

## **Sensitization Workshop on COTPA, 2003 with the Police Officials of Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate on 19.03.2018**

### **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:**

As per order of Deputy Inspector General of Police, CID, West Bengal to all SPs/SRPs/All CPs of all commissionerates of West Bengal Police Project Coordinator, MANT approached to Dy Commissioner of Police (HQ), Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate to organize a Sensitization programme in regard to Cigarettes and other Tobacco products Act. 2003. After several interactions Dy Commissioner of Police (HQ), Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate finalized a date of Sensitization Workshop on COTPA, 2003 for the Police Officials of Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate on 19<sup>th</sup> March, 18 at 5 PM.

### **Focus:**

The main focus of the programme was to orient and sensitize police officials of Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate, 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, Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate

**Programme Date:** 19.03.2018

**Schedule Time:** 5 PM

**Duration Time:** 2 hours

### **Target Group:**

Police Officials, Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate

**No. of Stakeholders:** 37

**Resources Persons:**

- Commissioner of Police, Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate
- Dy. Commissioner of Police(HQ), Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate
- Ms. Samarpita Sanyal, Project Coordinator– Tobacco Control, MANT
- Barsha Nandy,Regional Coordinator– Tobacco Control, MANT

### **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).
- 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:**

- It has been decided that signage of Section 4 will be displayed at all police stations and all the public places under the jurisdiction of Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate.
- ACP (HQ) has been nominated as Nodal Officer.
- An order has been issued by DCP, (HQ), Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate to all ICs regarding the compliance of COTPA,2003
- Enforcement drives to be taken care off.
- In monthly Crime Review meeting Tobacco Control will be a part from now on.
- MANT was requested to share the soft copy of Sec 4 and Sec 6(a) signages of COTPA, 2003.
- A meeting with tobacco distributors will be held jointly MANT & Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate.

### **Follow up:**

- Police Administration already approached to District 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.