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**Manav Rachna International Institute
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CIRCULAR

“TOBACCO FREE MANAV RACHNA”

The harmful effects of tobacco use are well established and accepted globally. The use of tobacco is a prominent risk factor for 6 to 8 leading causes of death and almost 4096 of the Non Communicable Diseases (NCD) including cancers, cardio-vascular diseases and lung disorders are attributable to tobacco use. The number of deaths every year in India which is attributable to tobacco use is almost 8-9 lakhs.

Whereas the Central Government has enacted the Cigarettes and other Tobacco product (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulations of Trade and Commerce Production, Supply and Distribution) Act (COTPA) in 2003, to protect the youth and the masses from adverse harmful effects of tobacco use and Second Hand Smoking.

Whereas COTPA envisages protection of non-user from involuntary exposure to tobacco smoke, which specifically finds mention in Section -4 of the Act that prohibits smoking in public place which includes all public offices, workplaces, canteen etc.

Whereas spitting of tobacco etc. leads to spread of swine flu, tuberculosis, and pneumonia and gastro-intestinal diseases. TB Bacilli can survive in spit for an entire day which causes health problems to the public or nuisance to the people in general.

Whereas Section 268 of the Indian Penal Code stipulates that *a person is guilty of a public nuisance who does any act or is guilty of an illegal omission which causes any common injury, danger or annoyance to the public or to the people in general who dwell or occupy property in the vicinity, or which must necessarily cause injury, obstruction, danger or annoyance to persons who may have occasion to use any public right.*

Whereas in the interest of public health and with a view to keep the building clean, thus contributing towards the "Swachh Bharat Swasth Bharat" campaign, the premise of Manav Rachna International Institute of Research is declared as "Tobacco Free Zone". As such smoking and spitting of tobacco in the premise of Manav Rachna are prohibited and is a punishable offence. Guidelines for implementation of the "Tobacco Free Zone" policy are at Annexure.


31.5.23
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Subject- Tobacco Free Manav Rachna

Dear Colleagues,

As you all are aware tobacco use heavily impacts the social and economic fabric of the community in addition to the health problems it creates. The government of India has over the years evolved a number of legislations to combat, control and contain the supply, demand, use and distribution of Tobacco Products. The two entities driving these efforts are the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA) with its latest amendment proposed in 2020 and the Framework Convention for Tobacco Control by World Health Organization to which India is a Signatory. Both these provisions are working synergistically to implement legislations and guidelines to reduce and control tobacco use.

This year on the occasion of World No Tobacco Day, I am pleased to inform you that we are declaring a movement titled "**Tobacco Free Manav Rachna**" by implementing the COTPA guideline for warning against use and sale tobacco products across the campus. A set of guidelines to implement the same in all individual department buildings has been attached herewith along with this email. All Deans, Directors and Heads are requested to implement the same in their premises.

This is for your information and necessary action.



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Guidelines for implementation of "Tobacco Free Zone"

Annexure

1. A board shall be displayed prominently at each entrance of the building, near the lifts and on different wings of each floor, with the following specifications:
 - a) The board shall be of a minimum size of 60cm X 30cm.
 - b) The board shall contain the following warning "Use of any form of tobacco in this premise is prohibited and is a punishable offence with fine up to Rs. 200/-" in English or one Indian language, as applicable.
 - c) The board shall display at the bottom the name and other details of the person(s) to whom a complaint may be made for violation.

60cm



2. Head of Institute should be identified to whom complaint about violation(s) can be reported and should be authorized to impose and collect the fine against the violation.
3. Board (Size: 60 cm x 30 cm) as specified below should also be placed at the main entrance of the premise;

60 cm



4. A box should be placed at each entry gate of the building; any person who possesses any tobacco product should put it in the box before entering into the premise.