



গুৱাহাটী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
Gauhati University
Gopinath Bordoloi Nagar, Jalukbari, Guwahati-781014

:: OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR ::

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NOTIFICATION

The Tobacco Control Monitoring Policy of Gauhati University (copy enclosed) is hereby notified for information of all concerned. This comes into immediate effect.

This has approval of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, G.U. dated 14.06.2023.

Sd/-
Registrar
Gauhati University

Memo No: GU/Regr(SF)/2023/Notification/100 (A)

Dated: 14.06.2023

Copy to:

1. Treasurer, G.U.
2. Secretary, University Classes, G.U.
3. Director, IQAC, G.U.
4. Deputy Registrar, G.U.
5. Secretary to the Vice Chancellor, G.U.
6. Secretary to the Registrar, G.U.
7. Estate Officer, G.U.
8. Members of the Tobacco Monitoring Committee
9. G.U. Website
10. Office Copy


Registrar
Gauhati University



Tobacco Control Monitoring Policy
Gauhati University

Objectives and Purpose - Tobacco Control Monitoring Committee –Gauhati University

Purpose

The Tobacco Control Monitoring Committee at Gauhati University is established to ensure a healthier and tobacco-free campus environment. By addressing tobacco-related issues comprehensively, the committee aims to create a space where students, faculty, and staff can thrive without the negative impacts of tobacco use. The committee will work collaboratively to enforce tobacco-free policies, raise awareness about the health risks associated with tobacco use, and provide resources for those seeking to quit.

Objectives

1. Policy Enforcement:

- Ensure strict enforcement of the university's tobacco-free policies and designated smoking areas.
- Collaborate with security personnel and campus police to monitor and address violations effectively.

2. Health Promotion:

- Raise awareness about the detrimental health effects of tobacco use through educational campaigns, workshops, and informational materials.
- Advocate for a healthier campus environment that supports physical and mental well-being.

3. Cessation Support:

- Provide resources and support for individuals looking to quit tobacco use.
- Collaborate with the university health center, counseling services, and relevant departments to offer cessation programs.

4. Research and Data Collection:

- Gather data on tobacco-related behaviors and trends among the campus community.
- Use research findings to enhance educational campaigns and enforcement strategies.

5. Collaboration and Outreach:

- Partner with student organizations, academic departments, and community stakeholders to create a unified effort against tobacco use.
- Engage in community outreach to promote the university's tobacco-free initiatives beyond campus boundaries.

6. Behavioral Change:

- Influence positive behavioral change by encouraging a culture that respects tobacco-free policies and prioritizes the health and well-being of all members of the university community.

7. Policy Enhancement:

- Periodically review and update tobacco-free policies based on feedback, research, and evolving best practices.
- Propose policy enhancements that align with the changing landscape of tobacco use and control.

8. Advocacy and Education:

- Participate in regional and national advocacy efforts to promote tobacco control and healthier communities.
- Educate external stakeholders about the university's commitment to a tobacco-free environment.

9. Socio-Economic Impact:

- Recognize the broader socio-economic impact of tobacco use and advocate for inclusive policies that address disparities.

10. Environmental Responsibility:

- Address the environmental impact of tobacco waste and advocate for sustainable practices within the context of a tobacco-free campus.

Tobacco Monitoring Committee Members:

1. Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell, GU **--- Chairperson**
2. Secretary, University Classes, GU **--- Vice-Chairperson**
3. Dr Rituparna Borah, (NSS Program Officer, GU)
4. Dr. Aparajita Baruah (Law Department)
5. Dr. P. Boro, Chief Medical Officer (GU Hospital)
6. Dr. Pallavi Sharma (Department of Environmental science)
7. Dr. Shabeena Yasmin Saikia (Department of Sociology)
8. Prof. Polee Saikia (Education Department)
9. Mr Pankaj Kalita (Security Officer)
10. Mr. Himangshu Kumar Das (Estate officer)
11. Dr H. K. Bhattacharyya, State Nodal Officer, State Tobacco Control Cell, Assam
12. Dr Arundhati Deka, State Nodal Officer, State Tobacco Control Cell, Assam
13. Mr Satyajit Das, International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease.
14. Mr. Rajdip Barua, Student representative (Law Department)
15. Arif Hussain Mir, Student Representative (PG)
16. Ms. Arundhati Hazarika, NSS Representative

Tobacco Monitoring Committee - Roles and Responsibilities

1. Chairperson (Prof. Bhaben Tanti)

- Lead committee meetings and ensure effective communication.
- Oversee the implementation of tobacco control policies.
- Coordinate with different departments to ensure compliance with regulations.

2. Vice Chair (Prof. Jagadish Sarma)

- Assist the chairperson in their duties.
- Take charge in the absence of the chairperson.
- Provide input on strategies to reduce tobacco use on campus.

3. Program Officer NSS Unit, GU (Dr Rituparna Borah)

- Offer counseling and support for individuals trying to quit tobacco.
- Organize workshops and programs on tobacco cessation.
- Collaborate with healthcare providers to provide holistic support.
- Create awareness among students through various campaigns.

4. Security Officer /Estate Officer

- Monitor and enforce designated tobacco-free zones.
- Collaborate with campus security to address violations appropriately.
- Report incidents and provide data to the committee.

5. Medical Advisor (Dr. P. Boro, CMO)

- Provide medical expertise on the health implications of tobacco use.
- Recommend cessation resources and support for individuals looking to quit.
- Review health-related communication materials.

6. Sociology Department Representative (Dr. Shabeena Yasmin Saikia)

- Offer insights on the social dynamics of tobacco use.
- Contribute to awareness campaigns and educational events.
- Conduct research on campus tobacco-related behaviors.

7. Legal Counsel (Dr. Aparajita Baruah)

- Ensure the committee's actions align with legal regulations.
- Advise on policy development and revisions.
- Review and draft official documents.

8. Environmental Science Department (Dr. Pallavi Sharma)

- Assess the environmental impact of tobacco waste.
- Suggest eco-friendly alternatives to traditional smoking areas.
- Assist in organizing campus clean-up events.

9. Education Department (Prof. Polee Saikia)

- Develop educational materials and workshops on tobacco dangers.
- Work with teachers to integrate tobacco education into the curriculum.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of educational initiatives.

10. Student Representative

- Act as a voice for students and their concerns related to tobacco use.
- Collaborate with student organizations to raise awareness.
- Gather feedback from students and propose relevant initiatives.

Enforcement Responsibilities - Tobacco Monitoring Comm'itee

1. Chairperson (Prof. Bhaben Tanti)

- Oversee the implementation of enforcement strategies.
- Coordinate efforts between different departments involved in enforcement.

Review and address any concerns or challenges related to enforcement.

2. Vice Chair (Prof. Jagadish Sarma)

- Support the chairperson in coordinating enforcement efforts.
- Ensure consistent enforcement procedures are followed.
- Provide input on adjustments to enforcement strategies.

3. Legal Counsel (Dr. Aparajita Baruah)

- Ensure that enforcement actions adhere to legal regulations.
- Advise on the appropriate consequences for violations.
- Review any potential legal challenges related to enforcement.

4. NSS Program Officer (Dr Rituparna Borah)

- Raise awareness among students about the importance of policy compliance.
- Gather feedback from students regarding enforcement methods.
- Suggest student-friendly initiatives to promote compliance.

5. Security Officer (Mr. Pankaj Kalita)/ Estate Officer (Mr. Himangshu Kumar Das)

- Regularly patrol designated tobacco-free zones.
- Address violations of tobacco policies in a respectful manner.
- Inform violators about the university's tobacco-free policy.
- Collaborate with security personnel to enforce tobacco-free policies.
- Provide guidance on the appropriate response to violations.
- Document incidents related to tobacco policy violations.

6. Medical Advisor (Dr. P Boro, CMO)

- Highlight the health risks associated with tobacco use.
- Emphasize the importance of a tobacco-free environment for public health.
- Provide medical evidence supporting the need for strict enforcement.

7. Sociology Department Representative (Dr. Shabeena Yasmin Saikia)

- Study and analyze the behavioral aspects of compliance and violations.
- Suggest sociological insights for more effective enforcement strategies.
- Contribute to educational campaigns to influence positive behavior.

Tobacco Regulations Enforcement Guidelines

1. Strict Compliance with COTPA:

- All tobacco-related regulations and enforcement actions will strictly adhere to the provisions outlined in the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA) 2003 and other related laws.

2. Clear Communication:

- Ensure that all members of the campus community are aware of the tobacco-free policies and the legal implications of violating them as per COTPA.

3. Designated Smoking Areas:

- Abide by the guidelines set forth in COTPA for designating smoking areas, including appropriate signage and distance from entrances.

4. No-Sale Zones:

- Enforce the prohibition of tobacco sales within the specified distance of educational institutions as per COTPA.

5. Fines and Penalties:

- Impose fines and penalties on violators in accordance with the fines prescribed under COTPA. Maintain a consistent approach to applying fines.

6. Youth Protection:

- Vigilantly prevent the sale of tobacco products to individuals below the legal age set by COTPA.

7. Reporting Mechanism:

- Establish a confidential reporting mechanism for members of the campus community to report violations promptly.

8. Documentation:

- Maintain accurate records of all reported violations, actions taken, fines imposed, and subsequent outcomes.

9. Collaboration with Authorities:

- Collaborate with local law enforcement agencies to ensure coordinated efforts in enforcing COTPA and related laws.

10. Education and Awareness:

- Conduct regular educational campaigns about COTPA and related laws to ensure awareness of the legal consequences of tobacco use and violations.

11. Transparent Enforcement:

- Ensure that enforcement actions are transparent, non-discriminatory, and applied uniformly to all violators.

12. Legal Consultation:

- Continuously consult legal experts to ensure that all enforcement actions are in full compliance with COTPA and other relevant laws.

13. Publicize Consequences:

- Clearly communicate the consequences of violations, including fines, penalties, and potential legal actions, to deter individuals from engaging in tobacco-related infractions.

14. Engage Student Organizations:

- Collaborate with student organizations to spread awareness about the importance of adhering to tobacco regulations and encourage positive behavior change.

15. Periodic Review and Improvement:

- Regularly review the effectiveness of enforcement strategies and guidelines. Make necessary adjustments based on feedback and outcomes.

These guidelines are designed to provide a comprehensive approach to enforcing tobacco regulations on campus while upholding the legal framework provided by COTPA 2003 and related laws.



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