From the Director's Desk

Education is important in achieving a safe system and the involvement of schools is crucial. Road Safety education in schools will influence all members of the school community to be responsible on the road. This will develop positive attitudes and safe behaviour in children and adolescents as present and future road users. NATPAC is promoting Road Safety Education through Schools in Kerala by teaching Road Safety in Schools. This way, students can individually and collectively contribute to a safe system. The Centre is providing professional learning to teachers to equip them with the knowledge and skills to impart quality road safety education. Teachers are trained to use the resources in the classroom to create effective teaching and learning programs. We are confident that road safety education will contribute to a safer future for our students.

Road Safety Education through Schools in Kerala – Phase II

• Road Safety Training for school teachers in Kollam District was conducted at Kristu Jyothi Animation Centre, Kottiyam on 8th - 9th October 2015. The programme was formally inaugurated by Shri. P. Prakash IPS, District Police Chief, Kollam. Dr. B. G. Sreedevi, Director, NATPAC; Shri. Venugopalan Potti, Jt.RTO, Kollam and Smt. P.P. Thankam, DEO, Kollam spoke on the occasion. 98 teachers representing various schools of Kollam District attended the training programme.

• The two day training programme conducted on 12th - 13th November 2015 in Alappuzha District was inaugurated by Shri. P. Suresh Kumar IPS, District Police Chief, Alappuzha at Leo SS, Convent Square Junction, Alappuzha. Shri. V. Asokan, Deputy Director, Education, Alappuzha was the chief guest. 106 teachers from High School and Upper Primary Schools of Alappuzha District attended the training programme.
In Kasargod District the training for school teachers was conducted on 17th – 18th November 2015 at Mar Thoma School for the Blind, Cherkala, Kasargod. Dr. Sreenivas A IPS, District Police Chief, Kasargod inaugurated the training programme. 87 teachers from various schools of Kasargod District attended the training programme.

• Training for school teachers in Kannur District was conducted at District Police Cooperative Society Auditorium, Kannur on 19th – 20th November 2015.

• Road Safety Training for school teachers in Wayanad District was conducted at Wayanad Valley Resorts, Kalpetta on 23rd – 24th November 2015. The programme was inaugurated by Shri. P A Sathyan, RTO, Wayanad. 100 teachers from various schools of Wayanad District attended the training programme.

The programme was formally inaugurated by Shri P N Unnirajan IPS, District Police Chief, Kannur. Shri. Paulson K M, RTO, Kannur was the key speaker. 237 teachers representing various schools of Kannur District attended the training programme.

• Road Safety Training for school teachers in Palakkad District was conducted at District Panchayath Auditorium, Palakkad on 29th – 30th December 2015.
Training for school teachers in Malappuram District was conducted at Sajitha Tourist Home, Kottakkal on 31st December 2015 – 1st January 2016. The programme was formally inaugurated by Shri M.P.Ajith Kumar, RTO, Malappuram. Shri. T K Venugopal, DySP, Tirur was the chief guest. 90 teachers representing various schools of Malappuram District attended the training programme.

- Training for school teachers in Malappuram District was conducted at Sajitha Tourist Home, Kottakkal on 31st December 2015 – 1st January 2016. The programme was formally inaugurated by Shri M.P.Ajith Kumar, RTO, Malappuram. Shri. T K Venugopal, DySP, Tirur was the chief guest. 90 teachers representing various schools of Malappuram District attended the training programme.

The programme was inaugurated by Shri. T J Thomas, RTO, Palakkad. Shri. Muhammed Isthak, DDE Office and Shri. P. Sunil, DySP spoke on the occasion. 79 teachers from various schools of Palakkad District attended the training programme.

The ‘Safe Community Programme for Panchayaths’ has been designed by NATPAC with the intention of adopting the zero-accident policy. Panchayaths which have high exposure to accident risk will be selected and road safety initiatives will be organised.

The following Panchayaths were covered during this period:

1. Kalluvathukkal Grama Panchayath (Kollam District) on 11th December 2015, at Panchayath Community Hall, Parippally. 200 Act Force volunteers participated.

2. Thamarassery Grama Panchayath (Kollam District) on 15th December 2015, at Panchayath Community Hall, Thamarassery. 150 Act Force volunteers participated.

Safe Road to School

NATPAC in association with Kerala Road Safety Authority organised one day programme on ‘Safe Road to School’ (SRS) at selected schools. They are:

The programme was inaugurated by Shri. T J Thomas, RTO, Palakkad. Shri. Muhammed Isthak, DDE Office and Shri. P. Sunil, DySP spoke on the occasion. 79 teachers from various schools of Palakkad District attended the training programme.
### Road Safety Youth Leadership Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Govt. Girls Vocational Higher Secondary School, Haripad (100 Student Police Cadets from 7th, 8th and 9th standard and staff members participated)</td>
<td>08.10.2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational Higher Secondary School, Naduvattom, Haripad (100 Students from 7th, 8th and 9th standard and staff members participated)</td>
<td>08.10.2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L.M.S.H.S.S, Amaravila (100 students from higher secondary classes including Scout and Guide Volunteers and Teachers participated)</td>
<td>30.11.2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amrita H.S.S, Parippally (43 Senior and 45 Junior Student Police Cadets and teachers participated)</td>
<td>22.12.2015</td>
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**Hotel Regency, Sulthan Bathery, Wayanad on 17th December 2015. 125 participants including Wayanad Bullet Club Members, NSS Volunteers and Co-ordinators from St.Mary’s College, Sulthan Bathery representatives of youth and police personnel attended the programme.**

**UKF College of Engineering, Parippally on 22nd December 2015. 30 NSS volunteers participated.**
Road Safety Awareness to Higher Secondary Students in Kerala

i. Aazchavattom Higher Secondary School, Kozhikode District (200 students participated) - 12.10.2015

ii. Govt.Ganpath Higher Secondary School, Chalappuram, Kozhikode District. (70 students participated) - 12.10.2015

iii. Kuttichira Higher Secondary School, near Valiyangadi, Kozhikode District. (60 students participated) - 13.10.2015

iv. Manachira Higher Secondary School, Kozhikode District. (90 students participated) - 13.10.2015

v. Providence Higher Secondary School, Nadakkavu, Kozhikode District. (140 students participated) - 14.10.2015

vi. Mohammadan Higher Secondary School, Parappil, Kozhikode District. (400 students participated) - 16.10.2015

vii. Government Higher Secondary School, Perambra, Kozhikode District. (105 students participated) - 17.10.2015

viii. NSS Higher Secondary School, Kollam District. (Members of the School Road Safety Cell, Students, Teachers and PTA members participated) - 04.12.2015

ix. KPMV Higher Secondary School, Cheekkakada, East Kallada, Kollam District. (Volunteers of NSS participated) - 21.12.2015

Driving School Instructors Training Programme

NATPAC organised a one day training programme for driving school instructors on 16th December 2015 at Wyndvalley Garden Resorts, Kalpetta, Wayanadu District. The programme was inaugurated by Shri.B.J.Antony, Dy.Transport Commissioner, North Zone.
Road Safety Training for Various User Groups

i. Road Safety Awareness Programme for the employees of Thai Group of Companies at Kozhikode on 15th October 2015.

ii. Road Safety Education Programme for different categories of road users at Kottayam on 8th December 2015.

iii. Training on Road Safety for NSS unit students at East Kallada, Kollam 21st December 2015.

iv. Road Safety Education Programme for students at Paripally, Kollam on 22nd December 2015.

v. Road Safety Education Programme for students at Mylapore, Kollam on 29th December 2015.

Exhibitions

☆ NATPAC secured 2nd position in the State Government category of Science and Technology Expo conducted in connection with Swasraya Bharat – 2015, organised by Swadeshi Science Movement - Kerala (a unit of Vijnana Bharati) and ICAR – Indian Institute of Spices Research at Swapna Nagari, Kozhikode, 15th - 21st October 2015.

☆ Road Safety Exhibition and audio-visual programmes in ‘C.V.Raman Venad Sahodaya Science Exhibition’ at Sree Narayana Central School, Nedungolam, Kollam, 20th – 21st November 2015.

Training Course for Drivers of Vehicles Carrying Dangerous and Hazardous Goods

Two programmes were conducted during this period.


K Karunakaran Transpark, Aakkulam – 16th – 18th December 2015 (7th Batch). 32 drivers participated.

Training on Identification of Dangerous and Hazardous Goods and Dealing with Emergencies to Junior Sub Inspectors

Two programmes were conducted during this period.


Analysis of Road Accident Causative Factors

Private Bus Accident at Mamom Bridge, Attingal

Mamom Bridge, located on Korany - Attingal road stretch of National Highway 66 witnessed a severe road crash on 20th November 2015 resulting in the loss of three human lives. A private bus plying from Chirayinkeezhu to Oorupoika near Attingal, nose-dived into the marshy land near the Vamanapuram river after smashing the sidewall of the Mamam bridge on the NH stretch between Korany and Attingal. Three people were grievously injured and 29 people suffered minor injuries.

Officials from NATPAC visited the accident spot on 27th November 2015. The driver of private bus has driven the vehicle in a rash and negligent manner. The private bus was on its way from Oorupoika in Korani to Attingal. The bus driver trying to overtook another bus loss control over the vehicle while trying to avoid collision with a motorcycle coming in the opposite direction. The bus further smashed the concrete railings and fell off the bridge vertically into the banks of the river beneath. It came to a halt after hitting the old bridge that is parallel to the new one.

As per the Police FIR the rash and negligent driving of the Private Bus driver was the reason for this fatal accident. The major reason for this particular accident was the overtaking of the Private Bus on the approach of the narrow Bridge, which is supposed to be a non-overtaking section. Numerous potential hazards existed on the road stretch near to Mamom Bridge, which needs to be addressed. The bus stops were located unscientifically without segregated bus bays near the immediate approach of the bridge. Presence of thick vegetation along either side of the carriageway near to the approach zone of the bridge obscured the visibility of road users. There was dangerous direct access to Highway from
the side roads. Street lighting on the bridge portion are not scientific, hence should be provided in accordance with Bureau of Indian Standards - BIS 1944-1981, “Code of Practice for lighting”. Periodic maintenance of road infrastructure especially road signs, markings, reflective studs and barrier protection should be ensured.

NATPAC suggested remedial measures like relocation of bus stops, provision of appropriate road markings, protection of foot path with appropriate guardrails/safety barriers to enhance the safety of pedestrians, providing street lights, provision of road safety infrastructure such as road markings, studs, road signs, traffic safety barriers etc. in accordance with relevant Indian Roads Congress standards and MoRTH specifications etc. Road side elements such as vegetation, protruding trees, concrete obstacles, advertisement boards etc, endangering life of road users and obstructing adequate sight distance should be cleared on priority basis to ensure visibility. Awareness programmes for bus drivers towards safety of passengers and discouraging rash driving could be carried out by the concerned agencies through Training programmes, audio-visual media, social media, paper media etc.