

SPEECH OF DR. NAJMA HEPTULLA, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF MANIPUR AT THE INAUGURAL FUNCTION OF THE NATIONAL BREAST CANCER ACTION DAY THROUGH ONLINE ON 21ST OCTOBER, 2020.

Respected dignitaries,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me immense pleasure to have this opportunity of inaugurating the “National Breast Cancer Action Day” through online. I would have been very happy to be with you all personally, but due to COVID-19 pandemic I am unable to do so. However, I would like to take the opportunity of sending my best wishes to the cancer patients, their families and relatives on this important occasion.

Cancer is one of the diseases which can strike any one, irrespective of age, sex, profession or economic status. About 80% of cancer patients, at some stage of treatment or the other find themselves struggling to cope-with financial requirement for treatment. Hence, the management of finances is a vital issue which needs to be tackled like the treatment of the disease itself. Financial requirement for treatment of cancer is an insurmountable issue for most people. However, safe-guard methods, evaluation of resource available and a planned execution-strategy for maximum utilization can assist in controlling and overcoming the fears in them in many cases. Here, the important role to be taken by the Integrated Health & Wellbeing Council will certainly be in the larger interest of the people in general and the patients in particular.

It is pleasing to note that the Integrated Health & Wellbeing Council is endeavouring to create awareness about breast cancer to the general public to help prevent, detect early and know about the different treatment modalities available. The Council also aims at improving and upgrading knowledge amongst the treating Doctors.

Though, I am not a Doctor, I would request you that this type of National Breast Cancer Awareness month should be held regularly with the main objective of creating awareness among the people about the fact that people can survive cancer and the diagnosis of the dreadful disease does not necessarily mean death. Cancer survivors, care givers, cancer patients, doctors, advocates, economists, politicians and people from different walks of life should join together to encourage those who are under treatment. It is also a matter of great satisfaction to know that eminent resource persons are also participating in this Awareness Month. I am quite confident that Integrated Health & Wellbeing Council must have organized number of “Face to Face” programmes, wherein patients get an opportunity to meet the survivors and exchange experiences and feelings during the most difficult part of their struggle for survival. The programmes will certainly be a great source of encouragement and reassurance for the cancer patients.

I hope, Integrated Health & Wellbeing Council will certainly organize awareness programmes in the interior and remote rural areas of different parts of the country of the common cases of breast cancer, preventive measures, warning signals and treatment options.

I am confident that the contribution of the Integrated Health & Wellbeing Council will certainly help in checking and treating cancer in different parts of the country for which they should continue their endeavours for fulfillment of what they have targeted.

I wish the people suffering from breast cancer a hopeful and long life.

Thank you,

Jai Hind.