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# FDA may turn on heat if samples show tobacco

TNN / Updated: Jun 11, 2012, 15:20 IST



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BHOPAL: The [hookah lounges in Bhopal](#) may face action in case test reports of the samples taken from these lounges show [tobacco](#) content. The [FDA](#) took the samples from seven hookah lounges in Bhopal in May last week and the report is expected within a week, FDA sources said. "Since hookah does not come under the FDA Act, we cannot take any concrete action against the owners," Hridesh Dwedi, food inspector said, adding, "If these samples contain tobacco, we will serve them notice through the ADM for violation of Cigarettes And Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA, 2003)." The [FDA officials](#) hope the hookah lounges could be legally closed down, the way they were closed down in Indore.

The FDA took hookah samples from hookah lounges in MP Nagar, 10. No. Market, Mansarovar Complex and Bittan Market. The step was initiated by the FDA on the instructions of collector Nikunj Shrivastava. "We cannot shut down the hookah lounges as they do not come under our ambit. As far as smoking hookah's is concerned, we cannot take any concrete step as they are dedicated smoking zones and do not harm the residents," collector Nikunj Shrivastava said.

Interestingly, the FDA had also taken samples from these hookah lounges in January this year. Despite these samples being positive of tobacco, no action was taken against them, FDA officials admitted at a meeting with the collector on the World Tobacco Day

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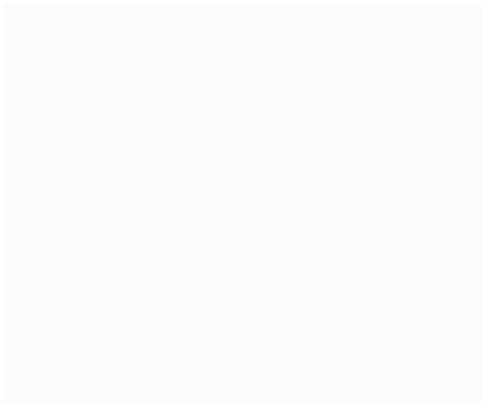
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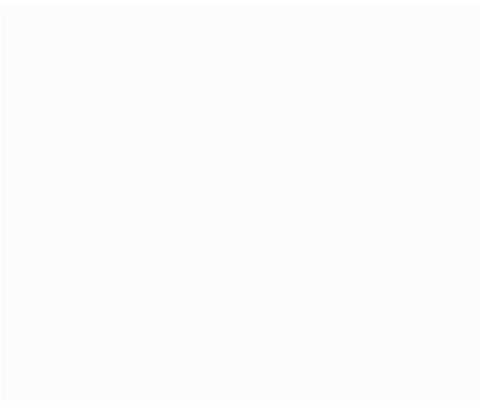
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