

Review and Situation Analysis on existing policies for :

**COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL TOBACCO  
CONTROL  
IN INDONESIA**

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A Country Report Submitted to SEARO

Prepared by :

Farida Soetiarso

CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

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## PREFACE

This report describes the situation of tobacco control in Indonesia that has been well conducted by NGO and the Government as well as the obstacles they are facing. From such report as accompanied by the results of studies and facts in the community, as well as the barrier as undergone by the field worker, then it is made a strategic plan for a comprehensive tobacco control.

Even though there has been many documentation concerning the negative effects of smoking, the prevalence of smokers in Indonesia is getting up. More younger people are starting to smoke and the number of smokers are coming from low economic status. It is expected that this strategy can be implemented and successfully alleviate/decline the prevalence of smokers in Indonesia.

Farida Soetiarso

[farito@centrin.net.id](mailto:farito@centrin.net.id)

## **Analysis on Existing Policies on Tobacco Control for Comprehensive National Tobacco Control In Indonesia**

### **Introduction**

The cigarette consumption in Indonesia is rising faster than anywhere in the world. In 1990 the Indonesian smokers covered 2.7% of the world consumption, then in the year 2000 it had reached 6.5% of the world consumption. The age of the smokers was 80% productive and 85% - 90% of them were smoking clove cigarette kretek.<sup>1,2,3</sup> 40% of their income was spent for cigarette as done by the people of low and medium economy group. Indonesia, like some other countries, have been afraid to act to control smoking. Fearing that their intervention could harmful economic consequences. Some worry that reduced sale of cigarette would mean the permanent loss of thousands of jobs, that higher tobacco taxes would result in lower government revenues. As the result tobacco control program has not been the main priority and is not politically supported.<sup>4</sup>

Clove cigarette is typical Indonesian cigarette that can be identified as cigarette mixed with clove of not more than 30 % per stick.<sup>5</sup> According to Banbury report no. 9, the different of clove cigarette to ordinary cigarette is eugenol and its derivation in clove cigarette smoke as the result of clove combustion contained in clove cigarette. The *eugenol* effects are mild euphoria, topical anesthesia, paralyzing coughing reflex and synergy with nicotine in increasing the effect of addiction.<sup>6</sup> This matter has not been taken into account in tobacco control so far. The addiction effect is very strong, exceeding other ordinary cigarettes, and it is the effect mild euphoria that makes the smoker always says: no smoking means not working. There is no knowledge about the product of typical Indonesian cigarette, so that the Government

Regulation does not mention the requirements of allowable eugenol content. Only nicotine and tar are mentioned like ordinary cigarette. Unfortunately the cigarette industries are pressing the Institute for Food and Drug Control (POM) that in tar calculation, the element of eugenol is to be crossed out due to the fact that there is no eugenol in ordinary (non-clove) cigarette.

The stigma created in public says that if the regulation on tobacco control is enforced, then the labor and farmer will be in trouble. That matter was experienced by the author when asking a porter in the market why you smoked, it would be healthier if you did not smoke? He easily answered that it was a pity for the labor if the cigarette was not saleable. There have been various dilemma reasons from the cigarette industries so as to remain free to produce the cigarette, whereas the labor and farmer who are always made as bumper remain poor. The comparison between the taxes as given to the government and high advertising costs may provide a picture how unfair is the cigarette manufacturer against the labor and the farmer.

Smoking cigarettes create economic loss since to diseases attributable to tobacco includes cost of : purchasing cigarettes, medical treatment, and loss income due to illness, premature death, loss in come of family members because taking care the sick<sup>7</sup>. From the data of taxes paid and costs for advertisement it can be concluded that the cigarette industries have been developing very fast. To compare the advertising costs, the amount of tax collected, with health promotion for tobacco smoking in the year 2000 amounting to Rp. 100 million only is really ironic. Unfortunately the cigarette taxes are not reimbursable to the health sector

Table 1. Taxes, advertising costs and number of clove cigarette production in Indonesia.

Year	Tax/billion Rp. / US\$	Advertising costs /million Rp. / US\$	Clove cigarette production /billion stick
1997	4085 / 0.453	191000 / 31.8	180.429
1998	4400 / 0.489	233000 / 25.9	185.425
1999	10000 / 1.2	31400 / 34.9	191.830
2000	13000 / 1.5	831000 / 92.3	206.680

Source : Data Consult

Note : In 1997 : 1 US\$ rate = Rp. 6000

In 1998. 1999. 2000 : 1 US\$ rate Rp. 9000,-

To overcome the problem of smoking is not merely a health problem, but it is related to economy, agriculture, finance and trade. Tobacco control it requires a high level of political deal from the national level up to the public. Even though some government officials and politicians have got enough information, but not many of them who really understood the problem of smoking as required in the process for policy making. All the policies are supposed to protect the public, not protecting the cigarette industries as it is going on at this moment. For that matter the author proposes that starting from a public-based standpoint, it is expected that with the public consciousness/awareness for protecting themselves, the government is enforced to conduct a policy as demanded by the people. If it does not work, at least the public has refused cigarette, and the prevalence will be declining.

The Terms of Reference for Regional Review and Situation Analysis on existing policies for Comprehensive National Tobacco Control (CTNC) and opinion polling on existing and potential multi-sector mechanisms on consensus building for CTNC :

1. Review the current policies and regulations and other measures in place for tobacco control which were developed after 1975.
2. Discuss how these measures were developed and implementation with emphasis on how the process of development and implementation was initiated and conducted.
3. Identify practical difficulties in implementing the mechanisms currently in place.
4. Discuss new mechanisms, law, regulation and other initiatives needed to make the tobacco control efforts more comprehensive.
5. Identify state and non-state institutions involved in tobacco control and analyze their strengths and weaknesses in carrying out tobacco control activities at present, discuss how these institutions can strengthen their current activities and how they can become involved in developing and implementing new strategies for comprehensive tobacco control.
6. Identify gaps in current mechanisms in place to reduce tobacco-related harms and propose suitable mechanisms to address issues identified.

**I. Review the current policies and regulations and other measures in  
Indonesia for tobacco control were developed after 1975.**

Tobacco legislation is drafted by POM and stipulated in Government Regulation (PP) No. 81/1999. The stated objectives of PP 81/1999 are to : protect health from dangers of smoking, foster healthy lives, reduce the number of Indonesian who take up smoking, protect lives of passive smokers. The content of the PP 81/1999<sup>8</sup>, are :

1. The nicotine content may not exceed 1.5 mg/stick and tar content may not exceed 20 mg/ stick.
2. On the cigarette it must be put a label with clear placement mentioning nicotine and tar contents, warning on hazardous smoking against health.
3. The Ministers related to agriculture, industry should make use of the research and technology so that the tobacco can be processed to produce cigarette nicotine and tar that comply with the requirements of point 1.
4. All cigarette products prior to their circulation are obliged to be registered at the Department in charge of health by proving that the level of nicotine and tar contents have complied with the requirements of point 1.
5. The sales of cigarette by automatic vending machine are limited to certain locations.
6. Cigarette advertisement with certain provisions can only be conducted in the printed media, and or outdoor media (article 17, paragraph 2).
7. Smoke free areas : Smoking is prohibited in public transport & work places, health institution, education. Special area is designated for smoking.
8. The community is requested to play a role in the participation of activities for supervising, organizing and securing the cigarette for health, such as the realization of smoke free areas, activities to reduce the number of smokers.

9. The related Ministers are encouraged to conduct the diversification of tobacco plant, the diversification of cigarette industry to other industries that remain feasible.

10. CRIMINAL provisions, (according PP 81/1999):

- Violation to points 1, 2, 5, 6 is subject to punishment of maximum imprisonment for 5 years, and or maximum penalty of Rp. 100,000,000.- (one hundred million rupiah / US\$ 11,111)
- Violation of cigarette product that is not registered and non-compliance with the requirements of point 1 and not mentioning hazardous smoking and free of charge giving at the time of promotion are subject to penalty of maximum Rp. 10,000,000.- (ten million rupiah / US\$ 1,111).

11. Provisions of article 39:

- a. Each machine-made cigarette or import of machine-made cigarette to Indonesia which is already in existence at the time of enactment of this Government Regulation, it has to adjust the limit of maximum tar and nicotine contents according to the provisions as above mentioned in 2 years after the enactment of the provisions at the latest.
- b. Each hand-made cigarette which is already in existence at the time of enactment of this Government Regulation, it has to adjust its production according to the stipulated requirements at the latest as follows:
  - \* 5 years for big scale cigarette industry
  - \* 10 years for small scale cigarette industry

There is a strong pressure from the cigarette industries on the existing tobacco plant still has high nicotine content, so that the required diversification to obtain variety of tobacco plants with low nicotine content needs time.

Some articles of the Government Regulation No. 18/1999 are amended by **Government Regulation No. 38/2000<sup>9</sup>**. The amendments are as follows:

1. Article 17, paragraph 2, cigarette advertisement can be conducted in electronic media, printed media or outdoor media (previously there was no electronic media).
2. Article 39, paragraph 2: provisions to adjust production according to the Government Regulation:
  - Large producers of machine-made clove cigarette in 7 years at the latest (previously 5 years).
  - Small producers of hand-made clove cigarette in 10 years at the latest.

**II. Discuss how these measures were developed and implementation with emphasis on how the process of development and implementation was initiated and conducted.**

There are only some items of the regulations that are undertaken properly, namely:

1. Label of warning on hazardous smoking against health available on the cigarette package.
2. Mentioning of tar and nicotine contents is only for ordinary cigarette, but clove cigarette does not mention it because its contents is still above the allowable regulation.
3. The sales of cigarette with automatic vending machine is really restricted.

Violations as occurred in the implementation of regulation:

1. All regulations relating to the requirements of tar and nicotine contents are not complied with by clove cigarette because of time dispensation as given to the clove cigarette industries is still long. The research on clove cigarette

with the most marketable/having a lot of consumers, the author finds out that the tar content is 65.6mg/cigarette stick and the nicotine content is 3.5mg/stick, as well as the existence of eugenol amounting to 12.92mg/stick of clove cigarette.

2. Cigarette advertisement violates the criteria already set
3. Smoke free area is not complied with at all.
4. The public has not played a role in the supervision of non-smoking area.
5. Efforts have not yet been made for diversification of tobacco plant/cigarette industry to other industries.
6. Existing regulation are not enforced & are frequently ignored. No sanctions are imposed despite the existence of criminal code as it is not enforced.

### **III. Identify practical difficulties in implementing the mechanisms currently in place**

1. The knowledge of the public on the type of cigarette and smoking consequences against health is very trivial.
2. The regulations are “not properly” socialized to the public, so that the public is lack of playing role in the supervision/implementation of regulations as set.
3. The reason of big scale clove cigarette industry to postpone the government regulation (from 5 years to 7 years) is the time required to get variety of tobacco plant with low nicotine content. As a matter of fact, high or low content of nicotine on tobacco leaf depends on the location where the tobacco is planted. There is an area that produces tobacco leaf with high nicotine, but there is also another area that produces tobacco leaf with relatively low nicotine. In addition, the low or high nicotine can be controlled in the process of cigarette making.
4. The other reason is that the refining process can only be conducted with sophisticated equipment in a big scale cigarette industry, so that if the

regulation is applied the small-scale cigarette industries will be collapsed/closed down. While the most popular/marketable cigarette in the community is from big scale industries that are able to pay very high advertising costs.

5. The height of tar content in clove cigarette will not be able to diminish if the clove content in the cigarette is not reduced. The Department of Industry stipulates more or less 30% of clove/stick, in reality the most marketable cigarette in the market has clove content amounting to 40%. In a cigarette smoke analysis, the author has found out eugenol as a result of clove burning amounting to 12.92 mg/ stick. According to the Institute for Food and Drug Control (POM) the eugenol content on clove cigarette circulating in the market is ranging between 8 mg – 19 mg/stick.
6. No implementation, because there are no enforcement or reprimand so that it is difficult to implement the regulations, particularly in the smoke free areas. Although it is in the room with air conditioner, people keep smoking without caring of other people who do not smoke.
7. The rights of non-smokers have not been socialized. So that they have no courage to reprimand the smokers.
8. POM is the institution that makes regulations on tobacco control in the sense of control against cigarette product, but control against the people is not its responsibility. Health Promotion Directorate of MOH which is in charge of tobacco control as a separate program, but only part of one of the priority programs (lifestyle).It is unclear who responsible for enforcement.
9. There is no special officer in MOH who care seriously in tobacco control, and the person who is handling it at this moment does not recognize the field concerning matters related to cigarette, such as cigarette industry,

tobacco agriculture, types of cigarette and others. In fact, in the field there is no field worker currently working to help heavy smokers.

#### **IV. Discuss new mechanisms, laws regulation and other initiatives needed to make the tobacco control efforts more comprehensive.**

From the reports and facts in the field it is very hard to expect a new regulation issued by the government in the framework of tobacco control. Due to the government and the community still have the principle that cigarette is very supportive in the state financing and employment. Although there are many studies that have reported that the loss in other sector is bigger than the disguised benefit. Because the smokers in Indonesia are in a very worrying stage, particularly the community with low income earning, it is really required a new breakthrough with international assistance to implement a comprehensive tobacco control.

This new mechanism can be divided into two groups, first of all is what can be done without the government and it is very urgent for implementation and the second group is what should be done by the government by making new laws/regulations.

**As a first step**, it is required mass communication expert for :

1. Conducting health education which indicates pathological process as to how the smoke is entering the mouth and damage the lungs. As it has been done in Australia, but it requires a dialogue with an Indonesian model using public figure of former smoker who stops smoking due to sickness, or dangdut (typical Indonesian rhythm) singers who are very popular in the grass root community. By looking at the pathological process, the community will be worried/scared, broad casting continuously in the electronic media at

show time as favored by the community. Using pamphlets and posters only, it will be in vain.

2. Making jargons of “no smoking” in various local dialects (10 local dialects) which will be easily imitated by children, for comedy materials.
3. Approach of religion figures, for Moslems particularly in Pesantren (traditional Islamic boarding schools), so as to remind them that smoking is “MAKRUH” which means that if not smoking you will get reward from God (pahala), but if smoking you have no sin.
4. Providing Nicotine Replacement free of charge to smokers who want to stop smoking, this service is disseminated up to the Puskesmas (Community Health Center) and NGO that is dealing with tobacco control.
5. Socialization of government regulations, publication of the results on research resulted from smoking against health and family economy.

The fund is concentrated on the 5 points above that are crucial for immediate execution. The researches for evaluation are not yet needed, it is enough while waiting for National Household Survey (SKRT) in the next 5 years so that the financing can be fully utilized for the above matters.

**The second step** is proposal to the government for:

**I. Making Government Regulation in:**

1. Determining the limit of eugenol content on clove cigarette because it is not allowed to exceed 1.5 mg/stick based on the research of the author against clove cigarette.<sup>10,11</sup>
2. Making prohibition to sell/buy/own cigarette to children aged below 18 years.

**Comment:** this is important because cigarette sellers in the streets are generally children and their income is also for buying cigarette so that it stimulates novice smokers who are younger.

## **II. Determining penalty for people/institutions violating the Government Regulation, particularly in the smoke free areas.**

The penalty requires a good administration, it can be organized in a structure of local non-smoking area. For instance, the Satpam (security officer) of the area who is indirectly the officer himself must be a non-smoker. It requires an idea as to how the penalty system is organized by the respective area, violation penalty by cigarette manufacturer will go into the cash of tobacco control.

## **III. Making nicotine tablet industry for nicotine replacement**

The tobacco farmer is not losing his job. Considering that the prevalence of smokers is very high it is important to make efforts that the price of nicotine replacement is cheap.

## **IV. Indicating special focal point for tobacco control**

Both in MOH/NIHRD for control against the community, and in POM for control against regulation implementation.

## **V. Making reporting structure for tobacco control activities**

The role activities of the community and NGO for tobacco control can be monitored to avoid overlapping.

**VI. Increasing tobacco tax and part of the tax from cigarette is for tobacco control program.**

It seems to be difficult, since in this month of September the Minister of Trade & Industry made an announcement for not increasing the tax of clove cigarette because the increase of last year has an impact for production decline. It is a pity that the government is not supporting the tobacco control program.

**V. Identify state and non-state institutions involved in tobacco control and analyze their strengths and weaknesses in carrying out tobacco control activity.**

**I. Government.**<sup>2,3</sup>

**A. National Agency for drug and food (POM):**

- Control the quality, measure tar level, tobacco nicotine spread out in all parts of Indonesia.
- Set up government regulation, under coordination of addictive substance and narcotic director.
- Should meet with department of industry & trade that really support the tobacco industry.
- Misperception regarding tobacco control implemented by POM which is quality control, and it is not social control.
- It is only limited to control, there is no sanction, routine procedure of controlling.

Tobacco control program for public is not implemented because according to their perception, it is not their task. Unclear who responsible for controlling.

**B. MOH, Health Promotion Directorate:**

- There is no special program because no smoking is just part of healthy life style program.

- Making pamphlet, poster with unclear destination, no result orientation, and it has not been evaluated.
- Celebrating the No Smoking Day, annually at national level
- Meager budget for tobacco control.

C. National Institute of Health Research and Development.

- Every 5 year, preparing National Household Survey (SKRT) that may produce smoker prevalence in all parts of Indonesia both in urban or rural. Survey on smoker based on certain group is less urgent because there is more urgent issue, fund is focused on the appropriate health promotion.

D. Customs Department.

Ensure to check whether warning of smoking danger against health has been attached, also tax label, prior to tobacco distribution.

E. Ministry of Trade and Industry.

- License approval for new tobacco factory, both at central as well as regional level.
- Decide the Indonesian Industry Standard, however it tends to obey more on the tobacco factory wishes, because poor knowledge of pharmacology of clove cigarette.
- Supporting ( based on the pressure of) cigarette manufacturers to cross out clove cigarette from additives substance to the POM which was certainly rejected by POM.
  - Only look at big income from cigarette, and stressing that clove cigarette is the mascot of Indonesia, expecting to be provided with facilities.

F. Ministry of Agriculture

- Guiding the farmer to produce tobacco with low tar and nicotine contents.
- Facilitating the meeting of farmers to see the possibility that the product of tobacco is not used for cigarette.

- Possessing tobacco research unit that is technically playing the role to assist the farmers.
- As a matter of fact, the land area that is good for tobacco planting can also be planted with expensive commodity like vanilla that has rather high export value.

#### G. Manpower

- The workers indirectly involved in cigarette industries are not so many, it is about 200,000 people <sup>9</sup>, the bigger portion is sellers who are available everywhere, including those in the streets. Because selling stimulates consuming, particularly children, the global loss is bigger than the benefit. In general, the children who get money from selling the cigarettes/street children will use their money incorrectly such as buying cigarette, playing ding-dong/bingo.

## II. NON – GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

The condition of health of the community as a result of smoking at this moment can be categorized as a “Global public health emergency”. Being aware of the magnitude of the threat, the efforts for controlling will give more significant result if all the NGOs are united with professional organizations to establish a National Committee on Smoking Control.

By conducting the movement jointly or separately but in the frame as already agreed upon, the NGOs and professional organizations can take part in influencing the decision of state leaders concerning major issues that adversely affected the community and change the perception of the community on smoking which spoils the health.

The members of National Committee on Smoking Control <sup>12</sup>, consist of :

7 NGOs of Health

5 NGOs of Non-Health

7 NGOs of professional organizations

The vision of the National Committee on Smoking Control is “creating the Indonesian community that is free from hazardous smoking”

One of its missions is struggling for national policy and law enforcement in the field of smoking and tobacco control.

In fact that the anti smoking program is more prominently conducted by the NGO rather than by the government.

One of the outstanding ones is lawsuit against the violation of advertising show by cigarette manufacturer which legal proceeding is underway.

NGOs, one which is particularly dealing in smoking is Indonesian Smoking Control Society, the other ones are related to foundation for disease prevention relating to smoking as risk factor such as Heart, Cancer, Asthma, Stroke and TB Foundations.

Each NGO has a program as can be seen in the appendix.

**Strengths and weaknesses:**

Good program, having different targets, daring to sue the violation of advertisement in the court. Unfortunately, it has not set any sanction against violation, lack of knowledge on cigarette products, the program is limited to local models, not nation-wide. The program priority echoed nationally has not been jointly done. It is imperative to prioritize urgent condition requiring immediate handling.

It will be more significant if the program is targeted to the whole community due to the fact that smokers have already been widespread to all levels of the community. It needs to be thought to utilize professional experts of mass communication, public service advertisement who can touch/scare smokers. If it is already under control, then other the program can be used for maintenance. Only to these NGOs that we expect the prevalence of smoking will be decreasing, because the government is still ambivalent.

## **VI. Identify gaps in current mechanisms in place to reduce tobacco-related harms and propose suitable mechanisms to address issues identified**

The major problem is on the government exception of department of health are :

1. It really depends on a very high tobacco tax, and each business that relates to tobacco production shall be impeded. There is no political support, is always reminded that state revenue shall depends on tobacco tax.
2. Government and community do not have knowledge about clove cigarette that is not the same as ordinary cigarettes where its addiction level is very high.
3. Tobacco company always emphasize upon the tobacco farmers to protect its company, if the tax increased then the tobacco leaf price is decreased too. To ovoid PP 81/1999, they urge the farmers living on area with high tobacco nicotine level not to by such tobacco leaf and just by it with low price.

Due to major issues as mention above, some policies arise that really put the community in troubles such as the following points :

1. There is no special program with clear actions, target and lines of responsibility as well as focal point for tobacco control.
2. Government as well as public lack of knowledge on clove cigarette even though the majority smoke clove cigarette.
3. Eugenol rate were found in clove cigarette is not found in ordinary cigarette and its maximum limit has not been controlled/stipulated. Whereas eugenol is synergy to nicotine in increasing the addiction effect.
4. PP 81/1999 or 39/2000 are not properly socialized to the public.
5. Government does not stipulate sanction against violation
6. No cessation programs
7. There is no regulation for prohibit for person under a certain age to purchase, possess, use, sell tobacco product.

8. Farmers demonstrate to revoke PP 81/1999, so that the clove cigarette shall freely poison the people.

**The proposed mechanism :**

Due to we are not able to rely on government or change the existing stigma that tobacco saves budget, therefore we start to educate the people through the appropriate health education program which involves mass communication expert. The people are expected to protect themselves from harmful of smoking and finally Ministry of Health is pushed to prepare and strengthen the non existing regulation to protect the people from the harmful of smoking.

**Operationally, the following points are recommended :**

1. Identifying focal point for tobacco control, either the MOH or POM, or NIHRD. They are able to collaborate with NGOs to develop a National Tobacco Control Strategy with target and lines of responsibility.
2. Publish, the result quality control of cigarette by POM, which includes how much is tar, nicotine, eugenol rate with the name of cigarette's brand. So the people can recognize how harmful is the substances contained in the tobacco. In fact, the most popular clove cigarette has very high tar, nicotine, eugenol rate, and it may increase its addiction effect.
3. Government (MOH) determine the limit content of eugenol in clove cigarette which may not exceed 1,5 mg /stick. It is expected that the addiction level shall decrease and it is easier to stop smoking.
4. Regulation for prohibit for person under a certain age to purchase, possess, use, sell tobacco product.
5. Penalty is given to those who violate PP
6. Establish cessation clinic, shall be carried up to Public Health Center level.

7. Government company establish nicotine tablet that is consumed for replacement nicotine therapy, so the price may be cheaper. It is able to process tobacco leaf and the result there is no agriculture impact.
8. Seriously warn the clove cigarette industry that absolutely does not abide with the regulation and as the result they shall put the farmer in trouble. In other side the company shall be benefited while the people suffer from loss. They are not responsible and just left the rules to the farmers and let them against to government concerning such issue.

Illustration : (National daily news paper, October 6, 2002)

### **“A day in a life of tobacco labor”**

It was just 5.00 AM, a woman went out from her house, walking for about 100 meters heading to the main road to wait for public transport to cigarette manufacture. This woman does not want to mention her name and address just like her other friends since she had been threaten for several times even they will be fire if they inform something about factory/company to other people. The existence of 20 tobacco company in Kudus, a small town in Central of Java with total labor 100.000 is really a most significant economic aspect to this town.

The labor majority is woman, mostly are under 25 years old, their highest education is junior high school. Most of them work on contract basis (their income depends on how many cigarettes be able to produced on daily) or they work part time on daily basis, up to the condition where they give up working. Working time from 5.30 / 6.00 AM to 2.00 PM. Their salary between Rp. 10.000,- to Rp. 12.000,- (one dollar 30 sent). They spend Rp. 1000,- (15 sent) for transport and Rp.1000,- for lunch. According to Labor Union Confederation of Indonesia, most of the labor seldom breakfast or lunch

because of limited time, they are afraid will miss valuable time to produce more cigarette. So they can get more money. At 2.00 PM, some of the labor immediately go home, and some have to pay their debt installment to the local creditor who has been waiting for them.

The existence of those miserable poor labor are closely related to labor issues as well as humanity issues besides the success story of cigarette manufacture itself. That is getting booming compared to the labor story. In fact such factory is one of the biggest which employ 70.000 laborers, produces average 150 millions cigarette per day and contribute tax Rp. 10 billion per day.

**Regional News Paper, October 8, 2002.**

Thousands of tobacco farmers were demonstrating in front of Central Java Regional Parliament in Semarang (Capital City) demanding for the following :

Government has to revoke PP 81/1999 concerning tar, nicotine, since such PP only put the tobacco farmers in trouble. If it is not revoke, those farmers will demonstrate to Jakarta.

Government has to decrease cigarette tax at the half point out of the current one (40%). Due to high tax shall be the reason of clove cigarette company to decrease the tobacco & clove price. Finally the farmers are inflicted to loss, they could not buy fertilizer, insecticide and seeds.

**Note.**

Not all region which produce tobacco with high nicotine rate, depend on the land structure.

- In the high land with cold climate, tobacco leaf grows take time longer and the nicotine level is high.
- In the plain land, hot climate, growing tobacco plantation are more quickly, and nicotine level lower. The process in the factory, nicotine level could be decreasing. No reason cigarette company threaten the farmers.

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