

**Report on the State Level Awareness Programme on Civil Services
held at Ernakulam, Palakkad , Kozhikode and
Thiruvananthapuram**

State-level Awareness Programmes on the civil services were held at Ernakulam, Palakkad , Kozhikode and Thiruvananthapuram on January 4, 5 , 6 & 17, 2012 respectively.

The programme at Ernakulam, intended for the college students of Ernakulam, Alappuzha, Kottayam and Idukki Districts, was held at the Maharaja's College Centenary Auditorium on January 4. **Prof Valsalakumary**, Principal, Maharaja's College, chaired the function, which was attended by 360 students. **Dr. N. Gangadharan Nair**, Chief Co-ordinator, CCEK, welcomed the gathering. The Principal in her Presidential address expressed her sense of gratitude to the Director of CCEK for his visionary idea of organising a function of the sort for bringing about an awareness about the civil services examination, one of the important examinations in our country, among the youth of Kerala. She was particularly happy that a reputed civil service officer of yester years, namely, **Dr. D. Babu Paul IAS** (Retd) was present at the function. She looked forward to having such a programme every year.

Dr. D. Babu Paul, Mentor Emeritus, Kerala State Civil Service Academy, who delivered the keynote address, lauded the efforts of the Director of the Academy in popularizing the scope and usefulness of the civil services, the most sought-after services, in India. With his encyclopedic knowledge, Dr Babu Paul enlightened the audience on the need of more and more Malayalees getting into the civil services and the kind of service they could do to their home state as well as to the country. He listed the points the aspirants should always bear in mind for cracking the civil services examination. After addressing the audience for about thirty minutes, the Dr. Babu Paul answered the questions on the civil services examination raised by the aspirants.

Prof P. M. Rajeev, Programme Co-ordinator of CCEK, proposed a vote of thanks. The function ended at 1. 30 pm.

The awareness programme at Palakkad, intended for the college students of Palakkad and Thrissur Districts, was held at the Government Victoria College, Palakkad, on January 5, 2012. **Shri Muhammed Y. Safirulla IAS**, Asst. Collector Trainee, Palakkad, who had reached the venue much early, was good enough to interact with the civil service aspirants from 10 am to 10. 30 am. The Chief Coordinator of CCEK welcomed the gathering. The presence of **Dr. Babu Paul**, who reached the venue at 10. 30 am, scintillated the audience. Though only 218 students had registered, the auditorium was filled to capacity--more than five hundred students were present. **Shri Shafi**

Parambil, Hon'ble MLA of Palakkad, also joined the function by 10. 30 am. The Principal of Government Victoria College **Prof Ajitha Kumar**, offered felicitations. He was particularly happy that Kerala State Civil Service Academy was going to establish a Regional Centre at Palakkad on the campus of the Government Victoria College. The Hon'ble MLA, who presided over the function, explained to the audience the steps taken by him for getting a Regional Centre of Kerala State Civil Service Academy at Palakkad. He was quite optimistic about its commencing function in June 2012. He thanked the Director of CCEK for the positive gestures he had shown in his (the MLA's) endeavour. The Mentor Emeritus, who delivered the keynote address, caught the attention of the audience with his remarkable power of articulation. He explained to the aspirants the kind of preparations they should make for realising their ambition. He told them that there was no substitute for hard work. He mentioned the hardship the civil service aspirants of his time had undergone on account of having no one to advise them, no training institutes in Kerala, no facility offered by the Government. Now the presence of various coaching centres for the civil services examination, especially Kerala State Civil Service Academy, changed the whole scenario, he remarked.

Shri Mohan Kumar IAS, District Collector, Palakkad, joined the function towards its end. Yet he was magnanimous enough to offer his felicitations. The function ended at 1. 30 pm.

The awareness programme at Kozhikode, for the civil service aspirants of Malappuram, Kozhikkode, Wayanad, Kannur and Kasargod Districts, was held on January 6, 2012 at the Auditorium of Government Arts and Science College, Meenchanda, Kozhikode. **Prof B.**

K. Vijayan, Principal of the college, presided over the programme. **Kumari T. V. Anupama IAS**, Asst Collector, Kozhikode, graced the function not only with her presence but also with her interaction with the civil service aspirants, who number was 303. The Chief Co-ordinator of CCEK welcomed the gathering.

The Principal in his presidential address thanked the Director of CCEK for formulating the idea of a state level awareness programme on the civil services and implementing it quite successfully. He said that the youth of Malabar were looking forward to the starting of the Regional Centre of Kerala State Civil Service Academy at Kozhikode.

Dr. Babu Paul, undoubtedly, was the star attraction at the function. He delivered an enthralling speech on the civil services, on the need for managing time most usefully, on the kind of reading the aspirants should do, etc. As advised by him, the Chief Coordinator, spoke at length on the civil services examination, the various services under the civil services, etc. for the benefit of the large number of +2 students who had joined the audience a bit later. The function was officially declared

to be over at 12.30 pm in order to enable the students of the Muslim Minority community to attend the noon prayer.

The awareness programme at Thiruvananthapuram for the civil service aspirants of Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Pathanamthitta Districts was held on January 17, 2012 at the Govt. College for Women, Thiruvananthapuram. **Shri. Mohan Abraham**, Director, CCEK presided over the function. **Dr. N. Gangadharan Nair**, Chief Coordinator, CCEK welcomed the gathering.

Dr. Babu Paul, in his keynote address, expatiated to the civil service aspirants on the need for managing time most usefully and on the kind of reading they should do. He shared his experiences in his long civil service career with them. He advised the students not to focus on anything else but the civil services examination once they have made up their minds to appear for it. He stressed the importance of hard work, having a clear focus, time management, improving communication skill, attaining general awareness, etc. for cracking the prestigious exam.

Shri. Vimaladitya IPS, Asst. Superintendent of Police, Vadakara, addressed the audience for about an hour, telling them about the kind of mindset they should cultivate once they have decided to choose a career in the civil services by successfully cracking the civil services examination. He impressed upon them the need for reading one English newspaper regularly with focus on news items of national and international importance, reading magazines and periodicals with a critical as well as an inquisitive mind. They should look for relevant material only to help them pass the examination; they should not attempt to become scholars in the optional subjects they choose. A holistic approach is the safe bet for any civil service aspirant. Note-taking and note-making should be done in such a manner that they are brief, focused and easily comprehensible. Essay-writing should also be practiced right from the stage of the preparation for the civil services preliminary examination. He also gave the students, whose number was 301, valuable tips on the Personality Test also. He answered the questions they asked him.

Prof. Sushama, Principal, Govt. College for women, Tvm delivered a felicitation speech.

Prof P. M. Rajeev, Programme Co-ordinator of CCEK, proposed a vote of thanks. The function ended at 1. 30 pm. The awareness programmes at these four places were a huge success. CCEK should be grateful to the Mentor Emeritus for the pains he took in visiting the four places and delivering exceptionally brilliant and inspiring speeches. The support and co-operation extended by the principals of the host colleges for conducting the programmes were not only whole-hearted but also exemplary.

18/01/2012

Director