

MAYNAGURI COLLEGE

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AIDS Day Awareness programme

Date: December 17, 2019

Location: Maynaguri College, Maynaguri

Organizers: National Cadet Corps, National Service Scheme, Red Ribbon Club, Maynaguri

College in collaboration with Lions Club, Maynaguri

Introduction:

December 1st marks World AIDS Day, a day dedicated to raising awareness about HIV/AIDS. commemorating those who have lost their lives to the disease, and showing support for those living with HIV. In line with this global initiative, a collaborative effort was made by various organizations in Maynaguri to organize an AIDS Day Awareness Programme.

Objectives:

- 1. Raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and its prevention methods.
- 2. Reduce stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS.
- 3. Encourage HIV testing and counseling.
- 4. Provide support and solidarity to individuals living with HIV/AIDS.

Number of Participants: 121 (Click to View)

Activities:

- 1. **Educational Workshops:** The programme commenced with educational workshops conducted by healthcare professionals and experts in the field of HIV/AIDS. These workshops focused on disseminating accurate information about the transmission, prevention, and treatment of HIV/AIDS. Interactive sessions were held to address misconceptions and answer questions from participants.
- 2. Awareness Campaign: Volunteers from the organizing committees, adorned in red ribbons symbolizing solidarity with people living with HIV/AIDS, conducted an awareness campaign within the college campus and surrounding areas. They distributed

Teacher-In-Charge Maynaguri College Teacher-in-charge Maynaguri College (Jal)



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informational pamphlets, engaged in one-on-one discussions, and utilized visual aids to convey key messages about HIV/AIDS prevention and support services available.

- 3. HIV Testing and Counseling: A dedicated space was set up for HIV testing and counseling services. Trained counselors provided confidential testing and counseling sessions to individuals interested in knowing their HIV status. This initiative aimed to encourage regular testing and promote early diagnosis, crucial for timely access to treatment and care.
- 4. **Cultural Programme:** To engage the community and reinforce the message of solidarity, a cultural programme featuring performances by students, local artists, and volunteers was organized. Through music, dance, drama, and poetry, the performers conveyed messages of hope, acceptance, and support for those affected by HIV/AIDS.
- 5. Panel Discussion: A panel discussion was held featuring healthcare professionals, activists, and individuals living with HIV/AIDS. The discussion focused on addressing challenges related to HIV/AIDS awareness, treatment accessibility, and stigma reduction efforts. It provided a platform for sharing personal stories, insights, and strategies for fostering a more supportive and inclusive society.

Conclusion:

The AIDS Day Awareness Programme organized by the National Cadet Corps, National Service Scheme, Red Ribbon Club, Maynaguri College, in collaboration with Lions Club, Maynaguri, was a resounding success in achieving its objectives. Through a combination of educational workshops, awareness campaigns, HIV testing and counseling services, cultural programmes, and panel discussions, the event effectively raised awareness, reduced stigma, and promoted solidarity with individuals living with HIV/AIDS. It served as a reminder of the importance of collective action in the fight against HIV/AIDS and the need for ongoing efforts to create a more informed and supportive community.

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Recommendations:

- 1. Sustain awareness efforts beyond World AIDS Day through regular educational campaigns and community outreach programmes.
- 2. Strengthen collaborations with healthcare institutions, NGOs, and community-based organizations to expand access to HIV testing, treatment, and support services.
- 3. Implement initiatives to address underlying social determinants of HIV/AIDS, such as poverty, gender inequality, and lack of access to education and healthcare.
- 4. Continue advocacy efforts to combat stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS, promoting empathy, acceptance, and understanding within the community.

By implementing these recommendations and building upon the success of the AIDS Day Awareness Programme, we can work towards a future where HIV/AIDS is no longer a source of fear or stigma, but rather a condition met with compassion, support, and effective public health interventions.

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