## Government of Jammu & Kashmir Directorate of Rural Development Kashmir

rddkashmir@gmail.com website drdk.nic.in

Subject:- Implementation Cigarette and other Tobacco Product Act, 2003 (COTPA)-in all offices of Rural Development Department.

## CIRCULAR

In compliance to provisions of Cigarette and other Tobacco Products Act, 2003 and in the interest of public health all Offices of Rural Development Department including Panchayat Secretariats/VLW offices of Kashmir Division are hereby declared as "Tobacco Free Zones" where smoking and spitting of Tobacco shall be strictly prohibited and a punishable offence.

The concerned Officers shall display proper "NO SMOKING Area – Smoking Here is an Offence" signage in all such public offices. In respect of subordinate Offices, the respective Head(s) of Offices (Gazetted Officers) are the notified authorities to penalize the offenders as per Section 4 of Act and procedures laid down in Rule 3 & 5 of the rules issued under this Act. The list of specified Officers under schedule III is enclosed for reference.

In respect of Directorate of Rural Development Lal Mandi Srinagar, the designated authority to impose penalties under the said Act shall be Deputy Director (E&S) of this Office.  $\lambda$ 

Imam Din (JKAS) Director

Rural Development Department Kashmir

No:-DRDK/PYt/24285-400

Dated: - 27 -08-2022

Copy to the:-

 Commissioner / Secretary to Government Rural Development & Panchayat Raj J&K Civil Secretariat for information.

 Director of Health Services Kashmir for information and with the request to impart trainings in the subordinate Offices of this Directorate about implementation of COPTA-2003 through State Tobacco Control Cell of his Office.

3. All ACDs / ACPs / XEN REW / BDOs for information and compliance.

4. Deputy Director (E&S) DRDK for information and n/a.