

Sensitization Workshop on COTPA, 2003 for the Police Officials of Paschim Medinipore Police, Paschim Medinipore on 19.12.2018

Introduction:

Tobacco use continues to be the leading global cause of death and threatening to become an uncontrollable epidemic with 13 lakhs deaths every year due to Tobacco diseases. As a result Tobacco related mortality is increasing day by day. Economic burden (both Direct and Indirect) of Tobacco use India, is estimated Rs.1,04,500 crores per year. In this context Tobacco Control Programme aims to reduce diseases, disabilities and deaths related to tobacco use. In this perspective **MANT** for supporting the Police authorities has been for establishment of an effective and efficient system of Tobacco Control in West Bengal.

Planning:

Executive Director, MANT approached the Dy. CMOH II, Paschim Medinipore for organizing a Sensitization Meeting on advancing Tobacco Control with Special emphasis on Capacity Building and Enforcement of COTPA, 2003 for the Police Officials of Paschim Medinipore. After several discussions with the Dy. CMOH II, a date has been finalized for the meeting. The meeting was held on 19.12.2018.

Focus:

The main focus of the programme was to orient and sensitize police officials of Paschim Medinipore Police regarding the health & economic burden of tobacco use and about a comprehensive enforcement strategy for the implementation of **Cigarette and other Tobacco Product (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003** which can significantly reduce or eliminate the exposure to smoking.



Venue: Police Conference Hall, Paschim Medinipore

Programme Date: 19.12.2018

Schedule Time: 11.00 AM

Duration Time: Two Hours

Target Group:

Police Officials, Paschim Medinipore Police Administration

No. of Stakeholders: 25

Resources Persons:

- Dr. Rabindranath Pradhan, Dy CMOH-II and Nodal Officer- NTCP
- Mr Rajsekhar Das, Public Prosecutor,
- Ms Samarpita Sanyal, Project Coordinator, MANT Kolkata



Content of the Programme:

- Tobacco burden in India and health effects of tobacco use: Special reference to Kolkata Police & Howrah city Police.
- An Overview of COTPA (Section 4, 5, 6, 7).
- Role of police in enforcement drives.

Methodology:

- Presentation on Health Burden of Tobacco Use and an overview of COTPA 2003.
- Videos on enforcement
- Interactive sessions.

Decision Taken:

- It has been decided that signage of Section 4 would be displayed at all police stations of Paschim Medinipore district.
- DSP, DEB was selected as Nodal Officer at Paschim Medinipore District Police.
- The Health & Family Welfare Department, Govt. of West Bengal provided the challan books to the Home Department and they would start enforcement as early as possible.

Feedbacks:

All the police officials committed that they would take required initiatives to make their police stations Smoke-free as soon as possible. It was further decided that enforcement would be taken place by the Police at regular intervals in the district. Required support would also be provided by the police for smooth running of enforcement drives by the Block level squads.