

Launch of Overseas Workers AIDS Awareness Programme (Tamil session)

Preamble

The Overseas Workers AIDS Awareness Programme (OWAAP) is a pilot initiative of the Singapore Planned Parenthood Association; the objective of OWAAP is to reach out to and create awareness amongst migrant workers in Singapore about the ill effects of sexually transmitted infections in particular AIDS/HIV.

Official Launch

OWAAP was officially launched on Sunday, 22 March 2009, 7.30pm, at Race Course Road. The Guest-of-Honour for the event was Mr Hawazi Daipi, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Manpower.

Programme

1000 Tamil speaking migrant workers were targeted for the first run of OWAAP, we screened a Tamil movie "Seval" at the open field beside the temporary Tekka Market, a popular congregation area for the migrant workers on weekends.

Guest-of-Honour, Mr Hawazi Daipi arrived to deliver his opening address and officially launched OWAAP.

After the launch, a Tamil talk on AIDS/HIV was conducted by Mr Balaji Ragothaman, a volunteer from Action for AIDS; this was followed by a quiz on AIDS/HIV, which was an opportunity to test participants' understanding and clear their doubts on AIDS/HIV.

The event concluded at about 10.00pm with 300 evaluation forms being handed out to the participants. For each completed evaluation form, participant received goodie bag that contained condoms, light sticks, candles, snacks, mineral water, postcards and Tamil brochures on AIDS.

The project was supported by Health Promotion Board and Action for AIDS.