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Light Up And Pay Up, 2 Months From Now

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Light up and pay up, 2 months from now

TNN / Updated: Feb 24, 2012, 01:10 IST



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BHOPAL: If you are [smoking](#) on a road side or in public places, be ready to pay Rs 200, if you are caught. The District Administration will impose this spot fine soon. "According to Tobacco Control Act 2008, the Supreme Court had banned smoking in public places and at the road side," collector Nikunj Shrivastav said. "Even though we had failed to implement this in [Bhopal](#) all this long, we will impose a spot fine of Rs 200 on smokers in the district in two months from now," he said at a meeting on Thursday. The administration will take all measures to discourage smoking at public places in the city, the collector said, adding, "We will educate the people on the pros and cons of smoking," the collector said.

The responsibilities for collecting fines will be divided as per departments. School principals will be eligible to collect fines from the people found smoking near or on the school premises. Office heads are eligible for charging fine from officials smoking in and around the office premises. The administration also banned sale of tobacco products within 100 meters around schools. The [Bhopal Municipal Corporation](#) and police will be responsible for collecting fines from the people found smoking at public places. The administration will also issue orders to hotels to have special smoking zones.

The administration is also organizing cancer camps to treat patients suffering from cancer or other fatal diseases due to smoking

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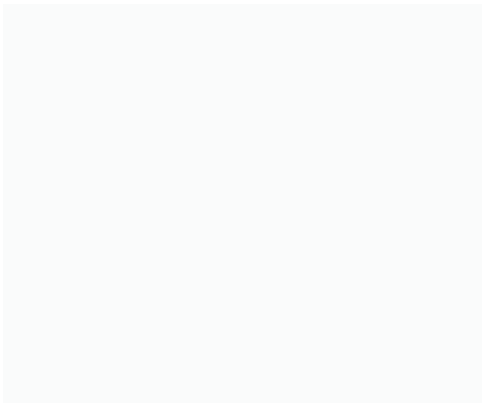
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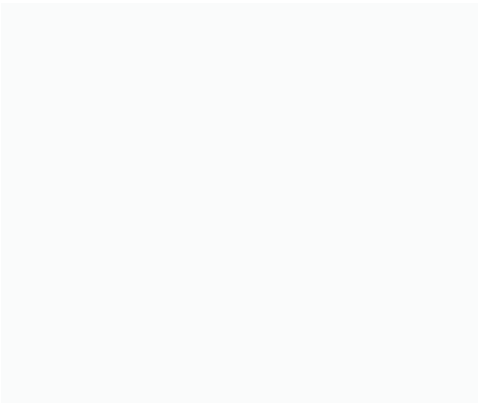
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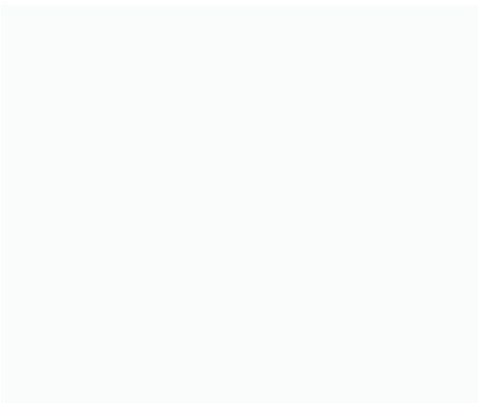
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