

Sensitization Workshop on COTPA, 2003 with the Police Officials of Jhargram District on 7.01.2019

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:

As per order of Deputy Inspector General of Police, CID, West Bengal to all SPs/SRPs/All CPs of all Commissionerate of West Bengal Police, Executive Director, MANT approached the Honorable SP of Jhargram District Police to organize a Sensitization Programme in regard to Cigarettes and other Tobacco products Act, 2003. The date of the Sensitization Programme on COTPA, 2003 was fixed on 7th January, 2019.



Focus:

The main focus of the programme was to orient and sensitize police officials of Jhargram District 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: Conference Hall, SP Office ,Jhargram

Programme Date: 7.01.2019

Schedule Time: 3.30 PM

Duration Time: One and Half Hour

Target Group:

Police Officials, Jhargram District Police

No. of Stakeholders: 33

Resources Persons:

- Mr. Biswajit Mahato ,Addl. SP (HQ), Jhargram District Police.
- Mrs Papiya Sen, Executive Director, MANT
- 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, Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate, Asansol- Durgapur Police Commissionerate & Howrah Police Commissionerate, Alipurduar District Police, Paschim Medinipur District police.
- An Overview of COTPA (Section 4, 5, 6, 7).
- Various other acts.
- 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

Decisions taken:

- The Programme chaired by Mr Biswajit Mahato, Addl. SP (HQ) Jhargram District Police.
- it has been decided that signage of Section 4 would be displayed at SP office & all police stations.
- All Police Stations would be declared as Smoke Free
- Dy. SP (D&T) was selected as Nodal Officer at Jhargram District Police.
- Nodal Officers would be selected at all police stations.
- Enforcement drives to be taken care off.
- In monthly Crime Review meeting Tobacco Control will be a part from now on.
- Jhargram District Police would take approach to Health & Family Welfare Department, Govt. of West Bengal to provide challan and receipt books and they will start enforcement as early as possible.



Feedbacks:

All the police officials committed that they would take required initiatives to make their police stations Smokefree as soon as possible and will do the enforcement at their level.