



National Tobacco Control Cell Health Services Division Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Bangladesh

*E-Newsletter of National Tobacco Control Cell (NTCC) for the month of December 2019
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➤ **Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS)-2017 steering committee meeting:**

Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS)-2017 steering committee meeting was held on 29th December '19 at the conference room of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. On behalf of Secretary, Health Services Division, Ms Rina Parveen, Additional Secretary (Public health & World health) presided this meeting. Members of steering committee and their representatives [Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, NIPORT, BSMMU, IEDCR, DGHS, National Heart Foundation, WHO, CTFK, Vital Strategies etc.] were present in this meeting.



➤ **Meeting to sensitize 'Authorized Officers' & 'Task-force Members' on Tobacco Control Law in Moulvibazar & Sylhet:**

NTCC conducted two meetings in order to sensitize 'Authorized officers' & 'Task-force members' on tobacco control law from Upa-zila and district level of Moulvibazar & Sylhet district on 23th & 24th December, 2019. These meetings were aimed to increase the capacity of 'Authorized officers' & 'Task-force members' to effectively implement tobacco control law in their jurisdiction. Mr. Md. Khairul Alam Shiekh, Joint Secretary & Coordinator of NTCC was present as chief guest on both occasions. Deputy Commissioner of Moulvibazar & Sylhet district chaired these sensitization meetings. Additional district magistrate, UNO, UH&FPO, executive magistrate, health education officer, sanitary inspector (district & upa-zila) and member of district task-force committee from above mentioned districts also participated in these meetings.





➤ **Supervisory visit to monitor Tobacco Control Law compliance:**

A team of National Tobacco Control Cell, Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare visited Moulvibazar district from 21-23th December 2019. NTCC team visited Deputy Commissioner Office and Civil Surgeon Office, Moulvibazar, Upazila Administration Office – Sadar Upazila and District General Hospital. This team also visited major roads of district town, Shamsheer Nagar Road, Court Road, Shah Mostafa Road and other roads and areas at district town. During the visit, NTCC team observed and documented the enforcement of tobacco control law that includes provision of smoke-free public places/ transports, illegal tobacco advertisement and promotions (including point of sale tobacco ads) etc.

NTCC team (Coordinator & Program officer) met Deputy Commissioner and Civil Surgeon of Moulvibazar district, Additional District Magistrate, UNO and UHFPO – Sadar Upazila. All of them were cordially requested to effectively activate the ‘Task force’ committee to implement Tobacco Control Law (TC law) in their jurisdiction and to conduct mobile court on TC law regularly.



➤ **Tobacco Control Law compliance assessment end-line survey:**

Compliance assessment surveys are important, effective and simple tool for proper monitoring and evaluation of enforcement of tobacco control law. The findings provide decision makers with evidence regarding the level of compliance with the law and to help inform priorities for implementation and enforcement. In this regard, an end-line compliance assessment survey titled “Assessing Compliance to Tobacco Control Law: An End Line Survey in 10 Districts of Bangladesh” has been started by NTCC this month. 10 Sanitary Inspector from 10 upazila of 10 districts (Khulna division) received training on survey data collection procedure on 22th December’19. They will collect survey data from 05-09th January 2020 in their respective Upazila. After their data collection they will send it back to NTCC for further analysis.

➤ **Meeting regarding Tobacco Control Law amendment:**

A committee meeting regarding amendment of Tobacco Control Law was held on 29th December 2019 at the office room of Additional Secretary (public health & world health), Health Services Division. Ms. Rina Parveen, Additional Secretary (PH & WH) chaired this meeting. A technical committee was formed to prepare draft amendment of TC law.



➤ **Meeting on ‘Road-map’ & National Tobacco Control Program (NTCP):**

Two meeting was held on 5th December 2019 at the conference room of Health Economics Unit regarding the updated status and finalization procedure of ‘Road-map’ and NTCP. Ms. Rina Parveen, Additional Secretary (PH & WH) chaired this meeting. The draft of ‘Road-map’ was finalized and got approval for further procedure. Several other important decisions regarding finalization procedure of NTCP was also taken.

➤ **Others:**

- Md. Khairul Alam Shiekh, Coordinator of NTCC and two program officers attended publication ceremony of bidi study at National Board of Revenue conference room on 8 December 2019.
- As per request from Local Government Division (LGD), NTCC provided feedback on their tobacco control guideline. NTCC played a pivotal role in drafting and presenting the draft in consultation meeting on this guideline. NTCC coordinator was member of the guideline formulation committee and Program Officer was member of drafting committee.

*****THE END*****

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Issue: ntcc/e-newsletter/December/2019
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