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NO.-HPSES-H.O.- SAMAGRA SHIKSHA NAPDDR
(Drug Abuse)-2025
OFFICE OF THE STATE PROJECT DIRECTOR,
SAMAGRA SHIKSHA,
HIMACHAL PRADESH SHIMLA-171001.
Dated: Shimla-1, the 20 June 2026.



समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha

To

All Deputy Directors of School Education (Elementary/Secondary/Quality),
Himachal Pradesh

Subject: Mandatory compliance of Section 6(b) of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), 2003 – Installation of statutory warning signage and protection of the 100-yard Tobacco-Free Zone around all Schools.

Sir/Madam

Reference is invited to the communication dated 16 June 2026 received from the Mission Director, National Health Mission, Himachal Pradesh regarding strict compliance with Section 6(b) of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), 2003.

It has been observed during enforcement and monitoring activities done by Flying Squads that tobacco products continue to be sold within 100 yards of Schools in violation of Section 6(b) of COTPA, 2003. Further, many Schools have not displayed the mandatory warning signage prescribed under the Act and Rules framed thereunder. During enforcement drives, violations have been detected across the State and action has been taken against offending vendors as well as Heads of Schools for non-compliance with statutory provisions.

In view of the above, all Government, Government-Aided and Private Schools, DIETs and Bal Vatika shall ensure strict compliance with the following directions:

1. DISPLAY OF MANDATORY WARNING SIGNAGE

The statutory warning board prescribed under Section 6(b) of COTPA, 2003, as per Annexure-I, shall be installed immediately and prominently displayed at the main gate, all entry/exit gates and other conspicuous locations along the outer boundary of every School. The signage shall always remain clearly visible and legible.

2. PROTECTION OF THE 100-YARD TOBACCO-FREE ZONE

Every Principal/Headmaster shall undertake mapping and line-listing of all shops, kiosks, street vendors and commercial establishments located within 100 yards of the school boundary. For the purpose of Section 6(b) of COTPA, 2003, the prohibited distance of 100 yards shall be measured radially from the outer boundary of the school and not by walking distance, road distance or route distance. Accordingly, all shops, kiosks, vendors and commercial establishments falling within the 100-yard radius of the school boundary shall be treated as falling within the prohibited zone. A general notice, in the enclosed format, shall be issued to all such establishments informing them that sale of tobacco products within this prohibited zone is an offence under Section 6(b) of COTPA, 2003. A sample notice is enclosed for ready

reference. A copy of the notice shall invariably be endorsed to the Incharge of the nearest Police Station/Police Chowki for information and necessary action.

3. RESPONSIBILITY OF HEADS OF SCHOOLS

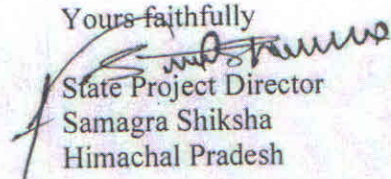
The above directions are statutory requirements under COTPA, 2003 and not merely advisory in nature. Every Principal/Headmaster shall be personally responsible for installation of the prescribed signage, protection of the 100-yard Tobacco-Free Zone, mapping of establishments and issuance of notices. Failure to comply with these requirements shall be treated as non-compliance of statutory provisions. In case any violation is detected during inspections or enforcement drives, the concerned Head of School shall be held personally responsible and liable for action under the provisions of COTPA, 2003 and Rules framed thereunder.

4. TIMELINE

All DIETs, all government and private schools from Balvatikas to 10+2 shall complete the above activities positively by 30th June 2026. The Deputy Directors concerned shall personally monitor compliance and ensure completion within the stipulated timeline. A consolidated District-wise Action Taken Report (ATR), in the enclosed format, shall be submitted to the office of the undersigned with cc to osdncdhp@gmail.com on or before 5th July 2026.

The matter shall be accorded top priority, and these instructions shall be complied with in letter and spirit.

Yours faithfully


State Project Director
Samagra Shiksha
Himachal Pradesh

Copy to:

1. The Secretary Health to the Government of Himachal Pradesh cum Chairperson State Level Coordination Committee for Tobacco Control for kind information please
2. The Secretary Education to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla for kind information please
3. The Mission Director National Health Mission, Himachal Pradesh for kind information please
4. The Director School Education, Himachal Pradesh for kind information please
5. Office copy

Deputy Director of
School Education (Sec)

23 JUN 2026

Dispatch No. 3985
Kangra at Dharamshala


State Project Director
Samagra Shiksha
Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No.-EDN-KGR(Sci. Consultant-) Drug Abuse -2025-26
O/o The Dy. Dir. of School Education (Sec.) Kangra.

Copy to:-

All the School Heads of GSSS/GHS/GMS/Pvt. schools in Distt. Kangra are directed to go through the letter and mandatory compliance of section 6(b) of the Cigarettes and other Tobacco products Act (COTPA)-2003.


Dy. Director of School Education (Sec.)
Kangra at Dharamshala.

पत्र संख्या: _____
दिनांक: _____

सेवा में,

श्री/श्रीमती _____ (दुकान/प्रतिष्ठान के मालिक)

_____ (दुकान/व्यावसायिक प्रतिष्ठान का नाम)

विषय: विद्यालय के 100 गज के दायरे में तम्बाकू उत्पादों की बिक्री पर प्रतिबंध के संबंध में सूचना।

महोदय/महोदया,

आपको सूचित किया जाता है कि सिगरेट एवं अन्य तम्बाकू उत्पाद अधिनियम (COTPA), 2003 के अनुसार किसी भी शैक्षणिक संस्थान के परिसर की बाहरी सीमा से 100 गज के भीतर सिगरेट, बीड़ी, गुटखा, खैनी, जर्दा, तम्बाकू युक्त पान मसाला, हुक्का तम्बाकू, ई-सिगरेट तथा अन्य किसी भी तम्बाकू उत्पाद की बिक्री करना कानूनन प्रतिबंधित है।"

विद्यालय द्वारा किए गए निरीक्षण में यह पाया गया है कि आपकी दुकान/प्रतिष्ठान विद्यालय की सीमा से 100 गज के भीतर स्थित है। इसलिए आपकी दुकान/प्रतिष्ठान विद्यालय के उस क्षेत्र में आता है जहाँ तम्बाकू उत्पादों की बिक्री की अनुमति नहीं है।

अतः आपसे अनुरोध है कि अपनी दुकान/प्रतिष्ठान में किसी भी प्रकार के तम्बाकू उत्पाद का भंडारण, प्रदर्शन, बिक्री या वितरण न करें तथा इस कानून का पालन सुनिश्चित करें।

कृपया ध्यान दें कि समय-समय पर पुलिस, फ्लाइंग स्काड तथा अन्य विभागों द्वारा निरीक्षण किए जाते हैं। यदि निरीक्षण के दौरान तम्बाकू उत्पादों की बिक्री करते हुए पाया जाता है, तो कानून के अनुसार कार्रवाई की जा सकती है।

विद्यालय के आसपास तम्बाकू-मुक्त वातावरण बनाए रखने तथा बच्चों को तम्बाकू के दुष्प्रभावों से बचाने में आपके सहयोग की अपेक्षा है।

भवदीय,

प्रधानाचार्य/मुख्याध्यापक
_____ विद्यालय

प्रतिलिपि सूचना एवं आवश्यक कार्यवाही हेतु:

1. उप निदेशक, स्कूल शिक्षा, जिला _____।
2. खंड चिकित्सा अधिकारी (BMO), स्वास्थ्य खंड _____।
3. थाना प्रभारी, पुलिस थाना/पुलिस चौकी _____।
4. कार्यालय प्रति।

प्रधानाचार्य/मुख्याध्यापक
_____ विद्यालय

19/6/26

No.NHMHP-NCD0GEN/4/2019-E-11539 -410
National Health Mission
Himachal Pradesh

To

The State Project Director
Samagra Shiksha Himachal Pradesh
Shimla - 171001



Subject: Ensuring compliance with Section 6(b) of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), 2003 and protection of the 100-yard tobacco-free zone around educational institutions.

Sir,

I convey appreciation for the commendable efforts being undertaken by Samagra Shiksha, Department of School Education towards implementation of Tobacco-Free Educational Institution (TOFEI) guidelines in schools across the State. Several activities are being carried out to bring awareness among students regarding the harmful effects of tobacco use and promoting a healthy school environment.

However, despite the progress achieved, a matter of serious concern has emerged during enforcement and monitoring activities conducted under the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), 2003. It has been observed that in several locations, tobacco products continue to be sold by shopkeepers within a radius of 100 yards of educational institutions, which is prohibited under Section 6(b) of COTPA, 2003. Further, a substantial number of educational institutions have not displayed the mandatory warning signage prohibiting the sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of the educational institution, as prescribed under the Act and Rules framed thereunder.

During various enforcement drives undertaken by flying squads, the above violations were reported from different parts of the State. Action was taken against the offending vendors and, in certain cases, penalties were also imposed upon the heads/in-charges of educational institutions for non-compliance with the statutory provisions relating to display of mandatory signage.

In view of the above, I would request your good office to kindly issue suitable directions to all Principals, Headmasters and Heads/In-charges of Government as well as Private Educational Institutions in the State to ensure the following:

1. **Display of Mandatory Signage:** The warning board prescribed

Sh. Vansha Singh
19/6/26

under Section 6(b) of COTPA, 2003 shall be prominently displayed at the main entrance, all entry gates and other conspicuous locations along the boundary of every educational institution
Sample attached as Annexure 1.

2. **Protection of the 100-Yard Prohibited Zone:** All educational institutions may be directed to conduct a mapping of shops, kiosks, street vendors and other commercial establishments situated within 100 yards of the institution and issue a general notice to all such establishments, informing them that sale of tobacco products within the said prohibited area is an offence under Section 6(b) of COTPA, 2003. Such notice shall be served uniformly upon all establishments located within the prohibited zone. A copy of the notice may also be endorsed to the Incharge of the nearest Police Station/Police Post for information and necessary action, wherever required.

The above measures are not merely advisory in nature but constitute a statutory requirement under the provisions of COTPA, 2003. Ensuring strict compliance is essential for protecting children and adolescents from exposure to tobacco products and for maintaining tobacco-free educational environments across the State.

I shall be grateful, if necessary, directions are issued to all concerned authorities under your administrative control for immediate compliance and appropriate monitoring.

With regards
16 JUN 2023
Kasuri P. Sharma-9HP
MISSION DIRECTOR (NHM)

Yours sincerely,

Digitally signed by
PRADEEP KUMAR THAKUR
Date: 16-06-2023
12:21:08 Director
National Health Mission
Himachal Pradesh
Shimla-09 the,

Endst. No. as above Dated

Copy to:

- 1. The Secretary Health to the Government of Himachal Pradesh cum Chairperson State Level Coordination Committee for Tobacco Control for kind information please.
- 2. The Secretary Education to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla for kind information please
- 3. Office copy

Mission Director
National Health Mission
Himachal Pradesh