

- India is the second largest country in Asia, with a population of 1.15 billion.
- A smoke-free law was approved in late May 2008 and took effect October 2, 2008.

► **IMPLEMENTATION DATE**

October 2, 2008

► **SHORT TITLE: PROHIBITION OF SMOKING IN PUBLIC PLACES RULES, 2008.**

General Statutory Rule: 417(E)

► **100% SMOKE-FREE VENUES INCLUDE:**

- Restaurants, coffee houses, pubs and bars with a seating capacity of less than 30.
- Hotels with fewer than 30 rooms
- Shopping malls
- Educational institutions and libraries
- Cinema halls
- Workplaces
- Auditoriums, open auditoriums, amusement centers, stadiums, railway stations, bus stops etc.
- Hospitals

► **PARTIALLY SMOKE-FREE VENUES.** Smoking is permitted in hotels with 30 rooms or more, in restaurants, coffee houses, pubs, and bars with seating capacity of 30 or more persons, and in airports, but only in designated smoking rooms that meet the following conditions:

- Smoking rooms must be physically separated and surrounded by full height walls on all sides, have an entrance with an automatically closing door normally kept closed, have a ventilation system that vents directly to the outside, and have negative air pressure in relation to the rest of the building.
- Smoking rooms should be used exclusively for smoking; no food or beverage or other services may be provided in any smoking rooms.

► **COMPLIANCE MEASURES.** Individuals in charge of public places and workplaces (i.e., owners, proprietors, managers, supervisors) are expected to comply with the law to ensure that:

- No person smokes in the public places covered by the law.
- Individuals who violate the law are reported. Lack of appropriate reporting shall result in a fine imposed upon the individuals in charge of the designated public place.
- All designated smoking areas are sited away from entrances/exits of buildings.
- The name of the person(s) to whom a complaint may be made by anyone who observes others smoking in the public places is displayed in the public places.
- No ashtrays, matches, or lighters are provided in public places.
- Signage on smoking restrictions is prominently placed throughout public places, following the guidelines set by the law.

► **PENALTIES.** For individuals not abiding by the law (or persons in charge of public places not reporting infractions or not enforcing the law), a fine of Rs. 200 (US\$4) will be issued per violation and the individual will be subject to possible criminal sanction. (The Ministry of Health is currently working toward an increase in the fine.)

► **ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES.** The following individuals are responsible for enforcing the smoke-free law:

- **Public places:** Tax inspectors, health directors, central/state administrator heads, anti-tobacco nodal officers
- **Private offices/workplaces:** Office head (i.e., managers, administration heads)
- **Railways:** Station leaders
- **Educational institutions:** Institution heads (i.e., principals, headmasters, teachers)
- **Government offices:** Senior government officials
- **Airports:** Airport heads (i.e., managers, airport/airline officers)
- **Hospitals:** Hospital heads (i.e., directors, superintendents, administration heads)
- **Libraries:** Library heads, assistants, and librarians
- **Post offices:** Postmasters

► **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

- Central Government-sponsored media campaigns, including television and newspaper advertisements, are conducted around the country to educate the public about the smoke-free law.