

Tribune News Service

Chandigarh, September 5

Seeing the magnitude of cancer problem in India and delay in its detection, Chandigarh will be the third city in the country where National Cadets Corps (NCC) will be involved in spreading awareness about the disease, which has assumed alarming proportions. The cancer awareness programme will be launched jointly by the Cancer Care India and the National Cadets Corps. A local NGO, Sahayta, is one of the 20 support groups in India, which has joined in to form an apex body which will create awareness about the magnitude of the problem and its prevention.

A total of 12 lakh cadets would be imparted training by holding workshops on cancer awareness at Kolkata, Chennai, Coimbatore, Mumbai, Delhi, Chandigarh, Dehra Dun, Bhillai and Patna. After Delhi and Kolkata, Chandigarh is the third city, where the programme will be launched tomorrow, at DAV College, Sector 10. "To begin with, we will seek the help of 550 NCC cadets in the UT to educate the masses, about cancer and its prevention," informed Mrs Neelu Tuli, president Sahayta and treasurer of National Support Group. The programme, would be extended to the states of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh.

To be launched in 580 of the 597 districts of the country, it was felt that it would be possible to reach out a large section of the population by involving NCC cadets, as they can operate at various levels, including schools, villages and social sector.