## THE TIMES OF INDIA

## **Tobacco Institute of India fetes farmer**

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**Mysuru:** The Tobacco Institute of India (TII) on Thursday felicitated 10 outstanding tobacco farmers with best farmer and recognition award for adopting best farming practices, exemplary performance and enhanced productivity

Channabasappa of Motha village, Kuchelegowda of Seeranahalli, HM Parameshwara of Hadlapura, Raju of Kothavally Koppal, Suresh KT of Kottegal and SV Yoganna of Seebally were presented with the best farmer award.

Recognition awards were conferred on Devanaika of Gowdagere village, MN Ramchandra of MP Koppal, Aslam Pasha of Halaganahally and Ramakrishna of Lokikuppe.

TII director Sharad Tandon appreciated the efforts of farmers for their socio-economic contribution to the country by taking up tobacco cultivation which not only enhances farm income but also employment generation, foreign exchange earnings and revenue generation.

He said that India has emerged as the world's second largest tobacco producer and a leading exporter, with exports of leaf tobacco and tobacco products generating annual foreign exchange earnings of around Rs 6,500 crore. He urged the Union government to extend export incentives to tobacco to augment competitiveness of Indian tobaccos in the global market and to boost exports.

Extreme regulations and high taxation produce counter-productive results. They do not reduce demand for tobacco, but merely shift it from the legal tax-paid and regulation-compliant products to cheaper, tax-evaded regulation non-compliant illegal products, he said.

MP Pratap Simha, legislators AH Vishwanath, HP Manjunath, SR Mahesh, AT Ramaswamy, K Mahadeva, Anil Kumar Chikkamadu, Tobacco Board chairman Y Raghunadha Babu, director (auctions) M Ashwini Naidu, and director CTRI D Damodar Reddy were present.

**Source**: <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mysuru/tobacco-institute-of-india-fetes-farmers/articleshow/91192956.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mysuru/tobacco-institute-of-india-fetes-farmers/articleshow/91192956.cms</a>