



GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORK
INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY – A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
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CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME ON DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION

A series of capacity building programmes on drug abuse prevention were organized across various locations in West Bengal. These programmes aimed to raise awareness, enhance knowledge, and develop effective strategies to combat drug abuse with different stakeholders of the society.



INAUGURATION CEREMONY AT REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF CORRECTIONAL ADMINISTRATION, GoWB

From Left to Right: Mr. Mayank Kumar, Project Head & Assistant Professor., Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE; Dr. Prasad Kannekanti, Assistant Professor. in Social Science, Dept. of Psychiatry, KGMU, Lucknow; Dr. A. Sadananda Reddy, Assistant Professor. & SRC Director, Jindal School of Psychology; Dr. Swapan Saren, Director of Health Services, Health & FW Dept. Govt. of WB; Mr. Ganesh Maiti, Controller & Administrative Officer, RICA, Govt. of WB

DETAILS OF THE SIX PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED IN APRIL, 2025

DATE AND TITLE OF THE PROGRAMME	VENUE OF THE PROGRAMME	ORGANIZED BY	COLLABORATIVE AGENCY	NO. AND NATURE OF PARTICIPANTS
April 17-18, 2025 Resilient Communities: Combating Substance Use Through Prevention and Control	Conference Hall of Narcotics Control Bureau (Kolkata Zone), Newtown, Kolkata, West Bengal - 700160	Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, Institute of Psychiatry-COE, (IPGME&R, SSKMH), Kolkata & Narcotics Control Bureau (Kolkata Zone), Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India	National Institute of Social Defence (NCDAP), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India	32 Mixed Population (Social Welfare Managers of De- addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres, Social Worker, Psychologist, De-Addiction Specialists, Police Personnel, Customs Officials, NCB Officials)
April 19-20, 2025 Building A Healthy Society: Empowering Communities for Substance Use Prevention and Control	Auditorium, 8 th Floor, IOP- COE, Kolkata, West Bengal - 700025	Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, Institute of Psychiatry – COE (IPGME&R – SSKMH), Govt. of WB, Kolkata	National Institute of Social Defence (NCDAP), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India	38 Mixed Population (Social Welfare Managers of De- addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres, Social Worker, MSW Student, Police (CID officials), Psychologist)
April 23-24, 2025 Substance Use Prevention: Empowering Correctional Officers and Residents for Lasting Change	Regional Institute of Correctional Administration (Govt. of West Bengal), Kolkata – 700028 & Dum Dum Central Correctional Home, Govt. of WB	Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, Institute of Psychiatry – COE (IPGME&R – SSKMH), Govt. of WB, Kolkata & Directorate of Correctional Services, Govt. of WB	National Institute of Social Defence (NCDAP), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India	158 (24 Medical Professionals/Officers of Correctional Services, GoWB, 5 Social Workers & 62+67 residents of Dum Dum Correctional Home, Govt. of WB)

April 25-26, 2025 Substance Free Futures: Building Resilience and Prevention Strategies in Correctional Environment	Regional Institute of Correctional Administration (Govt. of West Bengal), Kolkata – 700028 & Dum Dum Central Correctional Home, Govt. of WB	Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, Institute of Psychiatry – COE (IPGME&R – SSKMH), Govt. of WB, Kolkata & Directorate of Correctional Services, Govt. of WB	National Institute of Social Defence (NCDAP), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India	173 (25 Medical Professionals & Officers of Correctional Services, GoWB, 5 Social Work Students & 70+73 Male and Female Residents of Dum Dum Correctional Home, Govt. of WB)
April 27-28, 2025 Defeating The Epidemic: Fortifying Police Personnel for a Drug-Free Society	Kolkata Police Training Academy, Howrah, West Bengal - 711112	Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, Institute of Psychiatry – COE (IPGME&R – SSKMH), Kolkata & Kolkata Police, Govt. of West Bengal	National Institute of Social Defence (NCDAP), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India	40 (Police Officers & Health Professionals)
April 29-30, 2025 Strengthening Efforts for Drug Prevention and Safer Communities: A Comprehensive Training with Police Personnel	Swami Vivekananda State Police Academy, Barrackpore, WB – 700120, Govt. of WB	Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, Institute of Psychiatry – COE (IPGME&R – SSKMH), Kolkata & West Bengal Police Directorate, Govt. of West Bengal	National Institute of Social Defence (NCDAP), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India	161 (26 Police Officers (Offline) & 135 Police Officers (Virtual))

The funding/collaborative agency i.e. National Institute of Social Defence **directed** the Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, IOP-COE to **accommodate at least 150 participants** in six programmes (i.e. 25 participants in each programme) whereas **we have successfully accommodated 602 participants of different categories throughout the state of West Bengal** by maintaining the quality of the programme at highest level.

Irrespective of the above, we have distributed leaflets, pamphlets, among passers-by around the programme venue. We have also taken the help of social media to raise awareness against harmful impact of drug use and necessity to prevent and control it.

THE FOLLOWING TOPICS HAS BEEN DISCUSSED IN THE PROGRAMME:

- Understanding Drug Abuse and Addiction.
- Identifying and Assessing Drug Abuse.
- Legal, Ethical, and Human Rights Considerations in Drug Abuse Prevention & Intervention.
- Understanding Counselling in the Context of Substance Use.
- Creating Drug-free Workplaces and Communities.
- Role of stakeholders and law-enforcement agencies in prevention of drug abuse.
- Early Intervention in Drug Abuse.
- Effective Communication Skills, Counselling and Rehabilitation Techniques.
- Collaborative Model of Drug Prevention.
- Empowering Peer Leaders in Drug Prevention.
- Role and functioning of De-addiction treatment and rehabilitation centres.

THE ABOVE-MENTIONED TOPICS WERE ALSO DISCUSSED BY THE FOLLOWING TWENTY-FOUR SENIOR FACULTIES (OUTSIDE WEST BENGAL) WHO HAD VISITED THE PROGRAMME VENUE AS RESOURCE PERSONS:

1. **Dr. Satabdi Chakraborty**, Additional Professor (PSW) & Deputy Registrar (Academics), Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences, New Delhi (session on 17/04/25)
2. **Dr. Srikanth Pallerla**, Assistant Professor, Symbiosis Institute of Health Sciences, Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Pune (session on 17/04/25)
3. **Dr. Soma Saha**, Assistant Professor, Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore, Tamil Nadu (session on 18/04/25)
4. **Dr. Pomi Mahanta**, Assistant Professor, Centre for Counselling, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Guwahati Campus (session on 18/04/25)
5. **Dr. B.P. Nirmala**, Professor & Head, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, NIMHANS, Bangalore (session on 19/04/25)
6. **Dr. N. Janardhana**, Professor, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, NIMHANS, Bangalore (session on 19/04/25)
7. **Dr. Subhasish Bhadra**, Professor (PSW) & Head, Dept. of Psychosocial Intervention in Disaster Management, NIMHANS, Bangalore (session on 20/04/25)
8. **Dr. V. Kannapa Setty**, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work, IGNOU, New Delhi (session on 20/04/25)
9. **Dr. Bhupendra Singh**, Professor & Head, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, Institute of Mental Health, UHS, Rohtak, Haryana (session on 23/04/25)
10. **Dr. Prashant Srivastava**, Assistant Professor & In-Charge, Dept of Psychiatric Social Work, Central Institute of Psychiatry (CIP), Ranchi (session on 23/04/25)
11. **Dr. Narendra K. Singh**, Senior Psychiatric Social Welfare Officer, Central Institute of Psychiatry (CIP), Ranchi (session on 24/04/25)
12. **Dr. Apurba Saha**, Assistant Professor & Head, Dept. of Social Work, Tezpur (Central) University, Tezpur, Assam (session on 24/04/25)

13. **Dr. Prasad Kannekanti**, Assistant Professor in Social Science, Dept. of Psychiatry, KGMU, Lucknow (session on 25/04/25)
14. **Mr. Chetan Diwan**, Assistant Professor of Social Work & Mental Health, Karve Institute of Social Service, Pune (session on 25/04/25)
15. **Dr. A. Sadananda Reddy**, Assistant Professor & SRC Director, Jindal School of Psychology and Counselling, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Haryana (session on 26/04/25)
16. **Dr. Senthil M.**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi (session on 26/04/25)
17. **Dr. Kalpana Sarathy**, Professor & Dean, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Guwahati Campus (session on 27/04/25)
18. **Dr. Abhijeet Singh**, Assistant Professor (PSW), Rashtrya Raksha University, Gujarat (session on 27/04/25)
19. **Dr. Nilesh Maruti Gujar**, Assistant Professor (PSW), Central India Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences, Devada, Chattisgarh (session on 28/04/25)
20. **Dr. Mahesh B. Thakur**, Professor of Social Work & Director, Karve Institute of Social Service, Pune (session on 28/04/25)
21. **Dr. Thippeswamy Vaddar**, Associate Professor (PSW), Dept. of Psychiatry, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal (session on 29/04/25)
22. **Dr. Kamlesh Kumar Sahu**, Associate Professor (PSW), Dept. of Psychiatry, Govt. Medical College & Hospital, Chandigarh (session on 29/04/25)
23. **Dr. Mutharaju Arelingaiah**, Research Associate, NIMHANS, Bangalore (session on 30/04/25)
24. **Dr. Shanivaram Reddy K.**, Associate Professor (PSW), NIMHANS, Bangalore (session on 30/04/25)

Trained counsellors at PG level (i.e., Trainee PSWs) and faculties of IOP-COE acted as facilitators (Moderators, Speakers etc) in conducting the programme successfully.

THE FOLLOWING SIGNIFICANT INSIGHTS WERE GATHERED THROUGH THEIR DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- The physical, psychological, and social symptoms of addiction were presented, with particular emphasis on social aspects such as isolation, deteriorating interpersonal relationships, and the neglect of personal and professional responsibilities.
- Key assessment approaches were focused upon, including clinical interviewing techniques, observational assessments, the role of family and collateral interviews, as well as laboratory and medical testing.
- The essential nature of the collaborative model was emphasized, along with the identification of key stakeholders involved in the collaboration process.
- The magnitude of substance use in India is alarming. A 2019 national study conducted by Ambedkar and colleagues revealed that 14.6 percent of individuals between the ages of 10 and 75 had consumed alcohol. Cannabis use was recorded at 2.8 percent of the population, with 0.66 percent identified as dependent users. Opioid use was reported at 2.1 percent, primarily driven by heroin consumption. Among the youth, tobacco use continues to rise, defying regulatory efforts. Notably, substance use patterns differ between urban and rural regions due to disparities in access, awareness, and cultural attitudes.
- Prevalence of Alcohol Intake: 20% of adult males in India consume alcohol, with the lowest prevalence observed in Gujarat (7%) and the highest in Arunachal Pradesh (75%). The per capita consumption of alcohol is 2 Liters of absolute alcohol per adult per year. Of those who consume alcohol, 50% engage in hazardous drinking behaviours. Prevalence of Nicotine Use: 55.8% of males aged 12-60 years currently use tobacco. 2.4% of women smoke, and 12% chew tobacco. Among adolescents, 2 out of 10 boys and 1 out of 10 girls use some form of tobacco product. There is an increasing trend in the initiation of tobacco use before the age of 10 years."
- Between 2016 and 2019, raids and inspections were conducted at 51 de-addiction and drug/alcohol rehabilitation centres across India. The findings revealed serious concerns: 51% of centres reported incidents of physical abuse; 43% were found lacking the basic facilities

mandated by law; 41% engaged in other forms of torture, including psychological abuse; 25% practiced locking up patients; 20% demonstrated mismanagement of medication; 8% lacked proper patient records; and in 37% of cases, the facilities were managed by individuals with no formal training or relevant educational background.

- Over 50% of the 51 facilities inspected were found to be operating without a valid license, indicating a significant prevalence of illegal or unlicensed de-addiction and rehabilitation centres.
- A substantial number of centres were found to have inadequate infrastructure, lacking essential amenities such as potable water, hygienic sanitation facilities, proper bedding, and sufficient food provisions.
- Risk factors that contribute to substance abuse can be found at the individual, family, and community levels. On an individual level, genetic predispositions, existing mental health issues such as depression or ADHD, and early exposure to drugs play a critical role. Within the family context, factors such as parental conflict, neglect, over control, or a history of substance use contribute to increased vulnerability. At the community level, socioeconomic disadvantage, lack of education, drug availability, and media portrayal of drug use can further heighten risk.
- A Central debate in drug policy concerns the efficacy of criminalization versus harm reduction. Criminalizing individuals for drug use tends to lead to higher incarceration rates, intensified social stigma, and increased health risks. Conversely, harm reduction strategies—such as needle exchange programs and opioid substitution therapies—have demonstrated higher effectiveness in reducing adverse health outcomes and facilitating reintegration. However, legal and systemic barriers continue to obstruct the full implementation of these interventions in India.
- The discussions highlighted the challenges faced in West Bengal, such as cross-border trafficking, low awareness levels, and a lack of adequate rehabilitation centres. Opportunities for intervention were also thoroughly explored.

- The presentations highlighted neurobiological effects of substance use, emphasizing the profound and lasting impact it has on brain function and behaviour. It focused on the critical need to approach addiction with evidence-based strategies and empathy. Understanding the biological underpinnings of substance use disorders is essential for developing effective prevention and treatment programs. Alteration of the Brain's Reward System, Dysregulation of Dopamine Function, Impairment of Cognitive and Emotional Functioning, Development of Compulsive Drug-Seeking Behaviour, Addiction as a Chronic Biopsychosocial Disorder: these important points were the key focus of the discussions. The need to view addiction through a scientific and medical lens rather than as a moral shortcoming was also emphasized on.
- It was specified that there are indications of a troubling trend wherein children and adolescents are initiating drug use at progressively younger ages. Tobacco and inhalants have emerged as the most common substances of initiation, often serving as entry points into broader patterns of substance use.
- It was noted that, although substance abuse has historically been perceived as a predominantly male-cantered issue, recent trends show a significant increase in drug use among women. This rise is often attributed to underlying factors such as emotional trauma, experiences of domestic violence, and various socio-cultural pressures. Research and clinical observations reveal that women typically transition from initial use to substance dependence more rapidly than men. Additionally, women face heightened societal stigma and discrimination when seeking treatment, which frequently acts as a barrier to timely and effective intervention. This compounded vulnerability not only exacerbates the severity of their condition but also underscores the critical need for gender-sensitive approaches in prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation services. A case vignette describes a young male who, despite completing treatment, faced unemployment and familial rejection. His referral to an NGO for skill development and counselling illustrates a best practice in bridging treatment and reintegration.
- The discussion highlighted vulnerable populations, including adolescents, street children, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and rural communities, emphasizing their increased susceptibility to various risks.

- The discussions highlighted the importance of community engagement, the role of schools and colleges as prevention hubs, and the involvement of law enforcement in addressing substance use and promoting public health, particularly high-risk groups include adolescents, migrant labourers, urban slum dwellers, and street children. In-depth deliberation also happened regarding the distinct challenges such as cross-border drug trafficking, poor public awareness, a shortage of rehabilitation facilities, and high rates of school dropouts etc. and possible solutions.
- The concept of peer leadership in prevention was highlighted, focusing on the roles and activities of peer leaders, the challenges they face, and strategies for effectively training them.
- The National Legal Framework, specifically the NDPS Act of 1985, was thoroughly discussed, with a focus on recent amendments and policy shifts. Key aspects included ethical principles in drug abuse interventions, the importance of informed consent in treatment, the right to health and access to treatment, community-based interventions and legal support, as well as the role of mental health and human rights laws.
- The initiatives undertaken by NIMHANS were thoroughly discussed, with particular emphasis on the Centre for Addiction Medicine (CAM) and the National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre guidelines.
- The discussions addressed the reasons behind adolescent drug use, examining the risk factors at the individual, family, and community levels.
- Discussions were conducted on the initiation of substance abuse, highlighting key factors such as peer pressure, imitation, and curiosity. It was highlighted that prevention within the community and workplace is a critical component of the treatment and management of substance use disorders.
- The presentations focused on the importance of mobilizing the community, raising awareness about the treatability of substance use disorders, and informing individuals about the availability of treatment options.
- Group activities should be encouraged in the development of strategies for promoting drug-free communities and drug-free workplaces.

- The importance of distributing toll-free numbers, posters, pamphlets, and notices, as well as leveraging media channels such as print, television, and radio to seek help, was thoroughly discussed. Additionally, the sensitization of private doctors to these initiatives was highlighted.
- Detailed information was presented on several key intervention programs in India, including the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR), the Punjab Substance Abuse Prevention Plan (P-SAP), the Sankalp Rehabilitation Trust, and Avahan – The India AIDS Initiative.
- The discussion highlighted key topics such as the principles of therapeutic communication, active listening, barriers to communication, and the role of empathy in effective communication. Additionally, the conversation extended to strategies for developing communication skills, with focus on cultural sensitivity.
- The discussion thoroughly covered rehabilitation, including its goals, principles, phases, and psychosocial interventions. The role of the family in the rehabilitation process and the importance of community-based rehabilitation were also emphasized.
- A comprehensive discussion was held on various psychosocial rehabilitation techniques, including Psychoeducation, Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT), Adherence Therapy (AT), Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), Vocational Rehabilitation, Occupational and Art Therapy, as well as Interpersonal and Social Rhythm Therapy.
- The discussions focused on the different types of counselling, including Individual, Family, Group, and Crisis counselling, emphasizing their distinct roles and applications in therapeutic settings
- The discussion further addressed key counselling techniques, including questioning strategies, boundary setting, and the understanding of transference and counter-transference in therapeutic relationships.
- The discussion covered various types of drugs, including natural, semi-synthetic, and synthetic substances, as well as the process of physical examination for drug abuse and conducting a mental status examination.

- The discussions highlighted key legislative frameworks, including the Mental Health Care Act (MHCA), 2017 and international guidelines on human rights and drug policy.
- The presentations emphasized the multidimensional causes of substance abuse, which necessitate a comprehensive, community-involved, and multi-stakeholder approach to both prevent and rehabilitate drug-related issues. The distinction between prevention and rehabilitation was clarified, highlighting prevention as a proactive strategy aimed at curbing the onset of substance abuse through primary, secondary, and tertiary methods. Rehabilitation, conversely, was framed as a restorative approach focused on regaining function and quality of life following addiction or substance-induced impairments. These twin pillars serve complementary roles in addressing the drug abuse crisis.
- The case of Lhokseumawe, Indonesia, provided real-world insights into collaborative governance. The model there involved the government, National Narcotics Agency (BNN), NGOs, police, healthcare workers, religious institutions, and educational bodies. While this model showed promise in developing programs and community engagement, it also revealed challenges such as irregular dialogue, limited interpersonal trust, and lack of unified vision among stakeholders. The absence of binding agreements and fragmented funding further hampered impact, as evidenced by the lack of measurable reduction in drug cases.
- Focus was also on the role of stigma as a significant barrier, advocating for stigma-free language, inclusive practices, and the strategic use of traditional and faith-based institutions to foster reintegration. A successful example from Kerala, India, was cited, where panchayat-led public health models and community-based rehabilitation yielded strong results.

SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED FROM EMINENT EXPERTS, PARTICIPANTS AND STAKEHOLDERS:

- Frequent awareness campaigns in schools, communities, public places, panchayats, clubs, colleges, correctional homes, armed forces, police stations should be conducted. Social media, prints and electronic media, radio stations maybe also approached.
- Tightening control over restricted and prescription medications should be focused upon.
- There should be strict monitoring of drug treatment and rehabilitation centres.
- More capacity building programmes to be organized among all stakeholders.
- Prevention strategies should be focused by involving communities and stake holders by the Law enforcement agencies.
- Adequate budgetary provisions and allocations should be provided to all for combating and prevention of drug abuse in order to promote drug-free lifestyle.
- Addiction Treatment Facility (ATS) should be open in all hospitals in all subdivision, State, general, medical colleges and in all correctional homes throughout the country as soon as possible.
- Mental health professionals and counsellors (Psychiatric Social Workers/Social Workers/Psychologists/Clinical Psychologist/Psychiatrists) should be appointed in all health facilities, correctional homes, educational institutions and other workplaces.
- Rights of the persons with substance use should be protected in all health facilities and correctional homes.
- All health practitioners should be given training on addiction medicine and treatment (pharmacological and non-pharmacological).
- To strictly monitor transportation hubs and parcel services to intercept trafficking routs for drug prevention.
- “Nasha Mukti Yatra” should be organized in every part of India as per Ludhiana model. In Ludhiana, the district administration launched the “Nasha Mukti Yatra”, a grassroot campaign aimed at raising awareness against drug abuse. This initiative involves local leaders, recovering

people living with addiction sharing motivational stories, and oath-taking, ceremonies to bolster anti-drug commitment.

- Providing skill development, vocational training, and livelihood support to persons with lived experience of substance use promotes meaningful employment, instils a sense of purpose, and reduces the likelihood of relapses.
- Implementing programmes tailored to fit the cultural context of different communities to enhances their effectiveness.

FOLLOWING ARE EMINENT GUESTS WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAMME AND ADDRESSED THE PARTICIPANTS:

- **Dr. Swapan Saren**, Director of Health Services, Health & FW Dept. Govt. of W.B (visited on 25/04/25, 28/04/25 & 30/04/25)
- **Dr. Debasish Halder**, Advisor (Public Health), Dept. of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of W.B (visited on 24/04/25)
- **Shri Ajay Kumar Thakur, IPS**, Commissioner of Police, Barrackpore Police Commissionerate, Govt. of WB (visited on 29/04/25)
- **Shri Gautam Mondal**, DIG (WBCS) & Director RICA, Dept. of Correctional Administration, Govt. of W.B. (visited on 23/04/25 & 25/04/25)
- **Dr. Kaushik Kar**, Professor & Joint Director of Medical Education, Health & FW Dept, Govt. of W.B (visited on 20/04/25 & 29/04/25)
- **Dr. Avijit Hazra**, Professor & Dean, IPGME&R – SSKMH, Kolkata (visited on 19/04/25)
- **Shri. Pradip Khara**, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Kolkata Police Training Academy, Govt. of WB (visited on 27/04/25 & 28/04/25)
- **Shri Barunjoyti Chowdhury**, Superintendent, Narcotics Control Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India (visited on 17/04/25 & 18/04/25)
- **Dr. Subrata Roy**, ADHS (Mental Health), Govt. of W.B (visited on 20/04/25)
- **Dr. Sampa Dhabal**, Assistant Director, State Forensic Science Laboratory, Swami Vivekananda State Police Academy (SVSPA) Govt. of W.B (visited on 29/04/25)
- **Shri Anirban Chakraborty**, WBPS, Dy, SP, Swami Vivekananda State Police Academy (SVSPA) Govt. of W.B (visited on 29/04/25 & 30/04/25)

APRIL 17-18, 2025



**CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME ON DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AT
CONFERENCE HALL, NARCOTICS CONTROL BUREAU, NEWTOWN, KOLKATA, WB**





Felicitation of Dr. Satabdi Chakraborty, Additional Professor, PSW & Deputy Registrar, Academics, Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences, New Delhi by Ms. Debapriya Bhowmick, Psychiatric Social Worker, And Mr. Mayank Kumar, Project Head & Assistant Professor., Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Shri Barunjoyti Chowdhury, Superintendent, Narcotics Control Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India



Shri Barunjoyti Chowdhury, Superintendent, during his session at the Conference Hall, NCB



Felicitation of Dr. Srikanth Pallerla, Assistant Prof., Symbiosis Institute of Health Sciences, Symbiosis International, Deemed University, Pune by Mr. Supriya Dey and Ms. Manisha Manna, PSW Trainees, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitation of Dr. Soma Saha, Assistant Professor, Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore, Tamil Nadu, by Ms. Debapriya Bhowmik, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitation of Dr. Pomi Mahanti, Assistant Professor, Centre for Counselling, Tata Institute of Social Science, Guwahati Campus by Ms. Manisha Manna, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Dr. Pomi Mahanti, Assistant Professor, during her session at the Conference Hall, NCB

APRIL 19-20, 2025



**Dr. Avijit Hazra, Professor & Dean,
IPGME&R – SSKMH, Kolkata**



**Felicitation of Dr. Subrata Roy, ADHS, Mental Health, Govt. of
WB by Ms. Niketha Mathur, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE**



**Dr. B.P Nirmala, Prof. & Head, Dept. of
Psychiatric Social Work, NIMHANS**



**Dr. N. Janardhana, Professor, Dept. of Psychiatric
Social Work, NIMHANS**



Dr. Prasanta Kr Roy, Assistant Prof., Dept. of Clinical Psychology, Institute of Psychiatry



Professor Dr. Kaushik Kar, Joint Director of Medical Education, Health & FW Dept, Govt. of W.B



Ms. Gita Purkait, Principle (Officiating) College of Nursing, IOP-COE



Mrs. Rupa Chakraborty, Psychiatric Social Worker, PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitations of Dr. Subhasish Bhadra, Professor of PSW & Head, Dept. of Psychosocial Intervention in DM, NIMHANS by Ms. Manisha Manna & Ms. Anindita Halder, Trainees, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitations of Dr. V. Kannappa Shetty, Assistant Prof., School of Social Work, IGNOU by Ms. Kamalika Bhattachariya, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitations of Dr. Dr. N. Janardhana, Professor, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, NIMHANS by Ms. Anindita Halder, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Dr. Subhasish Bhadra during his session



Dr. Dr. V. Kannapa Setty addressing the participants



Ongoing sessions on Drug Abuse and Prevention at Auditorium (8th floor) IOP-COE





Faculties and Psychiatric Social Work Trainees of Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work with Eminent Guests at Auditorium (8th Floor), IOP-COE



From Left to Right: Ms. Geetasri Roy, Nursing Superintendent, IOP-COE; Ms. Gita Purkait, Principle (Officiating) College of Nursing, IOP-COE; Dr. Avijit Hazra, Professor & Dean, IPGME&R – SSKMH, Kolkata; Dr. B.P Nirmala, Professor & Head, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, NIMHANS; Dr. Subrata Roy, ADHS, Mental Health, Govt. of WB



**Felicitatation of Ms. Geetasri Roy, Nursing Superintendent, IOP-COE
by Ms. Manisha Manna, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE**



Ms. Kamalika Bhattachariya addressing the participants



**Felicitatation of Prof. Dr. Kaushik Kar, Joint Director of Medical Education,
Health & FW Dept, Govt. of W.B by Mrs. Banasri Chakraborty, Psychiatric
Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE**



**Participants attending Capacity Building Programme on Drug
Abuse Prevention at Auditorium (8th Floor) IOP-COE**



**Artist of Janhavi Sanskriti Chakra performing Skit/drama on
Drug Abuse Prevention**

APRIL 23-24, 2025



INAUGURATION CEREMONY AT REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF CORRECTIONAL ADMINISTRATION, GoWB

From Left to Right: Dr. Bhupendra Singh, Prof. (PSW); Shri Gautam Mondal, DIG & Director; Mr. Suprakash Roy, Superintendent, Dum Dum Central Correctional Home; Mr. Mayank Kumar, Project Head and Assistant Prof. Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitating of Mr. Suprakash Roy, Superintendent, Dum Dum Central Correctional Home Haryana by Ms. Debapriya Bhowmick, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitating of Dr. Bhupendra Singh, Prof. of Psychiatric Social Work, Institute of Mental Health, UHS, Rohtak, Haryana by Ms. Debapriya Bhowmick, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Dr. Bhupendra Singh addressing the audience



Mr. Supriya Dey, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitations of Dr. Debasis Halder, Advisor (Public Health) Dept. of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of WB by Ms. Niketha Mathur, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Dr. Narendra Kumar Singh, Senior Psychiatric Social Welfare Officer Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi and Faculties and PSW Trainees, IOP-COE



Dr. Prashant Srivastava, Assistant Prof. and In-Charge, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi

Dr. Apurba Saha, Assistant Prof. & Head, Dept. of Social Work, Tezpur University



Felicitations of Shri Gautam Mondal, DIG & Director by Ms. Debapriya Bhowmick, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE

APRIL 25-26, 2025



Felicitation Of Dr. Swapan Saren, Director of Health Services, Health & FW Dept. Govt. of WB by Ms. Noushin Tarannum, Psychiatric Social Work Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitation of Dr. Prasad Kannekanti, Assistant Professor in Social Science, Dept. of Psychiatry, KGMU, Lucknow by Ms. Noushin Tarannum, Psychiatric Social Work Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitation of Mr. Chetan Diwan, Assistant Professor of Social Work & Mental Health, Karve Institute of Social Service, Pune by Ms. Noushin Tarannum, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitaton of Dr. A. Sadananda Reddy, Assistant Professor & SRC Director, Jindal School of Psychology and Counselling, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Haryana by Ms. Nabanita Sil, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitaton of Dr. Senthil M, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi by Ms. Rittika Dey Sarkar & Ms. Niketha Mathur, Trainees, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Active engagement of the participants in the programme

Ms. Kamalika Bhattachariya, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitation of Mr. Ganesh Maiti, Controller & Administrative Officer, RICA by Ms. Noushin Tarannum, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Mr. Mayank Kumar addressing the participants

Interactive sessions were conducted with the residents of Dum Dum Central Correctional Home, where Senior Resource Persons of different states, trainees and faculties of IOP actively engaged with different batches of participants for 4 days within correctional premises. Total number of participants were 272 (62+67+73+70). These sessions served to raise awareness and contributed significantly to sensitizing the residents on key issues of Drug Abuse and Prevention.

As part of the awareness initiative on substance abuse prevention, an impactful skit/drama titled “**Nahi Nahi Bhoi**” was also staged at the correctional home by artists of **JANHABI SANSKRITIK CHAKRA**, a theatre group and partner of PSW Dept. IOP-COE, directed by **Mr. Samarjit Das**. The drama engaged the residents through powerful storytelling and emotional resonance.



From left to right: Ms. Nabanita Sil, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE; Dr. Prasad Kannekanti, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry, Lucknow; Mr. Chetan Diwan, Assistant Professor of Social Work & Mental Health, Karve Institute, Pune; Ms. Noushin Tarannum, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE

APRIL 27-28, 2025



Mr. Pradip Khara, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Kolkata Police Training Academy and Mr. Mayank Kumar, Project Head & Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, IOP-COE addressing the participants



**CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME ON DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AT
KOLKATA POLICE TRAINING ACADEMY, HOWRAH, WB**



Dr. Kalpana Sarathy, Professor & Dean, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Guwahati Campus



Dr. Kalpana Sarathy, Prof. & Dean, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Guwahati Campus and Mr. Mayank Kumar, Project Head & Assistant Prof., Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitation of Dr. Abhijit Singh, Assistant Professor (PSW), Rashtrya Raksha University, Gujarat by Mrs. Banasri Chakraborty, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Mr. Mayank Kumar addressing the participants



Felicitation of Dr. Kalpana Sarathy, Prof. & Dean, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Guwahati Campus by Mrs. Banasri Chakraborty, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Dr. Swapan Saren, Director of Health Services, Health & FW Dept. Govt. of W.B and Mr. Mayank Kumar, Project Head & Assistant Professor, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Dr. Swapan Saren, addressing the participants



Felicitation of Professor Dr. Amit Kumar Bhattacharya, Project Supervisor & Director, Institute of Psychiatry-COE, Kolkata, by Ms. Choutisha Banerjee, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



**Dr. Nilesh Maruti Gujar, Assistant Prof. (PSW),
Central India Institute of Mental Health &
Neuroscience, Devada, Chattisgarh**



**Dr. Mahesh B. Thakur, Prof. & Director,
Karve Institute of Social Sciences, Pune**



From left to right: Mr. Rajkumar Bandyopadhyay, Chief Law Instructor, Kolkata Police Training Academy, Govt. of WB; Prof. Dr. Amit Kumar Bhattacharya, Project Supervisor & Director, Institute of Psychiatry-COE, Kolkata; Dr. Nilesh Maruti Gujar, Assistant Prof. (PSW), Central India Institute of Mental Health & Neuroscience, Devada, Chattisgarh; Mr. Mayank Kumar, Project Head & Assistant Prof., Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE

APRIL 29-30, 2025



Felicitations of Shri Ajay Kumar Thakur, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Barrackpore Police Commissionerate by Ms. Debapriya Bhowmik, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Professor Dr. Kaushik Kar, Joint Director of Medical Education, Health & FW Dept, Govt. of W.B



Felicitations of Dr. Sampa Dhabal, Assistant Dir., Forensic Sciences Laboratory, SVSPA, Govt. of WB by Ms. Debapriya Bhowmik, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Mr. Mayank Kumar addressing the participants



Felicitation of Dr. Swapan Saren, Director of Health Services, Health & FW Dept. Govt. of WB by Ms. Debapriya Bhowmik, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE and Ms. Noushin Tarannum, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitation of Shri Prasant Pal, Inspector, SVSPA, GoWB by Ms. Noushin Tarannum, Trainee, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Shri Anirban Chakraborty, WBPS, DY, SP, Swami Vivekananda State Police Academy, SVSPA Govt. of W.B



Mrs. Banasri Chakraborty addressing the participants



Felicitation of Dr. Thippeswamy Vaddar, Associate Professor, PSW, Dept. of Psychiatry, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal by Ms. Debapriya Bhowmik, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Felicitation of Dr. Kamlesh Kumar Sahu, Associate Professor, PSW, Dept. of Psychiatry, Govt. Medical College & Hospital, Chandigarh, by Ms. Debapriya Bhowmik, Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



From left to right: Mr. Mayank Kumar, Project Head & Assistant Professor, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE; Dr. Kamlesh Kumar Sahu, Associate Professor (PSW), Dept. of Psychiatry, Govt. Medical College & Hospital, Chandigarh; Dr. Thippeswamy Vaddar, Associate Professor (PSW), Dept. of Psychiatry, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal



Dr. Mutharaju Arelingaiah, Research Associate, NIMHANS, Bangalore



Dr. Shanivaram Reddy K, Associate Professor, PSW, NIMHANS, Bangalore



Dr. Shanivaram Reddy K, Associate Professor, PSW, NIMHANS, Bangalore and Mr. Mayank Kumar, Project Head & Assistant Professor, Dept. of PSW, IOP-COE



Adv. Mr. Arpan Sarkar



Participants (Police Personnel) Attending Programme at Swami Vivekananda State Police Academy, Barrackpore



Virtual Participation of Participants for Strengthening Efforts for Drug Prevention and Safer Communities: A Comprehensive Training with Police at Swami Vivekananda State Police Academy, Barrackpore



Active engagement of participants and eminent guests at Swami Vivekananda State Police Academy, Barrackpore



PROGRAMME ON STRENGTHENING EFFORTS FOR DRUG PREVENTION AND SAFER COMMUNITIES: A COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING WITH POLICE PERSONNEL AT SWAMI VIVEKANANDA STATE POLICE ACADEMY, BARRACKPORE

ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT BY PARTICIPANTS IN DIFFERENT CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME FOR DRUG ABUSE AND PREVENTION





As part of the ongoing initiative to raise awareness on substance abuse prevention, a powerful and thought-provoking skit/drama titled “**Nahi Nahi Bhoy**” was staged by artists of **JANHABI SANSKRITIK CHAKRA**, a theatre group and partner of PSW Dept. IOP-COE. The production was thoughtfully guided and directed by **Mr. Samarjit Das**. The performance offered a raw, honest, and deeply human portrayal of how trauma, abandonment, and socio-economic despair can push individuals----especially juveniles----towards substance use and criminal pathways.



ARTISTS OF JANHABI SANSKRITIK CHAKRA (A THEATRE GROUP) PARTNER OF PSW DEPT. IOP-COE



From left to right: Mr. Jayatu Dutta; Ms. Oyshi Upadhyaya; Ms. Pritika Das; Ms. Anwesha Talukdar; Ms. Pratyusha Ray; Ms. Madhurima Ghosh; Mr. Avay Dutta; Mr. Pritam Mallick; Ms. Triparna Paul - Artists of Janhabhi Sanskritik Chakra





Pre- and Post-Evaluation (through Google form):

The results revealed a positive outcome among the participants, indicating increased awareness and understanding of the topics and prevention strategies discussed during the program. Many participants rated the programme as **excellent**.



PROGRAMME ON DEFEATING THE EPIDEMIC: FORTIFYING POLICE PERSONNEL FOR A DRUG-FREE SOCIETY AT KOLKATA POLICE TRAINING ACADEMY, HOWRAH, WEST BENGAL



PROGRAMME ON STRENGTHENING EFFORTS FOR DRUG PREVENTION AND SAFER COMMUNITIES: A COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING WITH POLICE PERSONNEL AT SWAMI VIVEKANANDA STATE POLICE ACADEMY, BARRACKPORE

Facebook link to view public comments/feedback/contributions:

- <http://www.facebook.com/share/p/1AMRxVfqgL/>

Links of the Newspapers covered the above activities:

- <https://www.thestatesman.com/bengal/bengal-launches-coordinated-anti-drug-campaign-1503434201.html>
- <https://www.thehindu.com/incoming/kolkatas-top-government-hospital-launches-anti-drug-addiction-campaign-with-central-help/article69597440.ece/amp/>
- <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/kolkata/kolkata-hospital-awareness-campaign-drug-abuse-10028038/>

State launches anti-drug campaign

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, 19 MAY

West Bengal has launched a city-based and state-wide anti-drug campaign in collaboration with the National Institute of Social Defence (NISD), under the Union ministry of social justice and empowerment, aiming to strengthen grassroots capacity to combat rising substance abuse.

Spearheaded by the depart-

ment of psychiatric social work at the Institute of Psychiatry (IPGME&R-SSKM Hospital), the campaign has already conducted six intensive workshops in Kolkata and other districts. Over 600 participants from law enforcement, education, healthcare, and civil society took part—quadrupling the initial target of 150. The sessions focused on early detection, rehabilitation, legal aspects, and stigma reduction, particularly among adolescents,

women, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and economically vulnerable groups.

"This holistic approach merges medical, psychological, and social support with policing and education," said Mayank Kumar, assistant professor at the Institute of Psychiatry. Experts from leading institutions including NIMHANS, TISS, CIP Ranchi, IHBAS Delhi, and OP Jindal Global University contributed to the programme.

Tele-MANAS

A toll-free, 24/7 helpline number (14416) for tele-mental health counselling services.

Drug Abuse Helpline number: 1800-11-0031

Submitted by:

Mr. Mayank Kumar, Project Head & Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, IOP-COE, Kolkata

Ms. Kamalika Bhattacharya, Associate Project Head & Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, IOP-COE, Kolkata

Ms. Debapriya Bhowmick, Associate Project Head & Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, IOP-COE, Kolkata

Ms. Banasri Chakraborty, Associate Project Head & Psychiatric Social Worker, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, IOP-COE, Kolkata

Prepared by:

Ms. Nabanita Sil, Project Assistant and M. Phil Psychiatric Social Work Trainee, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, IOP-COE, Kolkata

All other eight Project Assistants and M. Phil Trainees of IOP (**Mr. Supriya Dey, Ms. Noushin Tarannum, Ms. Niketha Mathur, Ms. Choutisha Banerjee, Ms. Manisha Manna, Ms. Anindita Halder, Ms. Rittika Dey Sarkar & Ms. Sayantani Basu**) along with **Mr. Mayank Kumar**, Project Head & Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, IOP-COE, Kolkata supported in the preparation of the report.

The detailed report was prepared by **Adv. Mr. Arpan Sarkar**.

Edited by:

Mr. Mayank Kumar, Project Head & Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, IOP-COE, Kolkata
