

**Sensitization Meeting on Advancing Tobacco Control with  
Special emphasison Capacity Building and Enforcement of COTPA,2003  
At Darjeeling**

**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. In this perspective **MANT** is on the way towards establishment of an effective and efficient system of Tobacco Control in West Bengal.

**Planning:**

At DLCC meeting held in Darjeeling on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017, it was decided that activities would be undertaken to make the district COTPA, 2003 compliant by 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Accordingly, Executive Director, MANT visited Darjeeling along with Project Coordinator-Tobacco Control on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and met Honorable ADM-Health and other concerned health officials and it was decided that a sensitization meeting would be held for officials of education departments and representatives of hotelier's and trader's associations on 13<sup>th</sup> instant. Accordingly, an invitation was sent to all stakeholders by Honorable DM Madam, Darjeeling.

**Focus:**

The focus was on why Section 5, 6 and 7 are important and how they should be enforced at the district and sub-district level. The roles of various stakeholder's ware discussed thoroughly and importance was given on concerted effort to be undertaken to enforce the provisions of the law in its letter and spirit.

**Venue:**Conference Hall, DM Office Darjeeling

**Programme Date:**13.12.2017

**Schedule Time:**1 PM

**Duration Time:** Two Hour

**Target Group:**

Principals, Head of the Schools, Teachers, representatives of hotelier's and trader's associations and Government officials

**No. of Stakeholders:** 33

**Resources Persons:**

- DM, Darjeeling
- ADM(G), Darjeeling
- Director, MANT, Kolkata

**Content of the Programme:**

- Tobacco Burden in West Bengal with special reference to health effects of tobacco use.
- Tobacco Control and role of Educational institutions and Teachers
- An overview of COTPA with special emphasis on Section 5 and 6.
- Enforcement Mechanism
- Way forwards

**Methodology:**

- Presentation
- Interactive Sessions led by honorable DM Madam
- Videos of enforcement

**Follow Up:**

- To enforce the order of Tobacco Vendor Licensing as per The West Bengal Municipal Act, 1993(West Bengal Act XXII of 1993) issued by the Department of UD & MA
- Emphasize on enforcement of Section- 6(b), COTPA,2003
- Darjeeling district administration has taken the initiative to put the signages of Section-6(b) & 4, COTPA, 2003 at colleges of Darjeeling district.
- It has been decided in the meeting that District Inspector of Schools will ensure the following things,
  - ✓ No Cigarettes & Tobacco Products would be sold in & around 100 yards of the Educational Institutions
  - ✓ Signage of Section-6(b) would be displayed in the entrance of Educational Institution.