

Compliance Scenario of Tobacco Control Law at Public Places and Public Transports in Chattogram city

FACT SHEET 2019

Background:

Bangladesh government enacted Tobacco Control (TC) law and according to the law smoking is prohibited in all public places and public transports including government offices, educational institutions, hospital and clinic buildings, restaurants, and all mechanized public transports. Owners of public places and public transports are responsible for making their premises smoke free and displaying of 'no smoking' signage to comply with the law. Honorable Prime Minister declared in South Asian Speakers' Summit-2016 that Bangladesh would be tobacco free by 2040. YPSA (Young Power in Social Action) conducted the Survey with the technical assistance of CTFK (Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids) to assess the compliance scenario of TC law at public places and public transports in Chattogram city and provide evidence-based information to the policy makers and law enforcement authorities for taking appropriate measures.

Methodology:

A cross sectional observation survey was conducted in June 2019. A census of public places (Government Offices, Educational Institutions, Hospitals and Clinics, Restaurants) was carried out and a list of routes for intra-city public buses as appeared in the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority register was collected to establish the sampling frame. The required sample size was determined using standardized formula and samples (public places/buses) were selected using systematic sampling technique. Trained enumerators collected information using a set of standardized pre-tested checklists. Information were collected from 282 government offices, 125 education institutions, 187 health care facilities, 423 restaurants and 419 public buses.

Overall Findings

Overall TC Law violation (either smoking and/or absence of 'no Smoking' signage) at public place and public transport:

- 99% Government Offices were found to be in violation of TC law
- 100% Educational Institutions were found to be in violation of TC law
- 97% Health Care Facilities were found to be in violation of TC law
- 99% Restaurants were found to be in violation of TC law
- 100% Buses were found to be in violation of TC law

Smoking instances (direct smoking, presence of cigarette butts/ashtray and smell):

- 54% Government Offices were found with smoking instance(s)
- 41% Educational Institutions were found with smoking instance(s)
- 34% Health Care Facilities were found with smoking instance(s)
- 50% Restaurants were found with smoking instance(s)
- 85% Buses were found with smoking instance(s)

'No Smoking' signage:

- 98% Government Office were found not displaying 'no smoking' signage as per TC law
- 100% Educational Institutions were found not displaying 'no smoking' signage as per TC law
- 94% Health Care Facilities were found not displaying 'no smoking' signage as per TC law
- 98% Restaurants were found not displaying 'no smoking' signage as per TC law
- 100% Buses were found not displaying 'no smoking' signage as per TC law

- Smoking and Tobacco Product (control) uses (amended) act 2013
([https://ntcc.gov.bd/uploads/editor/files/2_bangladesh_tobacco_control_act_amended_2013\(1\).pdf](https://ntcc.gov.bd/uploads/editor/files/2_bangladesh_tobacco_control_act_amended_2013(1).pdf)).
- South Asian Speakers' Summit 2016, achieving sustainable development goals :
([https://pmo.portal.gov.bd/sites/default/files/files/pmo.portal.gov.bd/pm_speech/821de1a1_2b6e_4e9b_9ec9_ab68fa65778/SA_speakers_summit_310116_0rg\(1\).pdf](https://pmo.portal.gov.bd/sites/default/files/files/pmo.portal.gov.bd/pm_speech/821de1a1_2b6e_4e9b_9ec9_ab68fa65778/SA_speakers_summit_310116_0rg(1).pdf)).



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GOVERNMENT OFFICES

A census was conducted for identification of government offices in Chattogram city. A total of 287 offices were found. Among them 282 government offices were surveyed. Average observation time was 27 minutes (03-70 minutes).

Overall Violation

- 99% Government Offices were found to be in violation of TC law
- 54% Government Offices were found to be with smoking instance(s)
- 98% Government Offices were found not displaying 'no smoking' signage as per TC law
- 66% Government Offices were found not displaying any type of 'no smoking' signage.

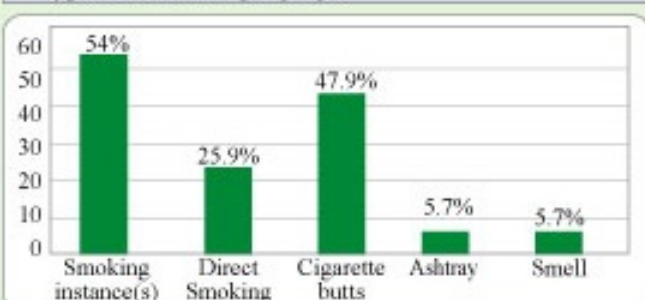


Figure 1: Smoking instance(s) in government offices

Table 1: Places where direct smoking was observed in the government offices. (n=73)

Place	Percentage
Entrance	75.3
Office room	19.2
Balcony	17.8
Exit	16.4
Stair	12.3
Toilet	1.4

* Multiple Responses

Table 2: Places where cigarette butts were visible in the government offices. (n=135)

Place	Percentage
Entrance	58.5
Balcony	29.6
Stair	25.2
Exit	20.7
Office Yard	14.8
Toilet	6.7
Canteen	0.7

* Multiple Responses

Other Major Findings:

- 19.5% Government Offices were found with instance(s) of betel spitting.
- 4% Government Offices were found with tobacco advertisement(s)
- 2.5% Government Offices were found with tobacco points of sale within the boundary.
- 63% Government Offices were found with tobacco points of sale within a 100-meter radius.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

A census was conducted for identification of educational institutions in Chattogram city and a total of 1,061 were found. Total 125 educational institutions were observed. Average observation time were 25 minutes (07-40 minutes).

Overall Violation

- 100% Educational Institutions were found to be in violation of TC law
- 41% Educational Institutions were found to be with smoking instances
- 100% Educational Institutions were found not displaying 'no smoking' signage as per TC law
- 83% Educational Institutions were found not displaying any type of 'no smoking' signage.

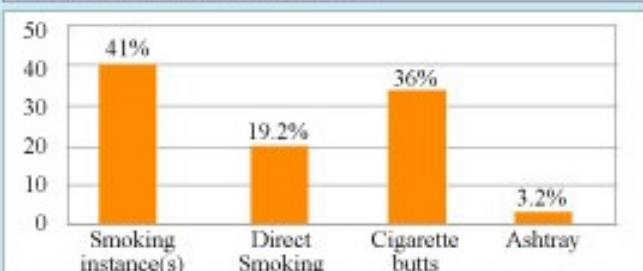


Figure 2: Smoking instance(s) in educational institutions

Table 3: Places where direct smoking was observed in the Educational Institution. (n=24)

Place	Percentage
Entrance area	75.0
Field	16.7
Balcony	12.5
Exit	8.3
Toilet	4.2

*Multiple Responses

Table 4: Place where cigarette butts were visible in the Educational Institution. (n=45)

Place	Percentage
Entrance	64.4
Field	48.9
Balcony	28.9
Exit	17.8
Dustbin	13.3
Toilet	11.1
Stairs	6.7
Canteen	4.4

* Multiple Responses

Other Major Findings:

- 22% Educational Institutions were found with instances of betel spitting.
- 4% Educational Institutions were found with tobacco advertisements.
- 1% Educational Institutions were found with tobacco points of sale within the boundary.
- 3% Educational Institutions were found where mobile vendor(s) were selling tobacco products within the boundary.
- 62% Educational Institutions were found with tobacco points of sale within a 100-meter radius.

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HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

A census was conducted for identification of Health Care Facilities (HCF) in Chattogram city and a total of 293 HCF were found. Among them 187 HCF were surveyed. Average observation time were 28 minutes (08-70 minutes).

Overall Violation

- ❑ 97% HCF were found to be in violation of TC law
- ❑ 34% HCF were found to be with smoking instance(s)
- ❑ 94% HCF were found not displaying 'no smoking' signage as per TC law
- ❑ 69% HCF were found not displaying any type of 'no smoking' signage.

Figure 3: Smoking instance(s) in health care facilities

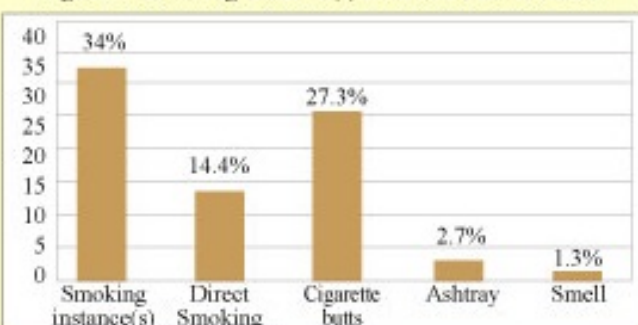


Table 5: Places where direct smoking was observed in the HCF buildings? (n=27)

Place	Percentage
Entrance	85.2
Balcony	14.8
Exit	7.4
Canteen	3.7
Stairs	3.7

* Multiple Responses

Table 6: Places where cigarette butts were visible in the HCF buildings. (n=51)

Place	Percentage
Entrance	64.7
Balcony	33.3
Stairs	29.4
Exit	15.7
Floor	13.7
Dustbin	11.8
Toilet	2.0

* Multiple Responses

Other Major Findings:

- ❑ 16% HCF were found with direct smoking outside the HCF buildings, but inside the boundary
- ❑ 9% HCF Institutes were found with instance(s) of betel spitting.
- ❑ 4% HCF were found with tobacco advertisement
- ❑ 2% HCF were found with tobacco points of sale in the HCF building.
- ❑ 4% HCF were found with tobacco points of sale outside the HCF, but inside the boundary.
- ❑ 4% HCF were found where mobile vendor(s) were selling tobacco products within the boundary.
- ❑ 61% HCF were found with tobacco points of sale within a 100-meter radius.
- ❑ 4% HCF were found to be distributing printed materials carrying messages on tobacco harms.

RESTAURANTS

A census was conducted for identification restaurants in Chattogram city. A total of 1,916 restaurants were found. Among them 423 restaurants were surveyed. Average observation time were 27 minutes (04-47 minutes).

Overall Violation

- ❑ 99% Restaurants were found to be in violation of TC law
- ❑ 50% Restaurants were found to be with smoking instances
- ❑ 98% Restaurants were found not displaying 'no smoking' signage as per TC law
- ❑ 76% Restaurants were found not displaying any type of 'no smoking' signage.

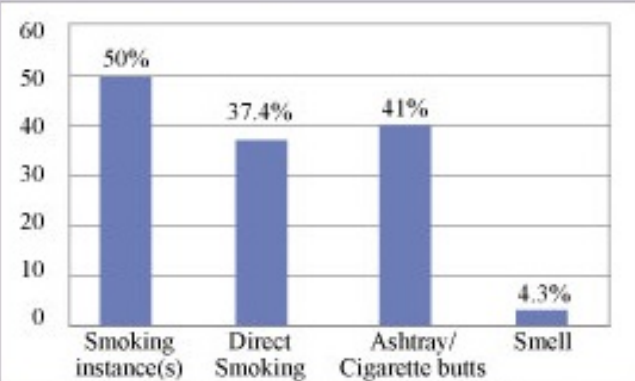


Figure 4: Smoking instance(s) in Restaurants

Table 7: Places where direct smoking was observed in the restaurant. (n=158)

Area	Percentage
Entrance area	58.9
Area(s) with tables and seating	54.4
Cash Counter	12.7
Stairs	2.5

* Multiple Responses

Other Major Findings:

- ❑ 23% Restaurants were found with instance(s) of betel spitting.
- ❑ 28% Restaurants were found with tobacco advertisement(s)
- ❑ 14% Restaurants were found selling tobacco products inside.



Smoking at Restaurant

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PUBLIC BUSES

A total of 419 intra-city one cabin non-AC public buses were observed from purposively selected 14 routes in Chattogram city. Average observation time was 22 minutes (02-102 minutes).

Overall Violation

- ❑ 100% Buses were found to be in violation of TC law
- ❑ 85% Buses were found to be with smoking instance(s)
- ❑ 53% Buses were found to be with cigarette butts while walk up and down the buses
- ❑ 100% Buses were found not displaying 'no smoking' signage as per TC law
- ❑ 92% Buses were found not displaying any type of 'no smoking' signage
- ❑ 9% Buses were found with tobacco advertisement(s).

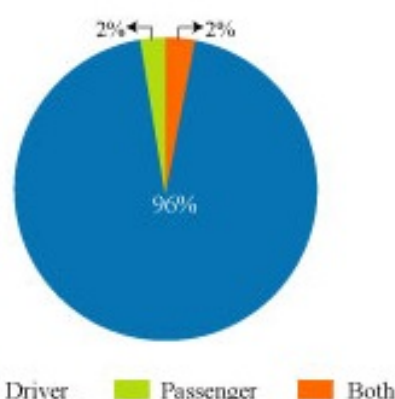


Figure 5: Person (s) smoking in the bus (%). (n=355)

Table 8: Time spent until smoking was observed in the buses.

Time category	Frequency	Percentage
15 minutes or less	151	42.5
16-30 minutes	107	30.1
31-45 minutes	67	18.9
40-60 minutes	20	5.6
61 minutes or more	10	2.8
Total	355	100.0



Smoking at Public Bus

Conclusion

- ❑ More than half of the government offices, 2 out of 5 educational institutions, more than one third of health care facilities, half of the restaurants and almost 9 out of 10 public buses were found with smoking instance(s).
- ❑ About cent percent government offices, educational institutions, health care facilities, restaurants and public buses were found not displaying 'no smoking' signage as per TC law.
- ❑ However, almost one third of the government offices and health care facilities, 1 out of 4 restaurants, one fifth educational institutions and 1 out of 12 public buses were found with displaying any kind of 'no smoking' messages.

Recommendations

- ❑ Authorities/owners of public places and public transports should take necessary measures for displaying sufficient number of 'no smoking' signage as per the law.
- ❑ Authorities/owners should take necessary measures for ensuring the smoke free public places and public transport.
- ❑ Concerned authorities should take necessary programs and operate mobile courts regularly to ensure smoke free provisions.



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