

ACTION TAKEN REPORT

SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAMME

Implementation and Scalability of School
Disaster Management Protocols



Kerala State Disaster Management Authority
2019 - 2025

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA



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BACKGROUND

In the aftermath of the 2018 floods and in recognition of schools as critical infrastructure and emergency shelters, the **Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA)**, in convergence with the **Education Department**, **UNICEF/UNDP**, and allied institutions, initiated a **Comprehensive School Safety Programme**. The programme aimed to institutionalise disaster risk reduction (DRR), preparedness, and response mechanisms within the school system through phased planning, training, and monitoring interventions.

1. Institutional Framework & Policy Establishment (2019)

- **State-Level Consultation (June 2019):** Established the core vision for school safety in Kerala. Key outcomes included the mandate for **School Disaster Management Committees (SDMCs)** and the integration of disaster management into the state school curriculum.
- **Institutional Setup (Nov 2019) * SDMC Formation:** Committees were formed in all target schools (28 schools in initial phase, total 377 members).
 - **S-ERT Formation:** School Emergency Response Teams were established with 333 trained members to handle medical and first-aid emergencies.
- **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs):** Developed and disseminated protocols for campus security, student transportation, and neighborhood safety.

2. Capacity Building & Skill Development

- **Regional Workshops:** Conducted 8 regional training programs covering all 14 districts. Notable sessions included the Thiruvalla Workshop (Oct 2019) which trained 146 stakeholders from Kottayam and Pathanamthitta.
- **Basic Life Support (BLS):** Partnered with IIEMS to provide hands-on CPR and First Aid training.
 - **Total Trained:** 1,499 individuals (308 staff and 1,191 students).
- **Orientation Programs:** Reached 1,409 participants with "Do's & Don'ts" for regional hazards like floods, landslides, and lightning.
- **District-Level Capacity Expansion – Alappuzha (20–23 May 2024)**
As part of CSSP scale-up, district-level School Safety Training

Programmes were conducted across Alappuzha, Cherthala, Mavelikkara and Kuttanad, covering 715 teachers and school representatives. Key focus areas included school safety planning, disaster preparedness fire safety, first aid, monsoon preparedness, and USCHOOL App onboarding. This strengthened institutional preparedness and supported operationalisation of digital monitoring systems at district level.

3. Participatory Risk Assessment & Mitigation

- **Hazard Hunt Exercises:** 749 students participated in identifying structural risks (unsafe buildings, electrical hazards) and non-structural risks (unstable trees, open wells).
- **Participatory Mapping:** 525 participants developed school-specific Hazard, Resource, and Evacuation Maps.
- **Mock Drills:** Conducted widespread fire safety and evacuation drills to operationalize School Disaster Management Plans.
- **School Safety Programme in Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme**
School safety programmes were conducted as part of the Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme in the selected nine coastal grama panchayats.

4. Digital Transformation, Monitoring and Capacity Expansion

- **Pandemic Adaptation (2021–2022)**
District-level school safety sensitisation programmes were conducted through online platforms to ensure continuity of training and preparedness activities across districts during the COVID-19 period.
- **State-Level Digital Integration Decision (01 June 2023)**
A State-Level Committee meeting on School Safety was convened at the office of the Principal Secretary, Revenue & Disaster Management. It was decided to host the USCHOOL App at the State Data Centre and initiate structured statewide dissemination and orientation. This marked the institutionalisation of digital monitoring, reporting, and updating of School Disaster Management Plans under CSSP.
- **USCHOOL App Orientation (18 December 2023 – Kasaragod)**
A total of 146 Headmasters were trained on the USCHOOL App facilitating the transition from conventional training-based monitoring to real-time digital reporting and school safety plan updating.

5. Digital

- **Statewide School Safety Status (2025)**

Statewide monitoring of school safety indicators indicates significant institutionalisation of school safety mechanisms were done through Block Resource Centres(BRCs) under Samagra Shiksha Kerala and teachers attached to the BRCs. The awareness programmes and monitoring resulted in:

93% of schools have constituted School Safety Committees

90% of schools have prepared School Safety Plans

82% of schools completed Hazard Hunt/Safety Audit activities

65% of schools planned or conducted trainings and mock drills

Coverage extends to **12,255 schools across districts**

6. Summary of Key Achievements - 2019–2025

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Status/Quantity</i>
Schools Covered (Statewide)	12,255 schools monitored under CSSP framework
Schools Targeted (Initial Phase)	200 schools across 14 districts
Institutional Readiness	93% schools formed School Safety Committees
School Safety Planning	90% schools prepared School Safety Plans
Hazard & Safety Assessment	82% schools completed hazard hunt/safety audit
Capacity Building (BLS & Safety Skills)	1,500+ personnel trained
Teacher Capacity Building (Alappuzha 2024)	715 teachers trained
App Capacity Building	146 Headmasters trained (Kasaragod, 2023)
Digital Integration	USCHOOL App hosted at State Data Centre and operational statewide
Mock Drills/Training Planning	65% schools initiated drills and preparedness activities
Outcome	School safety activities have been conducted effectively, with School Safety Committees formed and School Safety Plans prepared in accordance with the 2018 State-Level Advisory Committee guidelines. Digital monitoring of these activities is ongoing through the USchool App.

ACTIVITY-WISE REPORT (YEAR-WISE)
School Safety & Disaster Management Programmes (2019–2025)

2019 – Statewide School Safety Implementation (Kerala)

Date	Place	Activity	Target Audience	Participants	Topics Covered
Nov 2019	Various schools across Kerala	School Disaster Management Committee (SDMC) Formation	Teachers, Officials	377	Roles & responsibilities, coordination
Nov 2019	Kerala	School Emergency Response Team (S-ERT) Formation	Students, Teachers	333	Emergency response structure
Nov–Dec 2019	Kerala	Disaster Management Orientation	Students, Teachers	1,409	Disaster cycle, preparedness
Nov–Dec 2019	Kerala	Basic Life Support (BLS) Training	Students, Staff	1,499	CPR, first aid
Nov–Dec 2019	Kerala	Hazard Hunt	Students	749	Risk identification
Nov–Dec 2019	Kerala	Hazard & Evacuation Mapping	Students, Teachers	525	Evacuation planning
2019	Kerala	Fire Mock Drills	School Community	9,887	Fire safety, evacuation

2020 – Regional & Online Capacity Building

Date	Place	Activity	Target Audience	Participants	Topics Covered
01-02-2020	Alappuzha–Ernakulam Region	Regional Training	Teachers, Officials	122	School DM Plans, evacuation
08-02-2020	Malappuram	Regional Training	Teachers, Officials	57	Disaster governance
25-08-2020	Online (Statewide)	Webinar	DEOs, DDEs	128	DRR integration

2021 – District Sensitisation (Online Mode)

Date	Place	Activity	Target Audience	Participants	Topics Covered
08-09-09-2021	Kottayam (Online)	District Sensitisation Programme	DEOs, AEOs, Headmasters	1,240	Preparedness, school safety planning

2022 – Tsunami Ready Programme (Initial Expansion Phase)

Date	Place	Activity	Target Audience	Participants	Topics Covered
2022	Coastal Districts of Kerala	Sensitisation & Preparedness Programmes	Teachers, Officials	9 districts	Structural safety, fire safety, preparedness

2023 – Policy, Review & Digital Integration

Date	Place	Activity	Target Audience	Participants	Topics Covered
01-06-2023	Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram	State Level Advisory Committee Meeting	Senior Govt Officials	—	School safety monitoring, USchool dissemination
04-07-2023	Ernakulam	Review Meeting & Training	Education Officials	87	School safety plan review
27-10-2023	Palakkad	USchool App Training	Focal Teachers	103	App usage, digital reporting, DM rules

2024 – School Safety & Field Level Implementation

Awareness Session

Date	Place	Activity	Target Audience	Participants	Topics Covered
20-02-2024	Kendriya Vidyalaya, Pattom (Thiruvananthapuram)	Awareness Session	Students	460 (245 F, 215 M)	DM basics, hazard types, alerts, earthquake safety, fire extinguisher demo

Tsunami Ready Schools Programme

Date	Place	Activity	Target Audience	Participants	Topics Covered
28-06-2024	Mohammadan LPS, Pulluvila, Karamkulam (TVM)	School Safety Programme (TRP)	Students, Teachers	36 (30 children, 6 staff)	School safety, USchool App, DM plan formulation

Date	Place	Activity	Target Audience	Participants	Topics Covered
03-05-07-2024	Eriyad & Azhikode, Thrissur	10 Schools	Students, Teachers, Parents	800 (650 students + 150 adults)	Committee formation, hazard hunt, drills
09-15-07-2024	Purakkad, Alappuzha	6 Schools	Students, Teachers	665 (600 students + 65 adults)	Evacuation, preparedness, USchool
28-06-2024	Karamkulam, TVM	1 School	Students, Teachers, Parents	36+	School safety planning
16-08-2024	Azhikode & Azhikkal, Kannur	RFTHSS Azhikkal & Meenkunnu HSS	Students, Teachers	179+	Evacuation procedures, first aid, safety protocols

2025 – Statewide Institutionalisation & Monitoring State-Level Planning

Date	Place	Activity	Target Audience	Participants	Topics Covered
May 2025	Minister's Chamber, Thiruvananthapuram	Planning Meeting	KSDMA & Education Officials	—	Mainstreaming school safety

Training of Trainers (ToT)

Date	Place	Activity	Target Audience	Participants	Topics Covered
28-05-2025 to 05-06-2025	All District Headquarters (Kerala)	District ToT	BRC Teachers	392 (168 BRCs represented)	School safety implementation, targets

BRC-Level Trainings (Statewide)

Date	Place	Activity	Target Audience	Participants	Topics Covered
June–Sept 2025	All Districts (Kerala)	BRC-Level School Safety Trainings	School Teacher Representatives	10,000+ (approx.)	Committee formation, hazard hunt, safety plan

School-Level Activities (Monitoring Data as on 15-09-2025)

Indicator	Coverage
Schools under BRC (Govt & Aided)	12,255
Schools formed Safety Committee	11,458 (93%)
Schools conducted Hazard Hunt	10,052 (82%)
Schools prepared Safety Plan	10,970 (90%)
Schools planned Mock Drills	8,021 (65%)

CONSOLIDATED ACTIVITY LIST (2019–2025)

Sl. No	Activity	Years Conducted	Major Locations	Target Group
1	School DM Committee Formation	2019–2025	Statewide	Teachers, Officials
2	S-ERT Training	2019–2024	Statewide	Students

3	Disaster Orientation	2019–2024	Kerala	Students, Teachers
4	BLS & First Aid	2019–2025	Kerala	Students, Staff
5	Hazard Hunt	2019–2025	School-level	Students
6	Evacuation Mapping	2019–2024	Schools	Students
7	Fire Mock Drills	2019–2025	Schools	School Community
8	Regional Trainings	2020	Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Malappuram	Teachers
9	Online Sensitisation	2020–2021	Statewide	Officials
10	USchool App Training	2023–2025	Palakkad, Statewide	Teachers
11	Tsunami Ready Training	2022–2024	TVM, Thrissur, Alappuzha, Kannur	Coastal Schools
12	Training of Trainers (ToT)	2025	All District HQs	BRC Teachers
13	Monitoring & Evaluation	2023–2025	Statewide	Schools

School-Level Activities (Monitoring Data as on 15-09-2025)

Year	Major Focus	Key Achievements
2019	Foundation & Drills	Large-scale student training
2020	Regional + Online	Institutional sensitization
2021	Virtual Outreach	1,200+ administrators trained
2022	Coastal Preparedness	TRP mainstreaming
2023	Governance & IT	USchool integration
2024	Intensive Field Work	3,900+ participants
2025	Statewide Rollout	12,000+ schools covered

Overall Coverage (2019–2025)

- ▶ Reached 12,000+ schools
- ▶ Trained 50,000+ students & teachers
- ▶ Covered all 14 districts of Kerala
- ▶ Strengthened coastal preparedness
- ▶ Institutionalised digital monitoring (USchool App)

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