

No. Z.21020/19/2020-TC
Government of India
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
(Tobacco Control Division)

Pr. Secy Health, Medical Ed
Secy Disants Navag

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 10th April, 2020

Chief Secretary
Jharkhand, Ranchi

To,

The Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs

Subject: COVID 19 and spitting of Smokeless Tobacco in Public - regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to the subject mentioned above and to say that Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Department of Health Research, Govt. of India has issued an appeal to the General Public namely "Not to consume and spit Smokeless Tobacco in Public".

2. As per the appeal "*Chewing Smokeless Tobacco products, Paan masala and areca nut (supari) increases the production of saliva followed by a very strong urge to spit. Spitting in public places could enhance the spread of the COVID19 virus*". In view of the increasing danger of COVID-19 pandemic, ICMR has appealed the general public to refrain from consuming the smokeless tobacco products and spitting in public places during the COVID epidemic.

3. The State/UT Governments have necessary authority under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and also under various provisions of Indian Penal Code 1860 and Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPc) to deal with Covid-19.

4. In this background, it is requested that necessary preventive measures may be taken under the appropriate law to prohibit the use and spitting of chewing smokeless tobacco products in public.

5. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,

(Pradip Kumar Pal)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Tel: 011-23063019

मुख्य सचिव कार्यालय
आरक्षण, रांची
ग.स.प्रे.स. 2122
दि. 11/04/2020

1. Principal Secretary/Secretaries (Health) of all States/UTs
2. State Nodal Officers for Tobacco Control of all States/UTs
3. Chief Media Officer, PIB, MOHFW, Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
(Tobacco Control Division)

Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated: 08th April 2020

Chief Secretary
Nirman Bhavan

The Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs

Subject: COVID-19 and spitting of Smokeless Tobacco in Public - regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to the subject mentioned above and to say that Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Department of Health Research, Govt. of India has issued an appeal to the General Public namely "Not to consume and spit Smokeless Tobacco in Public".

2. As per the appeal "Chewing Smokeless Tobacco products, Paan masala and other gut (spit) products poses the production of saliva followed by a very strong urge to spit. Spitting in public places could enhance the spread of the COVID-19 virus". In view of the increasing danger of COVID-19 pandemic, ICMR has appealed the general public to refrain from consuming the smokeless tobacco products and spitting in public places during the COVID epidemic.

3. The State/UT Governments have necessary authority under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and also under various provisions of Indian Penal Code 1860 and Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPc) to deal with COVID-19.

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