



# केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड

( शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संगठन )

## CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Organisation under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



03.09.2025

### PRESS RELEASE

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

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, 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 gracious presence of Shri Himanshu Gupta, IAS, Secretary, CBSE, Sh Vishal M. Sanap, IRS, Deputy Director General, NCB and Neeraj Kumar Gupta, IPS, DDG, NCB, Dr. Anees C., Deputy Director, IRS, NCB, Sh Vikash Kumar, Deputy Director, NCB along with HODs of CBSE and other senior dignitaries/officers from NCB and CBSE.

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 counseling programs. 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. During his address, CBSE Secretary Shri Himanshu Gupta emphasized that schools must provide students with a safe and supportive environment, in addition to academics. He added that timely intervention and government programs like Tele-MANAS, which is expanding access to mental health care across India, can be instrumental in this effort.

The MoU provides a comprehensive framework for joint initiatives, including quarterly awareness programs, capacity-building workshops for teachers and counselors, e-modules on drug prevention, community outreach, and counseling 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, counselors, 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

Shri Ashutosh Agnihotri, IAS, CMD, Food Corporation of India, highlighted the vital aspects of leadership for educators in guiding schools to build resilience against social challenges and empower young lives towards a healthier future. Dr. Anees C., Deputy Director, NCB, provided a broader understanding of the challenges, preventive measures, communication strategies, and the collaboration of peers, families, and schools to curb the menace of drug abuse and ensure the safety of youth.

The program concluded with an interactive Question–Answer Session, where principals and counselors 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 CBSE's and NCB's shared vision of ensuring a safe, healthy, and supportive school ecosystem that discourages substance misuse and empowers students to make positive life choices.

SECRETARY, CBSE



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### GLIMPSES



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