

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2581
ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024

Prohibition of smoking near Educational Institutions

2581 Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government notified the various rules for effective regulation of tobacco products from time to time for prohibition of smoking in public places;
- (b) whether sales of tobacco products to minors and sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institution, direct and indirect advertising and promotion of tobacco products has been banned; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SHRI JAYANT CHOUDHARY)

(a) to (c): The Government of India enacted ‘The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply, and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA)’, which prohibits smoking in public places, direct or indirect advertisement of tobacco products, sale of tobacco products to or by minors and sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of any educational institution. Additionally, COTPA mandates that 85% of both sides of a tobacco product's packaging must display pictorial health warnings. To strengthen these efforts, the Tobacco-Free Educational Institutions (TOFEI) Manual was developed and launched on World No Tobacco Day, 31st May, 2024 by the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, in the presence of representatives from all States and Union Territories (UTs). Educational institutions are required to display the signages of “Tobacco Free Educational Institution” and “Tobacco Free Area” at prominent places and appoint monitors to ensure compliance. Awareness activities, along with penalties for violations, aim to create a healthy, tobacco-free environment for students.
