

CANCER AWARENESS PROGRAMME SUCCESSFULLY ORGANIZED AT WEST SILCHAR COLLEGE

West Silchar College successfully organized a meaningful Cancer Awareness Programme on 2nd September 2026 at the College Smart Classroom, with the objective of creating greater awareness about cancer, its warning signs, prevention, early detection and timely treatment.

The programme was organized by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of the College in meaningful collaboration with the Lions Club of Silchar and Silchar Cancer Care, a unit of Assam Cancer Care Foundation.

The programme commenced with a warm and enthusiastic welcome address by Mr. Baharul Islam Barbhuiya, IQAC Coordinator, who extended a cordial welcome to the respected Principal, distinguished guests, resource persons, faculty members, staff and students. In his opening remarks, he emphasized that a cancer awareness programme does not merely about know the disease; rather, it is about recognizing warning signs, promoting prevention, encouraging early detection and ensuring timely treatment.

The respected Principal of the College, Dr. Taj Uddin Khan, addressed the gathering with an insightful and thought-provoking speech. He highlighted several warning signs and symptoms that should not be ignored, including persistent or unexplained pain, unusual changes in bowel or bladder habits, persistent hearing difficulties, unexplained changes in vision or other eye-related problems, difficulty or unusual changes in movement, unexplained lumps or swelling, non-healing sores, unusual bleeding, prolonged cough or hoarseness, difficulty in swallowing and unexplained weight loss. He sensitized the gathering that such symptoms may have various causes and do not necessarily indicate cancer, but persistent or unusual changes should receive appropriate medical attention.

The Principal stressed the importance and significance of awareness, particularly among young people, and advised everyone, especially the students, to make the fullest possible use of the valuable knowledge and guidance shared during the programme. Reflecting on the changing landscape of cancer care, he remarked that “earlier there was no answer when there was cancer, but now the answer has started evolving.” He also sincerely appreciated the dedication and commitment of the distinguished dignitaries, resource persons and collaborating health partners towards social service and community health awareness.

The key speaker of the programme, Dr. Manojit Banik, COP-Dentist, Silchar Cancer Centre, delivered an insightful, informative and engaging keynote presentation through a well-prepared PPT. With clarity, professional expertise and practical examples, he elaborately discussed the major sources and risk factors of oral and breast cancer, important preventive measures, early warning signs and the significance of timely medical consultation.

Putting the discussion into the context of rural communities, Dr. Banik particularly drew attention to the lack of awareness and frequent neglect or ignorance of early signs and

symptoms of this life-threatening disease, especially in rural and underserved areas. He made a heartfelt appeal to the students to become ambassadors of awareness and to share the knowledge gained from the programme with their families and communities.

He further encouraged the gathering to opt for cancer screening at an early stage, pointing out that screening facilities can be accessed at very little or almost no cost, making early detection more accessible to the community. He also shared that there is a possibility of organizing a screening camp at the College for people aged above 30 years, which, if arranged, would provide a valuable opportunity for members of the College family and the surrounding community to benefit from early screening. His practical suggestions and community-oriented approach added considerable relevance and usefulness to the programme.

Lion Uma Kar, Cabinet Member, Lions Club of Silchar, and Lion Kinkini Dey Dutta, Zone Chairman, highlighted the importance of sustained public awareness for the prevention of the dreadful disease. They expressed their happiness at being associated with the programme and showed keen interest in organizing more such meaningful awareness initiatives in the future in collaboration with the College.

The programme also benefited from the valuable presence and support of Ms. Malsawmdawngi Darlong, Staff Nurse, and Ms. Elizabeth Begum, Staff Nurse, whose contribution enriched the health-awareness component of the event.

The overall success of the programme was the result of the collective effort, cooperation and commitment of the College community. Mrs. Chondrima Sen, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, and Mrs. Rini Begam Laskar, HoD, Department of Bengali, played vital roles in the overall coordination and successful conduct of the programme.

Dr. Sayed Ahmed Barbhuiya, Senior-most Assistant Professor, Department of History, also extended his valuable cooperation and support throughout the programme, contributing to its smooth and successful execution.

The technical arrangements were efficiently and smartly overseen by Dr. Muzibur Rahman Barbhuiya, Convener, Digital Classroom, ensuring the smooth functioning of the presentation and other technical requirements.

The General Secretary of the Students' Union, Md. Muzahidul Islam, along with his Union team, took an active and sincere part in the programme. Their enthusiastic involvement and wholehearted cooperation contributed significantly to the successful participation of the students and added energy and vibrancy to the event.

Faculty members from different departments extended their valuable presence and cooperation:

- * Department of Economics: Mr. Brajamangal Singh, Mrs. Parbin Sultana
- * Department of Arabic: Mr. Abdul Hamid
- * Department of Bengali: Mrs. Mriduli Nath, Dr. Runa Paul

- * Department of Sociology: Dr. Sadeque Ahmed Laskar (HoD)
- * Department of Mathematics: Mrs. Momotaz Begum Barbhuiya (HoD)
- * Department of English: Mrs. Tahura Akthar, Guest Faculty; Ms. Shabnur Ashraf Laskar, Guest Faculty
- * Department of Political Science: Mrs. Aklima Begam Laskar, Guest Faculty

The sincere presence and support of the non-teaching staff together, with the enthusiastic participation of a large number of students, added warmth, energy and purpose to the programme.

The programme concluded with a Vote of Thanks proposed by Mr. Baharul Islam Barbhuiya, IQAC Coordinator, who expressed heartfelt gratitude to the respected Principal, distinguished guests, resource persons, collaborating health partners, faculty members, non-teaching staff and students for their valuable presence and wholehearted cooperation. He expressed the College's eagerness to continue organizing more such socially relevant programmes in collaboration with the partner organizations in the future.

The programme concluded with a simple yet profound message:

"Awareness saves lives, but early detection can make a life-saving difference."

Together, we raise awareness

Together, we promote prevention

Together, we make a difference

