

## ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN AKKARAIPATTU POLICE AREA: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

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### Abstract

This study explores the underlying issues contributing to road traffic accidents in Akkaraipattu and identifies the challenges faced by local authorities and police in addressing these issues and seek solutions for the prevention. Qualitative and quantitative approaches were used for collecting information through surveys and in-depth interview in this study. The researcher has used random sampling method for data collection such as interviews with 10 pedestrians, 10 vendors, 10 religious leaders, 10 drivers and passengers totalling to 40 respondents. The Quantitative data were collected from records, reports, statistics, available in Police station, hospitals and magistrate court in Akkariapattu. Data were analysed using statistical tools (Excel) for quantitative data analysis and presented in form of narrative. Thematic analysis was applied to qualitative responses. This study aims to identify specific patterns of accidents, such as high-risk locations, peak accidents hours and road users. The finding emphasises the need for better infrastructure, strict law enforcement, public awareness to reduce incidents. Finally, it recommends that, religious leaders, Police Officer, schools and public institutions should provide counselling, guidance and awareness to community on safety travelling and driving to build healthy life of people in this community.

**Keywords:** Akkaraipattu Divisional Secretariat division, community, accident, infrastructure, Sri Lanka.