

**Sensitization Meeting on Advancing Tobacco Control with  
Special emphasis on Capacity Building and Enforcement of COTPA, 2003  
Kanchrapara Municipality on 28.3.18**

**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 approached the Chairman of Kanchrapara Municipality for conducting a sensitization programme with all the councillors and all Department Heads/In Charges of the Kanchrapara Municipality. After discussion with Urban Planner, a date was finalized for the sensitization programme on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.

**Focus:**

The main focus of the programme was to orient and sensitize the Elected Councillors and other officials of Kanchrapara Municipality on the burden of tobacco use and need for a comprehensive enforcement mechanism through which the implementation of Cigarette and other Tobacco Product (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003, could be ensured at the Kanchrapara Municipality areas.



**Venue:** Board Room, Kanchrapara Municipality.

**Programme Date:** 28/03/2018

**Schedule Time:** 2.00 PM

**Duration:** One Hour and Half Hour

**Target Group:** Elected councillors and all Department Heads/In Charges of Kanchrapara Municipality

**No of stakeholders:** 27

**Resource persons:**

Ms. Samarpita Sanyal, Project Coordinator– Tobacco Control, MANT

Ms Sanhita Datta, Regional Coordinator- Tobacco Control, MANT

**Content of the Programme:**

- **Tobacco burden in India and health effects of tobacco use:** Special reference to state of West Bengal & India
- An Overview of COTPA (Section 4, 5, 6, 7).

- Comprehensive enforcement mechanisms of Cigarette and other Tobacco Product (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 – what works in Bengal
- Tobacco Vendor Mandatory Licensing.
- Role of Municipal Authorities in Tobacco Control

#### **Methodology:**

- Presentation on Health Burden of Tobacco Use and an overview of COTPA 2003.
- Interactive session.
- Videos on harmfulness of Tobacco and Enforcement of COTPA, 2003.

#### **Decisions Taken:**

1. Chairman, Kanchrapara Municipality assured to display the signages at the public places and at the educational institutes that come under their jurisdiction.
2. The memorandum will be issued in favour of 'Smoke Free Public Place', & 'Tobacco Free Educational Institute' as early as possible.
3. After the meeting it was decided to display the signages (Sec 4) at the Municipality Office.
4. Executive Officer has been appointed as Nodal Officer at Kanchrapara Municipality.
5. Chairman 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, Govt of west Bengal.



#### **Feedbacks:**

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