

DISTRICT OFFICE (HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE)

CIRCULAR

"Tobacco free Govt Institutions"

The harmful effects of tobacco use are well established and accepted globally. The use of tobacco is a prominent risk factor for 6-8 leading causes of death and almost 40% of the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) including Cancer, Cardiovascular disease and Lung disorders are attributable to Tobacco uses. The number of death every year in India which is attributed to Tobacco use is almost 8-9 Lakhs.

Whereas the Central Government has enacted the Cigarette and other Tobacco products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulations of Trade and Commerce Production, Supply and Distribution) Act (COTPA) in 2003, to protect the youth and the masses from adverse harmful effects of Tobacco use and 2nd hand smoking.

Whereas COTPA envisages protection of non-user from involuntary exposure to Tobacco Smoke, which specifically finds mention in section 4 of the ACT that Prohibits Smoking in Public Places which includes all Public Offices, Wok Places, and Canteen etc.

Whereas spiting of Tobacco etc leads to spread up Swine flu, Tuberculosis and Pneumonia and Gastro intestinal diseases. TB bacilli can survive in spit for an entire day which causes health problems to the Public or nuisance to the people in general.

Whereas in Section 268 of the Indian Penal Code stipulates that, *a person guilty of Public nuisance who does any act or is guilty for an illegal omission which causes any common injury, danger or annoyance to the public or to the people in general who dwell or occupy property in the vicinity, or which most necessarily cause injury, obstruction, danger, or annoyance to persons who may have occasion to use and public right.*

Whereas the interest of public health and with a view to keep the Govt. Office premises clean thus an contributing towards the *Swachha Bharat Swachha Bharat* campaign, the premise of all Govt Institutions is declared as Tobacco Free Zone. As such smoking and spitting of Tobacco in the premise of all Govt Institutions are prohibited and is a punishable offence. This instruction should be strictly adhered to in all Govt institution/ Premises in Puri District. Guidelines for implementation of the 'Tobacco Free Zone' policy are at annexure.


Sj. Jyotiprakash Das.

Collector & District Magistrate, Puri