

Regardless of how great driver you think you are, you have no right to endanger the life of other road users: Kalal

Transport Department, Dharbandora in association with the Goa Multi-Faculty College, Dharbandora organized a '*Road Safety Awareness Talk*' for the Staff and Students of the College and Govt. High School, Dharbandora to mark road safety month being celebrated from 18th January to 17th February 2021 with the theme "Sadak Suraksha, Jeevan Raksha". The function began with the lighting of a traditional lamp by officials of RTO, Dharbandora, Shri. Sanjay Kalal, Shri. Anand Upadhyay, Principal Dr. Shaikh Mohammad Parvez Al-Usmani, and N.S.S. Programme Officer, Ulhas Bansode, The session was also live streamed for the students who could not be on campus due to pandemic.

In his welcome address, Principal highlighted how the colleges and other educational institutes can play a pivotal role in creating awareness about road safety in three-fold manner; wherein the institutions would act as apparatus, students function as band ambassadors and the teachers as facilitators. He also mentioned the role played by the college in its own humble way by ensuring that its staff and students follow basic road safety guidelines such as wearing a helmet while riding bikes, driving with valid license and wearing seatbelts while driving, etc. The Principal also elaborated on the importance of this awareness program by highlighting the facts and figures about the number of road accidents and deaths happening every year on Indian and Goan roads. He further mentioned that the road fatalities are increasing at an alarming rate and road safety is inevitable. He urged the students to play effective part in this regard for the betterment of society.

Senior Motor Vehicles Inspector, Shri. Sanjay Kalal in his keynote address compared the statistics about road accidents at Global, Indian and Goa state level and grieved that on Goan roads on an average one person loses his/her life every day and mentioned how distressful it is for his family to cope up with the loss of a deceased member, who sometimes could be the sole bread earner. Shri. Kalal said that not only death is the fallout, many a times road accidents leave the victims permanently disabled and further informed that the ratio of vehicles per population in India 6:1, whereas in Goa for about 15 lakh population, the ratio is 1:1. He also spoke about the increase of respiratory problems due to vehicular traffic. "Regardless of how great you think you are, you have no right to endanger the life of other road users" he added.

Shri. Anand Upadhyay, Assistant Motor Vehicles Inspector stressed on the need of every citizen taking safeguard of his own health and well-being from road accidental injuries then he said that he is able to help his family, neighbors, community and nation to prosper. He said that his department has been conducting such types of programs past 4 years and have yielded positive results. Further, he briefed the gathering about the basic safety measures one must take while travelling on the roads wearing a B.I.S. certified Helmet, Wearing seatbelt, etc. The vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Ulhas Bansode and the function was compared by Assistant Professor, Ms. Anaya Mulik.



Staff members of GMFC along with Road Transport Officials Shri. Sanjay Kalal, Shri. Anand Upadhyay, Principal Dr. Shaikh Mohammad Parvez Al-Usmani, N.S.S. Programme Officers Mr. Ulhas Bansode and Ms. Anaya Mulik, held at a function on **'Road Safety Awareness Talk'**.