

तक्षेष्र-भ्रेष-क्षेष्र-तियो|तर्जु-म्रो-क्षेट-त-त्र-त्र-त्र्याः तथा।त्र्यः म्री-क्षिट्यः न्यायः स्वर् त्युयाः चित्रः

Royal Government of Bhutan Ministry of Economic Affairs Department of Cottage & Small Industry

MoEA/DCSI/31/2022/780

27thJuly, 2022

Notification

The Ministry of Economic Affairs would like to notify that the Rules and Regulations for the Places of Entertainment 2020 has been amended and the new Rules and Regulations 2022 has been adopted.

As per the new rules:

- 1. The places of entertainments are categorized into three groups. Category A will include Discotheque, Karaoke, Live Music and Snooker; and Category B will include Luyang, Cinema Hall, Video/Computer Gaming Arcades and Bowling Alleys. Other entertainment activities, including time bound activities, will fall under category C.
- 2. There shall be an Entertainment Licensing Committee (ELC) at the Dzongkhag/Thromde to review and recommend applications for licensing, and to inspect and monitor the operation of the places of entertainment under their jurisdiction.
- 3. A person wishing to obtain/renew entertainment license can apply directly to the respective ELC or to the local authorities along with all required documents.
- 4. The places of entertainment shall be located within the 'urban core' of demarcated Thromde boundary, Dzongkhag Throm and YenlagThrom.
- 5. The places of entertainment must conform to the specific technical standards (Schedule A) and operational standardrequirements(Chapter 4) as prescribed for each Category.

The places of entertainment under category A, among others, shall:

- Allow only persons above 18 years through proper age verification at the entrance. The onus to prove the age shall be on the owner of the entertainment center;
- Ensure that no person carries weapon or any other sharp/harmful objects inside the place of entertainment;
- Have separate dress code for artist and waiters/waitresses
- Ensure that there is no inappropriate physical contact that qualifies as harassment between artists and customers;
- Ensure that no employee/artist solicits financial or any other favour from the customers;



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Have adequate number of bouncer/security personnel, consisting of both male and female at all times, except for Snooker; and

- Have designated smoking room as defined by the Tobacco Control Act and its Rules and Regulations.
- 6. The places of entertainment shall only engage in activity specified in the license.
- 7. Any entertainment license holder (licensee) who violates any provision of the Rules and Regulations shall be liable to pay a fine equivalent to six months Daily National Minimum Wage or his/her Business Income Tax of previous year, whichever is higher.
- 8. If a licensee repeats the same violation for the second time, the license shall be cancelled for three years and no new license shall be issued at the same place of operation for three years.
- 9. Any person found operating Entertainment centers without valid license shall be liable to pay a fine equivalent to ten years Daily National Minimum Wageand immediately close the center.

All the entertainment license holders are expected to read and fully understand the provisions of the Rules and Regulations for the places of Entertainment 2022 available on www.moea.gov.bt> Downloads > Acts, Rules & Regulations, Policies & Guidelines to avoid consequences.

Ministry of Economic Affairs