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**THIS STORY IS FROM APRIL 10, 2013**

## Schools in city declared no tobacco zones

Rageshri Ganguly / TNN / Apr 10, 2013, 04:56 IST

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BHOPAL: The school education department has declared all schools of the city as [tobacco](#) free zones and directed to limit tobacco use at all these places. Orders to this effect were issued here on Tuesday. Violators found using tobacco or tobacco products within 300 ft of school radius would be fined Rs 200, as per the orders. District education office (DEO) C M Upadhyay told TOI, "All schools in the city will be no tobacco zones. This decision was taken by the administration on world health day. Schools have been instructed to install a notice board stating 'no tobacco zone' in the school premises within 15 days."

He informed that 300 ft or 100 m radius around schools would be tobacco free. "Besides, principals would be entrusted with the task of enforcing the directive strictly and given the authority to fine smokers and tobacco chewers Rs 200," he said. A meeting of the government high school and higher secondary principals would be convened within a couple of days to inform them of the new rule. "Also the CBSE schools under cluster coordinators would be told to abide by the directives and after 15 days a feedback on the installation of the boards and the state in the schools would be taken," said Upadhyay.

On the existing pan-gutka shops he said, "The principals would be asked to inform about shops selling tobacco products in the defined area and they would be removed." However, he agreed that total compliance was a difficult proposition. "But the staff, teachers and parents around schools would be fined," he added.

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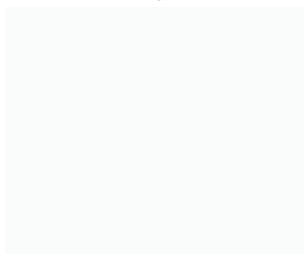
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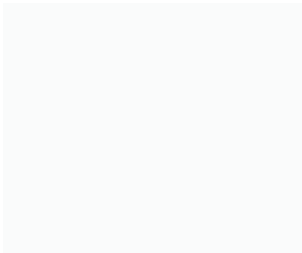
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