

Licence Mandatory For Selling Tobacco Products: Health Ministry

[india.com/news/india/shops-with-licence-allowed-to-sell-tobacco-products-not-other-items-health-ministry-2503913/](https://www.india.com/news/india/shops-with-licence-allowed-to-sell-tobacco-products-not-other-items-health-ministry-2503913/)

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New Delhi, September 28: As per the fresh orders of the Union Health ministry, only shops with a licence or shops authorised through municipal authority will be able to sell [tobacco products](#) and not other items like candies, chips etc. A letter by the ministry in this regards was dispatched to all the states on September 21, reported [GovernanceNow](#).

highlights

- Only shops with a licence can sell tobacco products.
- The step is aimed to keep children away from cigarettes and other tobacco products.

Arun Kumar Jha, economic advisor, the ministry of health and family welfare, in this regard stated that with this implementation the government can make sure that children do not get exposed to tobacco products and for this, our team is ready to provide any support.

Speaking of the move of Health Ministry, Dr Pankaj Chaturvedi, head and neck cancer surgeon, Tata Memorial Hospital and an anti-tobacco activist said that shops / authorised vendors selling non-tobacco products like biscuits, soft drinks, candies etc would pave way for the cancellation of their licence. " Many shopkeepers keep cigarettes to attract children. This step is a jolt to the tobacco companies who are targeting kids," the Doctor further added.

The Narendra Modi government has put into practice the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulations of Trade and Commerce Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA) to curb the use of tobacco. The act is aimed to keep the children and young people away from tobacco products.