



Doctors of KEM Hospital take out a mock funeral procession of a giant cigarette to mark World No Tobacco Day. This year's theme of World Health Organisation is 'tobacco-free youth'.

KUNAL PATIL/HT

## Hookah joints must put up warning: Mayor

**Bhavika Jain**  
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HOOKAH JOINTS in city must display warning boards outside the doors stating their impact on health.

Mayor Shubha Raul said this on Saturday as she gradually tightened the leash on hookah parlours.

"The licensing process will be made more stringent so that fewer applicants could open a hookah bar," she said.

Taking her campaign against these joints to the next level, Raul claimed that she had instructed state Food and Drug Administration to collect tobacco samples from all the joints across the city and get them tested.

"If any one of them is found to have more than 15 per cent nicotine, the shop's licence will be cancelled," she said. Raul had made rounds of hookah bars on May 9.

Meanwhile, the city doctors have also started a campaign against tobacco, targeting their peers. Maharashtra Association of Resident Doctors (MARD) staged a skit on Saturday at KEM hospital to sensitise patients against the ill-effects of tobacco consumption.

According to World Health Organisation (WHO), only 27 per cent of doctors counsel their patients on the ill effects of tobacco.

"WHO's theme for the World No Tobacco Day is tobacco-free youth. We are trying to reach to youngsters and make them aware about its harms," said Ravikant Singh, MARD spokesperson.

MARD will continue its campaign throughout the year. "We are approaching colleges, media and corporate houses and will conduct seminars explaining health hazards of tobacco consumption," added Singh.