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Circular

Tobacco consumption is a major risk factor for various health problems and it is necessary to safeguard the health of the people. Hence it is intended that all Government Offices/Buildings shall be made "Tobacco-Free" by prohibiting smoking and consumption of all forms of tobacco products.

As per section 4 of Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution)Act, 2003, and Prohibition of Smoking in Public Places Rules (2&3), 2008, smoking in Government Offices/Buildings is an offence. As per Section 268 and 290 of Indian Penal Code, tobacco consumption shall be considered as "Public Nuisance". Hence, all Government Offices/Buildings in Karnataka including Vidhana Soudha and Vikasa Soudha are declared as "Tobacco-Free".

Any person violating the orders of "Tobacco-Free" Government Offices/Buildings by smoking or consuming tobacco products shall be penalized up to Rs.200.00 as per Section 21 of Cigarettes and other Tobacco products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade, Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 or as per Section 268 and 290 of Indian Penal Code or with both.

The Head or in-charge person of the Office shall take measures to display the necessary boards at the entrance of each floor of the Office/Building.

m. Augustan

(N. Sivasailam)

Principal Secretary to Government Health and Family Welfare Department

To: The Editor, Karnataka Gazette, Bangalore.

Copy to:

The Chief Secretary, Government to Karnataka, Bangalore.