

Red Ribbon Express on success rails; warm welcome at Palakkad

Palakkad: A very warm reception was extended by the people of Palakkad to the Red Ribbon Express train at the Palakkad railway station when it reached here with the objective of providing awareness and spreading message of HIV/AIDS prevention & Control among the common public. In the first day itself, 3135 persons visited the train to see the exhibition out of which, 213 persons have gained training in the subject. 86 persons were given counseling and 35 persons came forward for voluntary HIV testing.

Even in the second day hundreds of people visited railway station to see the exhibition. Cultural programmes presented by various NGOs at the platform attracted hundreds of people. Very good response was received to the two Life Buses which visited the remote rural villages also. In all 6 centers where the buses visited in the first day itself, 6570 persons gathered to receive the bus and to gain awareness.

After completing its mission in Palakkad, the train will proceed to Thrissur on March 3 and will stay back there for two days for exhibition. There after the train will visit Alwaye, Ernakulam South, Kayamkulam Jn and Karunagappally railway stations. The train will complete its mission in Kerala on March 12th at Karunagappally railway station.

The Red Ribbon Express train started its journey from New Delhi on 2009 December 1st, that is World AIDS Day with the objectives of generating awareness on HIV/AIDS control, providing information on available services in respect of HIV/AIDS area, eliminate the stigma & discrimination to the HIV infected and affected persons, understanding the possible ways of HIV/AIDS prevention and to develop a positive and healthy life style among the common public.