

Sensitization Workshop on COTPA, 2003 at Kalna Sub-Division of Purba Bardhaman on 21-02-2018

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. Against this backdrop **MANT** has been facilitating for establishment of an effective and efficient system of Tobacco Control in West Bengal.

Planning:

Honorable District Magistrate, Purba Bardhaman, requested MANT for conducting sensitization Workshops on COTPA, 2003 with Line Department Officers, Panchyat Pradhans, Sabhapatis of Panchayat Samities under the Jurisdiction of Kalna Sub-Division, Purba Bardhaman. After interaction with SDO, Kalna Purba Bardhaman a date of Sensitization Workshop finalized on 21st February at 11.00 am.

Focus:

The main focus of the Programme was to orient and sensitize Line Department Officers, Executive Officers of the Municipalities, Panchyat Pradhans, Sabhapatis of Panchayat Samities of Kalna Sub-Division at Purba Bardhaman district regarding the burden of Tobacco use and about a comprehensive enforcement through the implementation of **Cigarette and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply & Distribution) Act. 2003** which can significantly reduce and eliminate the exposure to smoking.



Venue: Meeting Hall of the Sub Divisional Office, Kalna

Programme Date: 21.02.2018

Schedule Time: 11.00 am

Duration Time: Two Hours.

Target Group: CDPO, SI, BDO, Joint BDO, BL&LRO, Pradhan of Gram Panchayat and other Line Department Officers.

No. of Stakeholders: 49

Resources Persons:

- Mr. K Saren, WBCS (Exe.), DMDC, Kalna Sub-Division, Purba Bardhaman.
- Mr. Nirmalya Mukherjee, Director, MANT, Kolkata
- Ms. Sanhita Datta, Regional Coordinator, MANT, Kolkata
- Ms. Barsha Nandy, Regional Coordinator, MANT, Kolkata

Content of the Programme:

- Tobacco Burden in West Bengal with special reference to health effects of tobacco use.
- An overview of COTPA (section 4,5,6,7)
- Panchayat's role in Tobacco Control
- Tobacco vendor's mandatory licensing
- Way forwards

Methodology:

- Presentation of health burden of tobacco use and overview of COTPA, (2003)
- Interactive Session
- Videos
- Sharing of Best Practices of Howrah & Darjeeling and 190 Gram Panchayats declared smokefree

Decisions Taken:

- CDPOs, SIs, BDOs, Joint BDOs, BL&LROs, Pradhans of Gram Panchayat and other Line Department Officers committed to declare their Jurisdiction Smokefree.
- Assurance given by CDPOs, SIs, BDOs, Joint BDOs, BL&LROs, Pradhans of Gram Panchayat and other Line Department Officers to display the signage (Sec 4) at all their office premises.
- It was decided that Signage (sec 6b) will be displayed at all educational institutions under their Jurisdiction.
- All BDOs agreed to form Block Level Committees & Block Level Enforcement Squads as soon as possible for the better implementation of Tobacco Control Programme.
- Enforcement drives at regular intervals.

**Follow up:**

- Shared Smokefree Panchayat Declaration format with Panchayat Pradhans and BDOs of Kalna Sub-Division at Purba Bardhaman.
- It was requested by SDO Office to share the ready-to-print signages & all Governmental Orders.