



National AIDS Control Organisation
India's Voice against AIDS
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India
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TRAINING & MEETING ACTIVITIES

of MAINSTREAMING HIV/AIDS

Integrate. Empower. Impact.
Together for an HIV Free Kerala.



Kerala State AIDS Control Society (KSACS)

MAINSTREAMING TRAININGS

First Quarter Report (April – June 2026)

The National AIDS Control Programme (NACP), implemented by the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO), is committed to achieving the UNAIDS 95-95-99 targets, with the first objective being that 95% of all people living with HIV should know their HIV status. Early identification of HIV infection through timely HIV testing is the cornerstone of HIV prevention and care, enabling prompt initiation of Antiretroviral Therapy (ART), reducing HIV-related morbidity and mortality, preventing further transmission, and improving the quality of life of people living with HIV.

Achieving this ambitious target requires the active participation of all government departments, local self-government institutions, community-based organizations, and frontline service providers. HIV/AIDS mainstreaming is a strategic approach that integrates HIV prevention, awareness, stigma reduction, and referral services into the routine activities of various departments and sectors. Through effective interdepartmental collaboration, HIV-related information and services can reach vulnerable and underserved populations more efficiently.

In this regard, the Mainstreaming, IEC Division of the KSACS has been conducting HIV/AIDS Sensitization Programmes, Orientation Trainings, and Training of Trainers (TOT) programmes with the support of major line departments across the State. These capacity-building initiatives aim to enhance knowledge on HIV/AIDS, promote early HIV testing, reduce stigma and discrimination, strengthen interdepartmental convergence, and empower officials to act as resource persons for disseminating HIV-related information and facilitating referrals to HIV prevention, testing, care, and treatment services.

Section 1: HIV/AIDS Awareness and Capacity Building Programme for Airport Staff

In April 2026, the Kerala State AIDS Control Society, in collaboration with the Airport Health Organisation (APHO), conducted a series of HIV/AIDS Awareness Programmes at Cochin, Calicut, Kannur, and Thiruvananthapuram International Airports. The programmes focused on HIV prevention, workplace safety, stigma and discrimination reduction, the HIV & AIDS (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017, and the HIV prevention, testing, care, support, and treatment services available under the National AIDS Control Programme (NACP).

The training programmes were attended by officials and staff from the Airport Health Organisation, airline companies, airport customs, airport ground handling services, airport administration, and other airport stakeholders. The programmes provided participants with accurate information on HIV transmission and prevention, promoted non-discriminatory workplace practices, and strengthened awareness regarding available HIV services and referral mechanisms.

The Project Director, KSACS, visited the training programmes (Thiruvananthapuram & Kannur) and delivered an inspiring message highlighting the importance of HIV prevention, early HIV testing, stigma-free workplaces, and the collective responsibility of all sectors in achieving the UNAIDS 95-95-95 targets.

Technical sessions were conducted by senior officials and experts from KSACS, including the Joint Director (IEC), Deputy Director (Mainstreaming), Deputy Director (Care, Support and Treatment), Assistant Director (GIPA), Assistant Director Blood Safety and Medical Officers from ART Centres. The sessions facilitated interactive discussions and enhanced participants' understanding of HIV/AIDS and their role in promoting awareness and supporting the National AIDS Control Programme.

The sessions covered the current HIV/AIDS scenario. Participants were oriented on the network of KSACS service delivery centres. The resource persons explained the roles and responsibilities of these service centres and the referral mechanisms to ensure timely access to HIV-related services.

A dedicated session on Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) highlighted the importance of immediate reporting and management of occupational and non-occupational exposure to HIV, eligibility for PEP, timelines for initiation, treatment protocols, and the availability of PEP services in designated healthcare facilities.

The participants were also sensitized on the provisions of the HIV and AIDS (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017.

Outcome of the Training

The HIV/AIDS Awareness Programme received positive feedback from the participants and airport authorities. As an outcome of the training:

- The Airport Authorities expressed their willingness to collaborate with KSACS in facilitating HIV screening and awareness initiatives for migrant workers employed in and around the airport premises, with appropriate linkage to HIV testing and counselling services.

- The Airport Authorities agreed to display HIV/AIDS Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials, including posters, banners, at prominent locations within the airport premises to promote public awareness and encourage early HIV testing.
- The Airport Health Organisation and Airport Management requested KSACS to conduct additional HIV/AIDS awareness and sensitization programmes for various categories of airport personnel, including newly recruited staff and other stakeholder agencies, on a periodic basis to ensure sustained awareness and reduce stigma and discrimination.
- The training strengthened coordination between KSACS, the Airport Health Organisation, and collaboration in implementing workplace HIV prevention and awareness activities under the National AIDS Control Programme.
- During the training, participants were introduced to the official KSACS social media platforms as a resource for continuous learning and access to authentic HIV/AIDS information. All participants were encouraged to join these platforms, and 100% of the participants enrolled.



Section 2: Two-Day HIV/AIDS Sensitization Training of Trainers (ToT) Programme for Tribal Promoters

A Two-Day HIV/AIDS Sensitization Training of Trainers (ToT) Programme for Tribal Promoters at the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), Sulthan Bathery, on 05–06 May 2026. The programme aimed to strengthen the capacity of selected Scheduled Tribal promoters to serve as community-level facilitators and trainers, enabling them to effectively disseminate information on HIV/AIDS prevention, testing, treatment, care, and support services within their respective communities.

Community-level promoters play a vital role in bridging the gap between the health system and tribal communities. They are instrumental in promoting health-seeking behaviour, creating awareness on HIV prevention, addressing myths and misconceptions, reducing stigma and discrimination, facilitating early HIV testing, and linking individuals to HIV care, treatment, and other essential health services. The programme focused on enhancing their technical knowledge, communication skills, leadership qualities, and facilitation techniques to enable them to conduct awareness activities at the grassroots level.

The training also emphasized the importance of convergence between HIV and Tuberculosis (TB) programmes by including dedicated sessions on TB awareness, early diagnosis, treatment adherence, and integrated health service linkages.

The technical sessions were conducted by experienced resource persons, including the District AIDS Control Officer (DACO), Wayanad, Joint Director (IEC), KSACS, Deputy Director (Mainstreaming), KSACS, and the Cluster Programme Manager, DISHA Kozhikode, ART Medical officer, Kozhikode. The sessions covered the current HIV/AIDS scenario, modes of transmission and prevention, HIV testing and counselling services, Antiretroviral Therapy (ART), HIV-related stigma and discrimination, the HIV & AIDS (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017, and the role of community-level promoters in strengthening service uptake and community engagement. Interactive discussions, group activities, and experience-sharing sessions enabled participants to develop practical skills for conducting community awareness programmes and facilitating timely referrals to HIV and TB services.

Outcome of the Training

The Two-Day HIV/AIDS Sensitization Training of Trainers (ToT) Programme significantly enhanced the knowledge and capacity of Tribal Promoters to function as effective community-level facilitators and trainers. The key outcomes of the programme were:

- Participants demonstrated improved knowledge of HIV/AIDS, including the modes of transmission, prevention, HIV testing, treatment, care, and support services available under the National AIDS Control Programme (NACP).
- The training enhanced participants' understanding of HIV-related stigma and discrimination, enabling them to promote positive attitudes, reduce misconceptions, and foster an inclusive and supportive environment within tribal communities.
- Tribal Promoters gained increased awareness of HIV prevention strategies, including safer sexual practices, prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PPTCT), early HIV diagnosis, and the importance of timely initiation of treatment.
- Participants developed a better understanding of the network of KSACS service delivery centres, including Integrated Counselling and Testing Centres (ICTCs), Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) Centres, STI/RTI Clinics, and other HIV prevention and treatment services, enabling them to effectively refer community members to appropriate healthcare facilities.
- The programme strengthened the capacity of Tribal Promoters to organize and conduct community-level HIV/AIDS awareness sessions, disseminate accurate information, motivate individuals for HIV testing, and facilitate linkages to HIV, STI, and TB services.
- During the interactive discussions, participants expressed the need for regular HIV/AIDS awareness programmes in tribal settlements to sustain community awareness and improve access to HIV-related services.
- The Tribal Development Department, Sulthan Bathery, extended its support to collaborate with KSACS in organizing HIV and STI awareness programmes and HIV/STI screening camps in tribal settlements. This collaborative initiative aims to improve early detection, strengthen referral linkages, and enhance access to HIV prevention, testing, treatment, and care services among tribal populations.

- The programme strengthened coordination between KSACS, the Tribal Development Department, and community-level Tribal Promoters, establishing a sustainable platform for continued HIV prevention, awareness, and service linkage activities in tribal communities.
- The official KSACS social media platforms were introduced during the training, and all participants joined the platforms for continuous access to HIV/AIDS information, IEC materials, and programme updates.



Section 3: Orientation and Sensitization Programme for Railway Officials

Sensitization Programme for Railway Officials on 20 May 2026 at the Railway Training Institute, Palakkad, with the participation of 55 railway officials representing various departments of the Indian Railways. The programme was conducted with the objective of enhancing participants' knowledge on HIV/AIDS and equipping them to contribute to HIV prevention efforts within the railway system and the wider community.

Railway personnel interact daily with thousands of passengers, migrant workers, and the general public, making them important stakeholders in disseminating accurate health information and promoting awareness. The programme focused on improving participants' understanding of HIV transmission, prevention, early diagnosis through HIV testing, available treatment and care services, and the importance of eliminating stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV. Emphasis was also placed on creating a safe, inclusive, and non-discriminatory workplace and encouraging timely referral to HIV testing and treatment services whenever required.

Technical sessions were conducted by senior officials and experts from KSACS, including the Joint Director (IEC), Deputy Director (Mainstreaming), staff from the District TB Centre (DTC), Palakkad, and the Cluster Programme Manager, DISHA Palakkad. The sessions covered the current HIV/AIDS scenario at the global, national, and state levels, modes of HIV transmission and prevention, the importance of early HIV testing, available HIV prevention, care, support, and treatment services under the National AIDS Control Programme (NACP), and the network of KSACS service delivery centres, including ICTCs, ART Centres, and STI/RTI Clinics.

Participants were also oriented on HIV-TB collaborative activities, workplace HIV prevention, stigma and discrimination, the provisions of the HIV and AIDS (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017.

Outcome of the Training

- Improved knowledge of HIV/AIDS, including modes of transmission, prevention, testing, treatment, and care.
- Enhanced understanding of HIV-related stigma and discrimination, promoting a supportive and non-discriminatory workplace.
- Increased awareness of the importance of early HIV testing and timely linkage to treatment services.
- Improved knowledge of available HIV services, including ICTCs, ART Centres, STI clinics, and other KSACS-supported facilities.
- Strengthened capacity of Railway Officials to disseminate accurate HIV/AIDS information among railway employees and passengers.
- Increased promotion and visibility of HIV awareness materials, including , posters, and IEC materials at railway stations, hospitals, and other public areas.
- Enhanced collaboration between the Railway Department and KSACS for implementing workplace HIV/AIDS awareness initiatives.

- The official KSACS social media platforms were introduced during the training, and all participants joined the platforms for continuous access to HIV/AIDS information, IEC materials, and programme updates.



Section 4: One-Day HIV/AIDS Sensitization Training Programme for ASHA Workers

A series of One-Day HIV/AIDS Sensitization Training Programmes for Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA Workers) across six districts of Kerala during June and July 2026. The programme was conducted the objective of strengthening the knowledge and capacity of ASHA workers to support HIV prevention, early diagnosis, treatment adherence, and community-level awareness activities under the National AIDS Control Programme (NACP).

ASHA workers serve as the first point of contact between the community and the public health system. Their close interaction with households, pregnant women, adolescents, migrant populations, and other vulnerable groups places them in a strategic position to disseminate accurate information on HIV/AIDS, reduce stigma and discrimination, motivate individuals for HIV testing, and facilitate timely referrals to HIV prevention, testing, care, and treatment services. Recognizing their crucial role, KSACS designed the training programme to enhance their technical knowledge and communication skills, enabling them to integrate HIV awareness into routine community health activities.

The training programme covered the current HIV/AIDS scenario in India and Kerala, the epidemiology of HIV infection, modes of transmission and prevention, common myths and misconceptions, the importance of early HIV testing, and the objectives of the National AIDS Control Programme. Participants were oriented on the network of KSACS service delivery centres. Special emphasis was given to the role of ASHA workers in identifying individuals at risk, encouraging voluntary HIV testing, supporting pregnant women for timely HIV screening, ensuring linkage to treatment services, promoting treatment adherence, reducing HIV-related stigma and discrimination, and strengthening community awareness. Sessions were also conducted on the HIV and AIDS (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017, Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), HIV-TB collaborative activities, and effective communication strategies for addressing community misconceptions and promoting positive health-seeking behaviour.

The One-Day HIV/AIDS Sensitization Training Programme for ASHA Workers was conducted in the following districts:

Date	District	Participants
09 June 2026	Thiruvananthapuram	—
12 June 2026	Ernakulam	52
19 June 2026	Palakkad	53
27 June 2026	Kasaragod	52
14 July 2026	Thrissur	46
17 July 2026	Kannur	56

Technical sessions were conducted by officials from KSACS, including the Joint Director (IEC), Deputy Director (Mainstreaming), and the concerned District AIDS Control Officer (DACO) of each district and Medical Officers from ART Centres, Blood Bank Officials.

The DACO actively participated in the training programmes and conducted a detailed technical session on Tuberculosis (TB), emphasizing HIV-TB collaborative activities.

Out come of the training

- Improved knowledge on HIV/AIDS transmission, prevention, testing, treatment, and care services.
- Enhanced understanding of the role of ASHA workers in promoting early HIV testing and timely referral to KSACS service centres.
- Increased awareness of ICTCs, ART Centres, STI/RTI Clinics, PPTCT services, and other HIV-related services.
- Better understanding of HIV-related stigma, discrimination, and the provisions of the HIV & AIDS (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017.
- Improved knowledge of HIV-TB collaborative activities, Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), and blood safety.
- Strengthened capacity to conduct community-level HIV awareness and health education sessions.
- Increased confidence in identifying at-risk individuals and facilitating linkage to HIV testing and treatment services.

The official KSACS social media platforms were introduced during the training, and all participants joined the platforms for continuous access to HIV/AIDS information, IEC materials, and programme updates.





Section 5: One-Day HIV/AIDS Training of Trainers (ToT) Programme for CDPOs and ICDS Supervisors

The Kerala State AIDS Control Society conducted a One-Day Training of Trainers (ToT) Programme on HIV/AIDS was conducted for Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs) and ICDS Supervisors of Kozhikode District on 24 July 2026 at the Health & Family Welfare Training Centre, Kozhikode. A total of 55 participants attended the programme.

The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Dhilmon, District AIDS Control Officer (DACO), Kozhikode, who emphasized the importance of interdepartmental collaboration in achieving the UNAIDS 95-95-99 targets and highlighted the crucial role of CDPOs and ICDS Supervisors in promoting HIV awareness, reducing stigma, and facilitating access to HIV-related services through the ICDS network.

Technical sessions were conducted by senior officials and experts from KSACS. The Joint Director (IEC) and Deputy Director (Mainstreaming) presented sessions on the current HIV/AIDS scenario, the objectives of the National AIDS Control Programme, the UNAIDS 95-95-99 targets, and the network of KSACS service delivery centres, including ICTCs, ART Centres, STI/RTI Clinics, TI and referral mechanisms. Participants were sensitized to their role in disseminating accurate HIV information, promoting early HIV testing, and facilitating linkages to HIV prevention, care, and treatment services.

The District AIDS Control Officer (DACO), Kozhikode, conducted a detailed session on Tuberculosis (TB), focusing on HIV-TB collaborative activities, early identification, referral pathways, treatment adherence, and the importance of integrated TB-HIV service delivery.

A Medical Officer from the ART Centre handled a dedicated session on Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), explaining the management of occupational and non-occupational exposure to HIV, indications for PEP, timelines for initiation, treatment protocols, and the availability of PEP services.

An official from the Blood Centre delivered a session on safe blood donation and blood safety, highlighting voluntary blood donation, donor selection, mandatory screening of donated blood for transfusion-transmitted infections, and the importance of safe transfusion practices in preventing HIV transmission.

The programme adopted an interactive approach with discussions, question-and-answer sessions, and experience sharing, enabling participants to clarify doubts and strengthen their understanding of HIV/AIDS. The training enhanced the capacity of CDPOs and ICDS Supervisors to function as trainers within the ICDS system and to integrate HIV awareness, stigma reduction, and referral to KSACS service centres into their routine community outreach activities.

Outcome of the training

Enhanced knowledge of CDPOs and ICDS Supervisors on HIV/AIDS transmission, prevention, testing, treatment, and care services under the National AIDS Control Programme (NACP).

Improved understanding of the current HIV scenario, KSACS service delivery centres, referral mechanisms, and the importance of early HIV testing.

Increased awareness of HIV-TB collaborative activities, Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), safe blood donation, and the HIV & AIDS (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017.

All participants were introduced to the official KSACS social media platforms, and 100% enrolled to receive regular technical updates, IEC materials, and programme information for continued learning and coordination.



Mainstreaming - Advocacy

Inter-Departmental Meeting – Kozhikode District

As per the approved Annual Action Plan (AAP) 2026–27 under the Mainstreaming component of the , the Kerala State AIDS Control Society conducted an Inter-Departmental Meeting in Kozhikode District on 22 April 2026. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Rajaram K., District Medical Officer (Health), Kozhikode, and attended by representatives from various Government line departments.

In his inaugural address, Dr. Rajaram K. emphasized the importance of a coordinated, multi-sectoral approach to HIV prevention and highlighted the need to achieve the national goal of Zero New HIV Infections by 2030. He also stressed the importance of attaining the UNAIDS 95-95-99 targets through early HIV testing, timely treatment, stigma reduction, and strengthened interdepartmental collaboration.

Joint Director (IEC), KSACS: Delivered a detailed session on the HIV and AIDS (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017, highlighting the rights of people living with HIV (PLHIV), confidentiality of HIV status, informed consent for HIV testing, prohibition of stigma and discrimination, and the responsibilities of Government departments in ensuring a supportive, inclusive, and non-discriminatory environment. The session also emphasized the role of line departments in implementing the provisions of the Act through mainstreaming initiatives under the National AIDS Control Programme.

The meeting focused on integrating HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention activities into the routine programmes of various Government departments. The following key commitments and recommendations emerged from the meeting:

- Health Department: Strengthen HIV testing, treatment, counselling, and referral services through existing healthcare facilities.
- Education Department: Conduct HIV/AIDS awareness programmes in schools and colleges and promote adolescent health education.
- Women & Child Development Department: Committed to enhancing HIV/AIDS awareness among women, adolescents, Anganwadi workers, and ICDS beneficiaries through the ICDS network. The department also requested KSACS to conduct a HIV/AIDS sensitization and Training of Trainers (ToT) programme for

Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs) and ICDS Supervisors to strengthen their capacity for community-level awareness and service linkage activities.

- Labour Department: Extend HIV awareness and service linkage activities to migrant workers and organised/unorganised labour sectors. KSACS officials requested the department to provide suitable dates for conducting HIV/AIDS awareness programmes for Labour Department officials.
- Excise, Police, and Prison Departments: Organize regular HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention programmes for departmental staff and prison inmates.
- Local Self Government Institutions: Support community-level HIV awareness campaigns, public IEC activities, and local convergence initiatives.
- Indian System of Medicine Department: Requested KSACS to conduct HIV/AIDS awareness sessions for departmental staff and assured full cooperation in implementing HIV awareness activities.
- Railway Department (Kozhikode): Requested KSACS to incorporate the Southern Railway logo in HIV/AIDS IEC materials and awareness videos to facilitate their display across railway stations under its jurisdiction.
- Motor Vehicles Department: Expressed willingness to support the display of the National AIDS Helpline Number (1097) and HIV awareness messages in buses, taxis, and other public transport vehicles.



Interdepartmental Coordination & Mainstreaming - Break Free Campaign for Achieving the First 95

As part of the NACO Break Free Campaign to achieve the First 95 target (95% of people living with HIV knowing their HIV status), the Kerala State AIDS Control Society strengthened interdepartmental coordination by engaging major Government departments and partner organizations in promoting the HIV & STI Self-Risk Assessment QR Code.

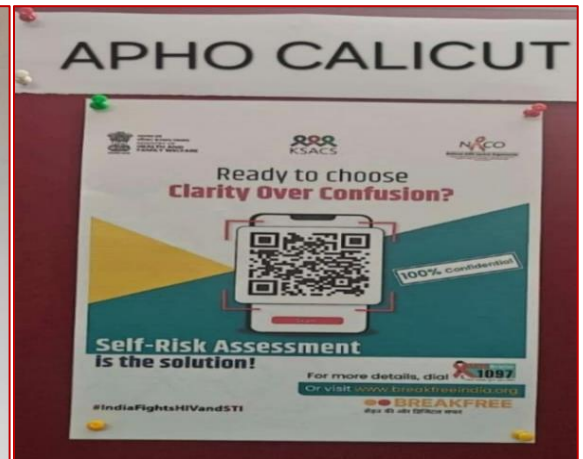
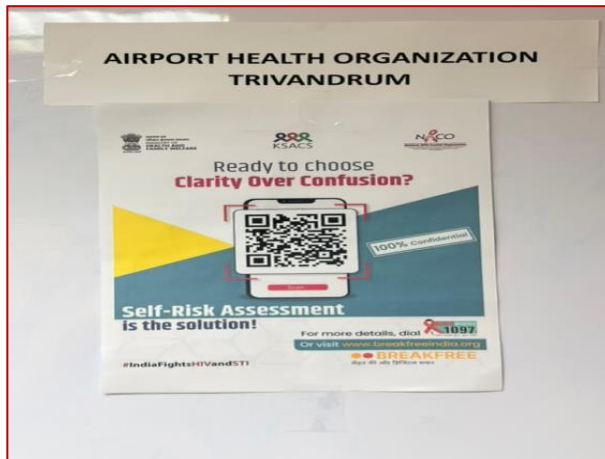
The QR Code was shared with various departments and institutions with a request to display it at prominent public locations to improve access to confidential HIV self-risk assessment and encourage early HIV testing. The initiative received active support from several stakeholders, including Airport Authorities, Indian Railways, colleges, nursing colleges, the Dental Association, the Tribal Development Department, the Women & Child Development Department, and other partner institutions.

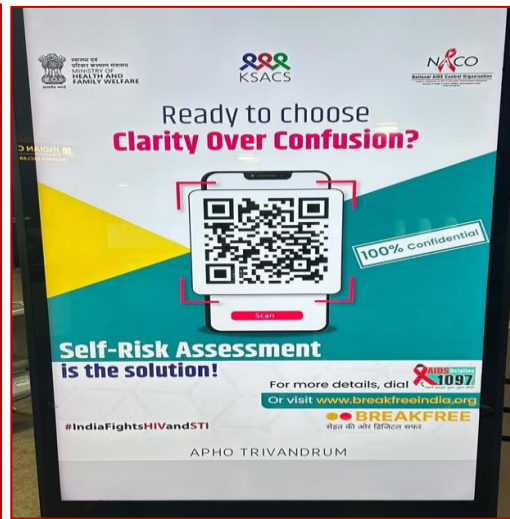
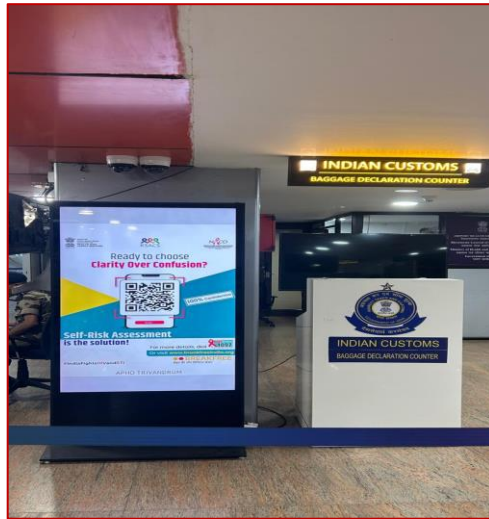
As part of the campaign, KSACS officials also met the Hon'ble Mayor of Thiruvananthapuram Corporation and submitted a formal request to display the HIV & STI Self-Risk Assessment QR Code at major public places across Thiruvananthapuram district. The Hon'ble Mayor extended support to the initiative, and the QR Code was subsequently displayed at key public locations under the Corporation to enhance public awareness and facilitate access to confidential HIV self-assessment services.

The interdepartmental collaboration significantly expanded the visibility of the Break Free Campaign, strengthened community engagement, and promoted early HIV risk assessment, thereby supporting Kerala's efforts to achieve the First 95 target under the National AIDS Control Programme.

The Mainstreaming IEC Division of the Kerala State AIDS Control Society maintains regular coordination with Government line departments to strengthen the implementation of the National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) across the State. Through continuous communication, interdepartmental meetings, capacity-building programmes, and technical support, the Division promotes the integration of HIV/AIDS awareness, prevention, stigma reduction, and referral services into the routine activities of various departments. This sustained collaboration has strengthened awareness activities, facilitated referral linkages, supported the Break Free Campaign, and enhanced access to HIV prevention, testing, treatment, and care services throughout Kerala.

Break Free Campaign for Achieving the First 95





Joint Director IEC, KSACS