

REPORT on

Inter-School Competition to commemorate the World No Tobacco Day on 27.04.2019

Venue- Jadavpur Vidyapith, Kolkata

Date- 27th April, 2019

Introduction

The growing use of Tobacco is a great cause of concern around the world due to its serious effects on health and environment. Nicotine is the major cause of the predominant behavioural effects of Tobacco and leads to addiction. Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) like ischemic heart diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases, diabetes, etc. are spreading rapidly all over the world and are associated with the tobacco use. The



situation is equally bad in India as well. According to GATS (Global Adult Tobacco Survey), 2017, there are 2.39 crore tobacco users in West Bengal. In fact, as stated by WHO, that tobacco control would be a single blow to ever increasing NCDs. The main reason behind the celebration of World No Tobacco Day is to inform the mass regarding the dangerous impact of tobacco use, the business practices of the tobacco companies and what people around the world can do to claim their right on health and protect the future generations.

In this context, a programme was organised at Jadavpur Vidyapith, Kolkata on 27th April, 2019 to commemorate the **World No Tobacco Day** on 31st May by MANT. The main focus of the programme was to aware and discourage the students about the ill effects of cigarette consumption and other tobacco products through an inter-school Debate, Quiz, Sit and Draw, Poetry Writing and Essay Writing competition. The programme was honoured by Shri Harihar Prasad Mondal (Municipal Secretary, Kolkata Municipal Corporation), Dr. Subarna Goswami (Deputy CMOH-2, Alipurduar), Professor Sanjoy Mukhopadhyay (Professor, Dept. Of Film Studies, Jadavpur University), Shri Parimal Bhattacharya (Head Master, Jadavpur Vidyapith). All of the above mentioned person spoke against tobacco consumption and how smoking in public should be banned. They all made an earnest request to all the students and other people whoever was present there to quit the habit of tobacco consumption. Mr. Nirmalya Mukherjee, Director, MANT discussed about the issues on tobacco use, health issues and how West Bengal is being affected as the consequence of all this.



Scope

Preventing the use of tobacco product among the youth is critical in ending the tobacco epidemic all over the world. Recent studies have shown that in maximum cases, consumption of tobacco starts during the teenage. Youth who use multiple tobacco products are at higher risk for developing nicotine dependence and might be more likely to use tobacco in their adulthood as well. The programme aims to reduce the tobacco consumption by youth and increase the awareness among them.



Details of the Programme

81 boys and 56 girls from six schools, namely Jadavpur Vidyapith, Jadavpur Nabakrishna Pal Adarsha Shikshayatan, Santoshpur Vidyamandir for Boys, Jadavpur High School, Jadavpur

Sammilita Balika Vidyalaya, and Adarsha Balika Shikshayatan took part in the events. The program was initiated with the registration process of the participants followed by introductory speeches by the guests and discussion on the ill effects of tobacco use.



Participants were then assembled and gathered into respected rooms. The debate, quiz and sit and draw took place in that particular day. While on the other hand, the poetries and essays were submitted by the students. The prize distribution ceremony will be held in the month of July once the schools resume after summer vacation. The audience was mesmerised with what the participants came up.



Outcome

The programme was a huge success with the participation of 137 students in the competitions. Their expressions and logic while debating, their promptness in quiz and creativity in the sit and draw competition has left everyone in awe and also made them aware about tobacco use. Now on they will at least think before using or buying any tobacco products.