



Artistes performing a street play at Novelty Chowk in Amritsar on Friday.

Youth spread drug alert

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To spread awareness and educate the people and youth of the city about the ill effects of alcohol and tobacco and its adverse impact on the society as a whole, Chronic Care Foundation organised a street play *Nasha Mukht Punjab*, which was staged by a group from Delhi at Nehru Complex at Lawrence Road.

The play, staged by a group

of eight artistes, focused on the reasons behind the youth falling into the net of drugs and the difficulties they face and finally how it effects their health and creates disturbance in the family as well as in the society.

Talking to *HT*, Gurjeet Kaur, development officer, programme and project of Chronic Care Foundation, said, "To spread awareness on prevention of drugs and substance abuse, we launched 'Nasha Mukht

Punjab' campaign that will include a series of community awareness activities, which will be held across the city from January 15 to 19. The aim of the campaign is to promote and educate the people about prevention of chronic diseases."

While talking about the campaign and the artistes, she revealed that during this five-day campaign, a series of street plays (*nukkad nataks*) will be staged to educate people about the ill effects of

drugs and its impact on society.

All the artists are from the orphanages and under 18 years of age. Along with their studies, these artistes perform plays from time to time for social welfare.

One of the artists, Punkaj Gupta said, "I aim to become a good actor. Besides participating in these plays, I am doing my graduation and helping other students in performing plays too."