

E-cigarette or vaping devices

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Why in news?

The Union Cabinet has approved a total ban on e-cigarettes and vapes in India.

What are these?

- An electronic cigarette (also known as electronic nicotine delivery systems, vaporizer cigarettes, and vape pens) is a **battery-operated device** that emits **doses of vaporized nicotine, or non-nicotine solutions**, for the user to inhale.
- Aims to provide a similar sensation to inhaling tobacco smoke, without the smoke.
- Are sold as aids to reduce or quit smoking.
- It was invented by Hon Lik, a Chinese pharmacist.

How they work:

Most e-cigarettes have:

- a mouthpiece, or cartridge
- a heating element
- a rechargeable battery
- electronic circuits



As the user sucks on the mouthpiece, a sensor activates a heating element that vaporizes a flavored, liquid solution held in the mouthpiece. The person then “vapes,” or inhales, the aerosol solution.

The **solution, also known as e-liquid** or e-juice, is made by extracting **nicotine from tobacco and mixing it with a base, usually propylene glycol**, and flavoring. The nicotine content

varies from zero to “extra-high,” or 24 to 36 milligrams (mg) per milliliter (ml).

Nicotine, what is it?

- Nicotine is an **alkaloid plant which contains nitrogen** and can be grown synthetically on various plant types, including the tobacco plant.
- Nicotine is both sedative as well as stimulant.