No. EDN(SE)-H(10)F(10) /2026 –Anti Drugs
Directorate of School Education
Himachal Pradesh

Dated: Shimla-171001 the **June 2026.**

Directorate of School Education
25 JUN 2026
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171001

To

All the Deputy Directors of School Education (Secondary)
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.**

Memo;

Reference is invited to the communication dated 24 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.

In this context, 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 Schools and Private Schools 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 as per **Annexure-II** 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 government and private schools 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 as per Annexure-A, shall be submitted to the office of the undersigned with cc to osdncdhp@gmail.com on or before 5th July 2026.

Therefore you are directed to issue necessary instructions to all the Govt. and Private schools under your control that matter may be given top priority, and these instructions may be complied with in letter and spirit.

Director School Education
Himachal Pradesh

Endst No. Even Dated: Shimla-171001 the **June 2026**.

Copy for information to:

1. The Secretary (Health) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh cum Chairperson State Level Coordination Committee, Shimla-2, 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 Nodal Officer IT Cell with the request to upload the same on departmental website.
5. Guard file.

Directorate of School Education
25 JUN 2026
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171001

Director School Education
Himachal Pradesh

Annexure-II

पत्र संख्या: _____
प्रधानाचार्य/मुख्याध्यापक का कार्यालय
_____ विद्यालय

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 स्क्वाड 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

ANNEXURE -I

तम्बाकू मुक्त शिक्षण संस्थान

इस शिक्षण संस्थान के 100 गज के दायरे में किसी भी प्रकार के तम्बाकू उत्पाद बेचना कानूनी अपराध है, उल्लंघन करने वालों पर 200/- रुपये तक का जुर्माना हो सकता है।

यदि कोई भी व्यक्ति उल्लंघन करता हुआ पाया जाये तो तुरंत सूचित करें

नाम_____

पद नाम_____

मोबाइल नंबर_____

आदेशानुसार:- जिला प्रशासन

ANNEXURE-A

ACTION TAKEN REPORT (TIMELINE 5.07.2026) ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 6(b) OF THE CIGARETTES AND OTHER TAOBACCO RODUCTS ACT (COPTA), 2003 AND PROTECTION OF THE TOBACCO-FREE ZONE AREOUND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION, DITRICT..... HP

Sr. No.	District Name	Name of Education Block	Name of the School	School Address	UDISE No. (Mandatory)	Sector (Government/Private)	Name of Principal/Headmaster	Mobile Number (mandatory)	Email ID (mandatory)	Whether Warning sign board as per Section 6 (b) is displayed ? Yes/No	Total number of all types of shops/establishments within 100 yards from outer boundary are linelisted	Number of shops/establishments to whom Notice has been issued?