

**Sensitization Meeting on Advancing Tobacco Control with  
Special emphasis on Capacity Building and Enforcement of COTPA,  
2003 and also Tobacco Control Through Introduction of Tobacco  
Vendor Licensing System**  
**With the councillors and other Officials of Gangarampur Municipality**  
**on**  
**12.03.2019**

**Introduction:**

Tobacco is threatening to become an uncontrollable epidemic with 13 lakh deaths every year due to tobacco related diseases. Economic burden (both direct and indirect) of tobacco use in India is estimated to Rs. 104,500 crores per year. In this context tobacco control programs aim to reduce disease, disability and death related to tobacco use. Against this backdrop MANT has been facilitating for establishment of effective and efficient system of tobacco control in the state of West Bengal.

**Planning:**

Project Coordinator, Tobacco Control Programme approached the Honourable Chairman, Gangarampur Municipality for organizing a Sensitization Meeting on Advancing Tobacco Control with Special emphasis on Capacity Building and Enforcement of COTPA, 2003 and also Tobacco Control through introduction of Tobacco Vendor Licensing system with the councillors and other officials of Gangarampur Municipality. After several discussions between Regional Coordinator and Honourable Mayor of Gangarampur Municipality, the date has been finalized for the meeting on 12.03.2019.



**Focus:**

The main focus of the programme was to orient and sensitize the councillors and other officials of Gangarampur Municipality on Advancing Tobacco Control with Special emphasis on Capacity Building and Enforcement of COTPA, 2003 and also Tobacco Control through introduction of Tobacco Vendor Licensing System.

**Venue:** Chairman's Chamber, Gangarampur Municipality

**Programme Date:** 12/03/19

**Schedule Time:** 2.00 pm-4.00 pm

**Duration:** Two hours

**Target Group:** Councillors and other officials of Gangarampur Municipality.

**No of stakeholders:** 25

### **Resource persons:**

Mr. Amalendu Sarkar, Vice Chairman,  
Gangarampur Municipality

Mr. Ajit Kr Mondal, Executive Officer,  
Gangarampur Municipality

Ms. Samarpita Sanyal, Project Coordinator-  
MANT

Mr. Joydeb Mondal, Regional Coordinator-  
MANT



### **Content of the Programme:**

- Tobacco Burden in India and West Bengal with special reference to health effects of tobacco use.
- Causes of Tobacco Use
- An overview of COTPA(section 4,5,6,7)
- Tobacco Vendor Licensing

### **Methodology:**

- Presentation on Health Burden of Tobacco Use and an overview of COTPA 2003.
- Videos
- Interactive Session
- Sharing of Best practices of Purulia, Mal, Guskara and Mathabhanga Municipalities

### **Decission Taken:**

- The meeting was chaired by Mr Amalendu Sarkar, Vice Chairman, Gangarampur Municipality.
- Executive Officer would be nominated as nodal officer in next BOC meeting.
- Smokefree memorandum would be issued very soon.
- After the meeting it was decided to display the signages (Sec 4) at the Municipality Office.
- Vice Chairman and Executive Officer assured to issue an order to provide a separate Trade License to all tobacco vendors selling Cigarette and other tobacco products as per the order issued by Urban Development & Municipal Affairs Dept.

### **Feedback:**

- All the Councillors committed that they would take required initiatives to make their jurisdictions smoke free as soon as possible.