tobacco:** SD 55% + VAT 15% + HDSC 1% = TT 61 %

# No specific rule or model for increasing the price & tax in Tobacco products

# Govt. determines the prices & tax rates through general consideration and some case internal discussions with TI.

Health should never be sacrificed for profit and revenue

01

**Ban E-cigarette and Nicotine Pouch**

02

**Remove the term "and above" from the budget proposal.**

03

**Reinstating a 25 % duty on tobacco leaf exports**

04

**The banderoles & tax stums system need be digitized.**



Thank you  
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