



CREST News Bulletin

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Centre for Research and Education for Social Transformation (CREST)

An autonomous institution under Government of Kerala

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About CREST

Centre for Research & Education for Social Transformation (CREST) is an autonomous institution under Government of Kerala, India . CREST has been conceived as a national institute of humanities, science and professional studies, addressing the needs of the Dalits, Adivasis and other marginalized communities of India while integrating with the informational society. The Centre has been conceived in the backdrop of the new global scenario into which India is integrating and its multifaceted features . It was incubated by Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode.

Since its inception in 2002 the Centre has been involved with (a) the flagship programme, i.e., the five months Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development (b) Research Projects (c) Management Development Programs and (d) National Seminars & workshops .

The governing council headed by the Minister for Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Communities as Chairman monitors the activities of the Centre. Dignitaries like the Governor of Kerala, Chief Minister of Kerala and the Speaker of the Kerala Legislative Assembly are the patrons of this autonomous institution. The Governing Council has representation from institutions like Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore, Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, Thiruvananthapuram and Sree Chitra Thirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology, Thiruvananthapuram as well as Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, New Delhi.

The activities of CREST are facilitated by the Executive Director. The faculty consists of experts in Sociology and Social Anthropology, Social Work, Social Psychology and Behavioral Science, Applied Economics, Communication, Management and Entrepreneurship Development, Accounting and Finance, Analytical and Quantitative sciences and Information Technology



Workshop on Employability

A five day workshop on Employability Enhancement and Executive Skills Development was held for the students of CCPD programme from June 22 to 26 , 2009. The workshop was conducted by Prof.Muraleedharan Paleri, a management expert and former faculty of Symbiosis, Pune. The workshop, among other issues covered introduction to Essential quality programmes viz., ISO, Kaizen & Six Sigma etc.

Theatre Workshop



CREST students performing theatre at Malabar Christian College Calicut theatre at Malabar Christian College Auditorium Calicut. The workshop and the performance got much public / media attention. The workshop was assessed by the students as a very effective programme for developing English communication.

The workshop, organized as a part of communication skill / personality development module was held for the students undergoing CCPD programme from June 29, to July 04, 2009. The workshop was held at the Government Youth Hostel, Calicut .It was conducted by Mr. Jake Oorloff, a theatre expert from Floating Space theatre group, Colombo, Sri Lanka. The workshop was assisted by Ms.Ruhanie Perera, co-director of Floating Space and researcher on theatre. All the students undergoing the CCPD programme attended the workshop. On July 4, all the participants performed an English

Orientation Programme for BTech Students

An orientation programme, designed to improve the performance level of students from Scheduled communities enrolling for BTech Degree courses in Kerala was held from July 9 to August 7, 2009. 54 candidates from 231 applicants were selected for the programme, based on the rank they obtained in Common Entrance Examination 2009. Of the 54 candidates selected for the programme, 14 were girls.

The in-house programme was held at the Government Youth Hostel, Calicut. The programme included 175 sessions (1 hour 15 minutes) covered modules in Mathematics, English, Mechanics, Engineering Graphics and Personality Development. The sessions were held by faculty of CREST, Government Engineering College Calicut and National Institute of Technology (NIT) Calicut. Apart from the training , the students were given facility for 'option' selection for courses. As a part of the programme, CREST did a session for parents on 9th of July.



Orientation Programme for candidates obtained admission for BTech Degree courses in Kerala

The candidates who attended the course were provided educational tools like scientific calculator and English-English dictionary for future use. The candidates who have completed the orientation programme are in constant touch with CREST and follow up programmes are being designed for them during their BTech programme which includes mentoring support to each candidate.

Workshop on Soft Skills

A two-day's workshop on soft skills was held for the students of CCPD programme on 16 and 17 July 2009. The workshop was conducted by Balachandran Gopinath, International Trainer for JCI. The workshop covered subjects like Group Discussion, Interview, and Presentations etc.

Workshop on Higher Studies Abroad

A Workshop on Opportunities for Higher Studies Abroad was held on August 01, 2009 at Hotel Hyson Heritage, Calicut which was attended by nearly 150 participants. The objective of the workshop was to guide aspirants from Scheduled communities to successfully obtain admission in institutions abroad. The sessions were held by experts from Lincoln University, UK., British Council , Chennai , American consulate Chennai , Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode among others.

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr.P.Bhaskaran Nair, Faculty, Lincoln University , UK. Technical sessions were held by Ms. C.Vijayalakshmi (Educational Advising Assistant, American Consulate, Chennai) Mr.L.Dhanasekaran (Head, Education UK , British Council Chennai) and Dr. T P Sethumadhavan (Overseas Education Consultant) . The technical session was followed by panel discussion on higher education abroad. For panel discussion inputs were provided by Prof. Muralidharan Paleri (Educational consultant) , Dr.MG Sreekumar (Librarian , IIMK) Vinod Krishnan.T.Y. (Associate Programme Coordinator, CREST) , Petra Bergquist (Lund University, Sweden) and Prof D.D. Nampoothiri Executive Director, CREST.



Workshop participants



Prof. Bhaskaran Nair inaugurating the workshop

For the participants of the workshop and toolkit was given which included a CD giving details on fellowships and scholarships available internationally for students seeking higher studies abroad.

Alumni Meet

The Alumni meet "Rendezvous 2009" was held on 2nd of August 2009 at CIGI Auditorium, Chevayur, Calicut. One hundred participants including the 12th Batch of CCPD students attended the meet. It provided an opportunity for alumni to strengthen the bonds and to further foster camaraderie among the alumni. The meeting decided to constitute an Investment Programme under the aegis of CREST Alumni Trust, which is a registered charitable trust run by the alumni. The investment programme has been conceived as a measure to generate a revolving fund to support deserving alumni members for higher studies and other needs. The meet also designed a strategy to improve the networking among the members.

KR Narayanan Memorial Lecture

The second K.R. Narayanan Memorial National Lecture was delivered by Prof. Gopal Guru, a distinguished scholar from Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on August 08, 2009 at Alakapuri Auditorium Calicut



Prof. Gopal Guru, JNU, New Delhi delivering KR Narayanan Memorial lecture 'Modernity and its Margin': A Critique



The Lecture “Modernity and its Margins – A Critique” was well attended by the public of Calicut City. Prof. DD Nampoothiri, Executive Director, CREST welcomed the gathering and Dr. Sanal Mohan Faculty, School of Social Sciences, MG University introduced the guest to the audience.

Valediction of 12th Batch of CCPD

The valedictory function for the 12th batch of CCPD was conducted on August 17, 2009 at Hotel Hyson Heritage, Calicut. On successful completion of the course 39 students were awarded their course certificates. Dr. P. K Michael Tharakan, Vice Chancellor of Kannur University was the chief guest for the function.



Petra Bergquist, Intern giving felicitation



Dr.P.K.Michael Tharakan, VC, Kannur University awarding certificate

Prof. Ashley Paul, Associate Programme Coordinator, CREST welcomed the dignitaries, guests and the students. The presidential address was delivered by Prof.D.D.Nampoothiri, Executive Director of CREST. The students were felicitated by the Dr. T.N Krishnan (Faculty, Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode) Dr. P Bhaskaran Nair (Faculty, Lincoln University, UK) Prof Sophie Tharakan, Prof. Muraleedharan Paleri, Mr. P Umanathan (Faculty, CREST), Mr. A. R Vinod (Faculty, CREST), Dr. Anita Ramesh (Faculty, CREST) and Ms. Petra Bergquist. Dr. Amalraj, representing the 12th Batch CCPD students delivered the thanksgiving speech.



Candle Light Ceremony

The felicitators and the chief guest congratulated the students for their achievement which included obtaining admission for MBA programme for nine candidates in reputed institutions in Kerala and jobs for two candidates in institutions like WIPRO and Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology

The valedictory function ended with the candle light ceremony.

Announcement of 13th Batch of CCPD Programme

The applications for the 13th Batch of Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development program have been called for. The advertisement for the same was published in all the leading newspapers of Kerala. The admission committee meeting was held on August 26, 2009 to plan the execution of the Entrance test for admission to the program. The Entrance test has been scheduled for September 26, 2009.

