

Report on Cancer Awareness and Screening Programme on 21.01.2020

A Cancer awareness and screening programme was organised by Assam Cancer Care Foundation (ACCF), TATA Trusts Initiatives in collaboration with IQAC, Mangaldai College and District Tobacco Control Cell, Darrang on 21st January 2020 at Science Gallery of Mangaldai College.

The programme aimed to create awareness on the leading causes of cancer like high consumption of tobacco, betel nut, etc, and sensitise people about cancer and prevention of common cancers like breast, cervical and oral. A screening camp was also organised, and the students who attended the programme were encouraged to get themselves examined in the camp. Screening is important since a few cancers, especially the common cancers, can be cured if detected at an early stage.

The programme was supported by BPCL under the MoU signed with the Tata Education and Development Trust, wherein grants were provided for the development of the upcoming cancer care facility in Darrang and to carry out cancer awareness and preventive programmes.

Dr Sanjiv Chopra, Chief Executive, Tata Trusts Cancer Care Programme, thanked BPCL for their support and said that cancer is affecting the younger population much more now, and cited many reasons like pollution, lifestyle choices and high intake of tobacco and betel nuts. Dr Chopra added that early detection of cancer can help in curing the disease and for this screening is an important factor.

Pankaj Das, State Lead (LPG), North East Region, BPCL, highlighted the goodwill of the organisation towards supporting the cause initiated by Tata Trusts and ACCF for bringing cancer care facilities into the region that will enhance quality treatment and help develop the state in the health sector.

The programme also intended to identify and engage with local civil societies for their capacity-building in cancer control.

The chief guest of the programme, SG Kalita, District Development Commissioner, Darrang, said that the cancer awareness camp is very important to gain insight about the causes of cancer and encouraged all students to attend the screening camp that was organised in the college premises.

Besides the screening camp, the highlights of the programme were interaction with cancer survivors and a skit on cancer awareness.

Dr KK Nath, Principal, Mangaldai College; Gautam Chintey, Project Director, ACCF; Dr Mridul Sharma, Associate Professor, Head and Neck Oncology, State Cancer Institute, Guwahati; Dr Paul Sebastian, Head, Prevention Programme, Cancer Care Programme, Tata Trusts; Dr RL Nunisa, Joint Director, Directorate of Health Services; Dr Arzoo Dutta, State Consultant; and Dr Beria, District Nodal Officer, National Tobacco Control Cell, Assam, were amongst other dignitaries present at the programme.

Around 250 faculties and students attended the event. In addition, the screening camp saw participation from a large number of people, especially females of different age groups, who came from nearby areas to get themselves examined.



