Over 1.5 lakh people lose their lives every year in our country in road accidents, causing loss of human lives and property and trauma to the family of the deceased. As a part of the advocacy campaign for road safety, ‘Road Safety Week’ is observed throughout the country every year in the month of January, to highlight and emphasize the need for safe roads. This year, 26th Road Safety Week Observance was from 11th to 17th January 2015. The theme for this year’s Road Safety Week was ‘Safety is not just a slogan, It’s a way of life’.

NATPAC organised several road safety awareness and education programmes from January 11th- 17th 2015. These programmes involved all facets including vehicle, road infrastructure, traffic engineering, driver training and road etiquette, enforcement, education and awareness and road laws. The Centre, during Road Safety Week has undertaken road safety awareness programmes for all categories of drivers, school children, driving school instructors, youth and for general public.

During the whole week observance, variety of road safety banners, posters, and road safety films were exhibited and leaflets and pamphlets related to road safety were distributed to the on road users.
Activities conducted by NATPAC during 26th Road Safety Week:

Trivandrum District

• Display of Road Safety Slogans through banners at different locations of Thiruvananthapuram District.

• Workshop on ‘Role of Intelligent Transport System in Road Safety’ at Sasthrabhavan, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram on 14th January 2015. The programme was inaugurated by Shri. Oommen Chandy, Hon’ble Chief Minister of Kerala. Hon’ble Chief Minister also released NATPAC’s Newsletter on Road Safety ‘Safe Savari’ and booklets on ‘Road Safety’. Shri. K. Muraleedharan, MLA, Kerala Legislative Assembly presided over the function. Keynote Speech was delivered by Shri. P. Marapandiyan IAS, Executive Vice President, KSCSTE. Shri. K. S. Balasubramanian IPS, Director General of Police, Govt. of Kerala; Shri. T. P. Senkumar IPS, Director General of Police (Prison), Govt. of Kerala; Smt. B. G. Sreedevi, Director, NATPAC and Shri. Arun Kumar Sinha IPS, ADGP (Traffic), Govt. of Kerala addressed the audience. Shri. George Luice, Councillor, Thiruvananthapuram Corporation felicitated the function.

In the technical sessions, presentations on the role of Intelligent Transport System in the areas of Road Safety were made. The discussions was moderated by Shri. T. Elangovan, Scientist G, NATPAC.

The workshop was intended to formulate an action plan to use latest technologies under ITS for preventing road accidents. Display and demonstration of latest Intelligent Transport System Products were also arranged.
Display of Intelligent Transport System Products

Smt. B.G. Sreedevi, Director, NATPAC; Shri. K. Muraleedharan, MLA; Shri. Oommen Chandy, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala; Shri. P. Marapandiyan IAS, EVP, KSCSTE; Shri. K. S. Balasubramanian IPS, DGP, Govt. of Kerala and Shri. George Luice, Councillor, Thiruvananthapuram Corporation at the inaugural session of Workshop on 'Role of Intelligent Transport System in Road Safety' (Left to Right)

Shri. Arun Kumar Sinha IPS, ADGP (Traffic), Govt. of Kerala addressing the audience

Opening remarks by Shri. Senkumar IPS, DGP, (Prison) Govt. of Kerala

Display of Intelligent Transport System Products
Painting Competition

Quiz Competition

Elocution Competition

Distribution of prizes by Prof. George Varghese, Director, KSCSTE

Technical Presentations made during the ITS Workshop

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<td>Director General of Police (Prisons), Govt. of Kerala</td>
<td>Pattern of Road Safety Aspects in Kerala and Application of ITS</td>
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<td>Shri. V. Muralidharan</td>
<td>C-DAC, Thiruvananthapuram</td>
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• Painting, Quiz and Elocution Competitions for school and college students at Sasthra Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram on 16th January 2015. More than 150 students participated in the programme.

• 20 minutes Street Drama on Road Safety, ‘Yathraykkappuram’ for general public on 16th January 2015 & 17th January 2015 at different locations of Thiruvananthapuram City viz. East Fort, Poojappura, Shangumugham Beach and Kanakakunnu Palace.
• Road show/Pedestrian Safety Campaign by Student Police Cadets in association with Kerala Police (Peroorkada) on 17th January 2015 at Peroorkada, Thiruvananthapuram. Road Safety T-Shirts and Caps were also distributed to the Student Police Cadets.

• Film show on ‘Road Safety’ at Kariavattom for school and college students on 17th January 2015.

Palakkad District

• Road Safety Exhibition, Road Shows and Film Shows for general public at different locations of Palakkad district.

• ‘Training Programme for all categories of drivers’ at District Panchayath Hall, Palakkad on 11th January 2015. The programme was inaugurated by Shri. P. V. Rajesh, Municipal Chairman, Palakkad. Shri. V. S. Muhammad Kasim, DYSP, Palakkad presided over the function. Eye test for the participants were also conducted with the initiative of Ahalya group of medical institutions.
Half day panel discussion on “How to be Safe on Road” at Jobys Mall, Palakkad on 12th January 2015. The discussion was moderated by Shri. T. R. Ajayan, former MD, Malayalam Communications. Experts who participated in the panel discussion includes: Shri. T. K. Balachandra, Rtd. District Judge; Dr. A. K. Raji, Professor, N.S.S College of Engineering, Palakkad; Shri. Mujeeb, MVI, Palakkad; Shri. V.S. Muhammad Kasim, DYSP, Palakkad; Shri. Binu R; Traffic Police, Palakkad; Shri. N. Vidhyadharan, Bus Operators Association and Shri. Arumukhan C, AE, Road Safety Department, Palakkad. The main objective of the Panel Discussion was to allow participants of diverse professional background to share their perspectives and actions needed for enhancing Pedestrian Safety in the State of Kerala.

Safe Road to School (SRS) at P.M.G.H.S.S Palakkad on 13th January 2015. 150 students underwent the training. Painting and Quiz competition were also conducted for the students.

Public meeting near Municipal bus stand in Coimbatore road, Palakkad on 12th January 2015. Nadanpattu and folk dance on Road Safety was also performed by Shri. Janardhanan and party.
Malappuram District

- Road Safety exhibition, Road Shows, announcement of Road Safety Slogans and Rules and Film shows for general public at different locations of Malappuram district in association with Malappuram Traffic Police.

- Announcing Road Safety Slogans
- View from Motor Cycle Road Show

- Safe Road to School (SRS) at Municipal Town Hall, Malappuram for Student Police, NCC Cadets, Scout and Guide volunteers of M.S.P.H.S.S Malapuram, G.B.H.S.S Malappuram and G.G.H.S.S Malappuram on 14th January 2015. 190 students attended the training programme.

- Distribution of Road Safety materials to Teachers

Thrissur District

- Road Show at the Town Hall premises of Thrissur on 16th January 2015. The Road Show was flagged off by Shri. Vijayakumar IPS, Supdt. of Police, Thrissur Rural.
Half day panel discussion on “How to be Safe on Road” at K Karunakaran Memorial Town Hall, Thrissur on 16th January 2015. The programme was inaugurated by Shri. Sivavikram, IPS, Asst.Commissioner of Police, Thrissur. About 75 delegates representing different Trade Unions, Police Department and students from Government Engineering College, Thrissur participated. The discussion explored the factors that put people, particularly young people, at risk on the road.

Driving school instructors training programme at K Karunakaran Memorial Town Hall, Thrissur on 16th January 2015. The programme was inaugurated by Shri. Sasi, AMVI, Thrissur. A total number of 50 instructors from different driving schools in Thrissur attended the training.

Safe Road to School (SRS) at K Karunakaran Memorial Town Hall, Thrissur on 17th January 2015 for Student Police and NCC Cadets of C.M.S.H.S.S and St.Thomas H.S.S Thrissur. The programme was inaugurated by Shri. Jacob Job IPS, City Police Commissioner, Thrissur. Dr. G. Ravikumar, Scientist- F, NATPAC; Shri. Muhammed Ariff, District Nodal Officer, S.P.C and Shri. Joy K.F., St. Thomas H.S.S spoke on the occasion. 130 students attended the training programme.

Film show on Road Safety near Sakthan Bus Stand, Thrissur on 16th January 2015 for general public.
Film show for general public

- Road Safety and Youth Leadership Programme (RSYLP) at K Karunakaran Memorial Town Hall, Thrissur on 17th January 2015. The programme was inaugurated by Shri. Christophy Marokky, Road Safety Activist, Thrissur. Shri. Girijavallabhan, SI, Traffic and Shri. Sivavikram IPS, ACP, Thrissur spoke on the occasion. Nearly 100 participants representing Youth Clubs and students from Engineering colleges participated.

Ernakulam District

- Road Shows, announcement of Road Safety Slogans, Road Safety Film Shows and display of Road Safety Slogans through banners at different locations of Ernakulam district. The Road Show on 11th January 2015 was flagged off by Shri. A M Rafeek, Dy.Commissioner of Police, Kochi. Road safety films were shown to general public at the Durbar Hall Ground.

- Seminar on ‘Road Safety’ at Thrikkakara Municipal Community Hall, Kakkanad on 12th January 2015. The seminar was inaugurated by Shri. Benny Behanan, MLA, Thrikkakara. Shri. P.A. Mohammed Ali, Chairman, Municipal Council, Thrikkakara presided over the function. Shri. K.G. James IPS, City Police Chief, Cochin; Shri. Bijo Alexander, ACP; Smt. P.R. Sreekala, District Youth Programme Officer, Ernakulam; Shri. M. A. Mohan; Shri. M. V. Prabhu Kumar and Shri. V. D. Suresh, Municipal Councillors spoke on the occasion. About 200 participants representing different residents associations, students, auto-taxi drivers and driving school instructors actively participated and explained the practical problems faced especially in the city areas.

- Painting and Quiz Competitions for the students of Ernakulam district on 12th January 2015 at SRV High School, Ernakulam. The Competitions were inaugurated by Shri. Baby Vinod, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Traffic West, Kochi City. More than 100 students participated in the programme.

Ernakulam District

- Inaugural Address by Shri. Baby Vinod, ACP, Traffic West, Kochi City.
Seminar on ‘Road Safety’ at Municipal Town Hall, Muvattupuzha on 13th January 2015. The seminar was inaugurated by Shri. M. O. Sajan, Joint RTO, Muvattupuzha. Shri. Vishal Johnson, CI, Muvattupuzha; Shri. P. Prem Chand, Advocate; Shri. Shymon Joseph, NSS Programme Officer, Nirmala College and Smt. Sreekala P. R, District Youth Programme Officer spoke on the occasion.

Pathanamthitta District

- Road Shows, public speeches and announcement of Road Safety Slogans at different locations of Pathanamthitta District.

- Road Safety Awareness Programme for students and general public on 14th January 2015 at YMCA Hall, Pathanamthitta.
The programme was inaugurated by Shri. Reghu Kuttan Pillai, Councillor, Smt. Usha Rajan, Municipal Councillor; Shri. A. Salim, President, Merchant Association, Thiruvalla and Shri. M. Soman, ASI, Thiruvalla spoke on the occasion.

• Painting and Quiz Competitions for the students of Thiruvalla Education district on 14th January 2015 at SGMS High School, Kayamkulam Road, Thiruvalla. 46 students participated in the programme.

Kottayam District

• Seminar on ‘Safe use of Road’ at St.Antony’s UP School, Arunoottimangalam near Kaduthuruthy on 16th January 2015. The seminar was inaugurated by Shri. Monce Joseph, MLA, Kaduthuruthy. Rev. Fr. Joseph Keezhangadu, Manager, St.Antony’s School presided over the function. On this occasion the inauguration of ‘School Road Safety Cell’ was done by Smt. Nirmala Nimmi, District Panchayath President, Kottayam and the ‘Cub Bull - Bull Scout Camp’ was inaugurated by Shri.K.Vasudevan Nair, Mulakkulam Grama Panchayath President.

Shri.Monce Joseph, MLA, Kaduthuruthy inaugurating the Seminar on ‘Road Safety’ by lighting the traditional lamp

• Road Show and Motor Cycle Rally in Pala town on 17th January 2015 in association with Pala Janamaithri Police and Bullet Club. The Road Show and Motor Cycle Rally was flagged off from Lalam Bridge by Shri. Kuriakose Padavan, Chairman, Pala Municipal Council.

Shri.Chittayam Gopakumar, MLA, Adoor inaugurating the Seminar on ‘Road Safety’

The seminar was inaugurated by Shri. Chittayam Gopakumar, MLA, Adoor. Shri Ooman Thomas, Adoor Municipal Chairman presided over the function. Shri. A Nazeem, DYSP, Adoor; Shri. V M Tharakan, NSS District Coordinator; Shri.K.V. Madhusudhanan Pillai, Joint RTO, Adoor and Dr.G.Ravikumar Scientist- F, NATPAC spoke on the occasion. About 200 participants including NSS volunteers, Student Police Cadets, auto/taxi drivers, NSS Programme Officers, Police officers and office bearers from different residents associations participated.
Shri Kuriakose Padavan, Chairman, Pala Municipal Council inaugurating the Seminar on ‘Safe use of Road’ at Alphonsa College, Pala on 17th January 2015 in association with Janamaithri Police, Pala, NSS Unit, St. Thomas College and Student Police Cadets, Alphonsa College. The seminar was inaugurated by Shri. Kuriakose Padavan, Chairman, Pala Municipal Council; Sr. Jansamma Thomas, Principal, Alphonsa College; Shri. D. S. Suneehs Babu, DYSP, Pala; Shri. Jimmi Joseph, Opposition leader, Pala Municipal Council; Sr. Riya, NSS Programme Officer, Alphonsa College; Shri. K. P. Jose, CI, Pala and Shri K. P. Thomson, SI, Pala spoke on the occasion. About 350 participants including drivers, janamaithri members, blood donation groups, residence association representatives, members of District Youth Welfare Board and NSS volunteers participated.

• Road Shows, announcement of Road Safety Slogans, Road Safety Film Shows and display of Road Safety Slogans through banners at different locations of Kottayam district. The Road Show on 16th January 2015 was flagged off by Shri. A. Ajith, Dy. Superintendent of Police, Kottayam.
• Painting and Quiz Competitions for the students of Kottayam Education district on 16th January 2015 at Dy. Director Education Office, Kottayam. The Competitions were inaugurated by Shri. M.P. Dinesh IPS, District Police Chief, Kottayam. 126 students participated in the programme.

• ‘Road Safety Training Programme for School Children’ at CMS High School, Mundakkayam in connection with the Valedictory function on 17th January 2015. Shri. K. Kuriakose, DYSP, Mundakkayam was the chief guest.

Kozhikode & Wayanad Districts

• Display of Road Safety Slogans through banners at different locations of Kozhikode and Wayanad districts and distribution of road safety materials to general public.

• Painting Competition at Government U.P. School, Kallayi, Kozhikode on 12th January 2015.

• Road Safety Awareness Programme for Higher Secondary Students at Kozhikode.
  - Sevamandir Higher Secondary School, Ramanattukara on 13th January 2015
  - Government Higher Secondary School, Kuthuparamba on 14th January 2015
  - Government Higher Secondary School, East Hill on 14th January 2015

Road accidents in Kerala in January 2015 according to the Type of Roads

- National Highways 23%
- State Highways 22%
- Other Roads 55%

Source: SCRB
**SOME IMPORTANT ROAD REGULATIONS**

**Keep Left**
The driver of a motor vehicle shall drive the vehicle as close to the left hand side of the road as may be expedient and shall allow all traffic which is proceeding in the opposite direction to pass on his right hand side.

**Turning to left and right**
The driver of a motor vehicle shall:

a) when turning to the left, drive as close as may be to the left hand side of the road from which he is making the turn and of the road which he is entering,

b) when turning to the right draw as near as may be to the centre of the road along which he is travelling and arrive as near as may be at the left hand side of the road which the driver is entering.

**Overtaking prohibited in certain cases**
The driver of a motor vehicle shall not pass a vehicle traveling in the same direction as himself:

a) if his passing is likely to cause inconvenience or danger to other traffic proceeding in any direction.

b) If he is near a point, a bend or corner or a hill or other obstruction of any kind that renders the road ahead not clearly visible.

c) If he knows that the driver who is following him has begun to overtake him.

d) If the driver ahead of him has not signaled that he may be overtaken.

**Giving way to traffic at road junction**
The driver of a motor vehicle shall, on entering a road intersection, at which traffic is not being regulated, if the road entered is a main road designated as such, give way to the vehicles proceeding along that road, and in any other case give way to all traffic approaching the intersection on his right hand.

**Abrupt brake**
No driver of a vehicle shall apply brake abruptly unless it is necessary to do so for safety reasons.

**One way traffic**
A driver shall not...

a) drive a motor vehicle on roads declared 'One Way' except in the direction specified by sign boards;

b) drive a vehicle in a reverse direction into a road designed 'One Way'.
Trend of road accidents, persons killed and persons injured in the month of January (2011-2015)

Road accident parameters:
A comparison between December 2014 and January 2015

Source: SCRB

Trend of road accidents from 2001 to 2014

Source: http://www.keralapolice.org/newsite/pdfs/Road/2015/road_accidents_uppto_2015.pdf, 12.05.2015
TEN REASONS TO ACT ON ROAD DEATHS

1. Nearly 1.3 million people are killed on the world’s roads each year
2. Up to 50 million people are injured, and many remain disabled for life
3. 90% of casualties from road deaths occur in developing countries
4. Annual road traffic deaths are forecast to rise to 1.9 million people by 2020
5. Road traffic injuries are the number one cause of death for young people worldwide
6. By 2015 road traffic injuries will be the leading health burden for children over the age of five years in developing countries
7. The economic cost to developing countries is at least $100 billion a year
8. Road traffic injuries place an immense burden on hospitals and health systems generally
9. Road crashes are preventable
10. A global Action Plan includes practical measures which, if implemented, could save millions of lives