

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:674

ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008

BAN ON SMOKING AT PUBLIC PLACES

Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has proposed recently to impose the country-wise ban on smoking at public places, Government offices and other places in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the policy formulated and the salient features thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) & (b) The Prohibition of smoking in Public Places Rules, 2008 notified vide GSR No. 417(E) dated 30th May 2008 has come into force from 2nd October 2008. The new Rules aim to protect the non-smokers from ill effects of passive smoking/ environmental tobacco smoke (ETS).

Smoking is strictly prohibited in all public places. "Public Place" includes auditorium, hospital buildings, health institutions, amusement centers, restaurants, public offices, court buildings, educational institutions, libraries, public conveyances, stadium, railway stations, bus stops, workplaces, shopping malls, cinema halls, refreshment rooms, discotheques, coffee house, pubs, bars, airport lounge etc.

Salient features are as under :-

Any violation of this Rule is a punishable offence with fine upto Rs. 200.

However, a Hotel having thirty or more rooms or restaurant having seating capacity of thirty persons or more & airports may provide / have a separate smoking area or space, as required by the rules.

The owner, proprietor, manager, supervisor or in charge of the affairs of a public place shall ensure that:

a) No person smokes in the public place(under his jurisdiction/ implied)

b) The board as specified in schedule -II of the rules; is displayed prominently at the entrance(s) of the Public place and conspicuous place(s) inside.

c) No ashtrays, matches, lighters or other things designed to facilitate smoking are provided in the public place.

The owner, proprietor, manager, supervisor or in charge of the affairs of a public place shall notify and display prominently the name of the person to whom a complaint of any violation may be made.

If the owner, proprietor, manager, supervisor or the authorized officer of a public place fails to act on report of such violation, the owner, proprietor, manager, supervisor or the authorized officer shall be liable to pay fine equivalent to the number of individual offences.