



CREST News Bulletin

10

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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. CREST has been conceived as a national institute of humanities, science and professional studies, addressing the needs of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other marginalized communities of India while integrating with the informational society. The Centre was incubated by Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode. 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.

Activities

Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development (XVIII Batch)

The XVIII Batch of the Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development commenced on June 8, 2012. Of the 40 candidates who joined for the course, 10 are professional degree holders, 20 are Post Graduate Degree holders and 10 are graduates. On May June 7, parents of the



candidates were invited and were briefed about the objectives of the programme, opportunities etc. The ice breaking session was conducted by Sucharita Hota, Nirmal Joy and Vinod AR on June 8, at CIGI, Chevayur, Calicut.

Self Enrichment Workshop

A three-day workshop on Personality Development was held at Shreyas, Sultan Bathery, Wayanad from June 9-11, 2012 for the candidates who joined for the PGCCPD programme (XVIII Batch). The



workshop covered the themes; Team Building, Corporate communication, and presentations. The workshop was conducted by Mr. Anil Menon, Visiting Faculty CREST. The workshop included sessions on sensitization on tribal and environmental issues. These sessions included village visits, interaction with local community and forest walk. Sumesh Mangalaseery and Daniel, KABANI – The Other Direction held sessions on community based tourism in Wayanad.

Orientation Programme at NITK

On invitation from SC-ST Cell, National Institute of Technology – Karnataka, Surathkal, a three-week professional skill enhancement programme was conducted by CREST for the final semester students undergoing BTech Degree course at NITK. The workshop was held between July 5 to July 21, 2012. The programme was inaugurated by Sri. TSN Murthy, IRS, Deputy Chairman NMPT. Present were K. Socrates, Deputy Director, Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises Development Institute, Mangalore, Prof. K.C. Shet, Director-in-Charge, NITK, Dr. Rajmohan B, Liaison Officer, SC-ST Cell, NITK and Vinod Krishnan.T.Y., Associate Programme Coordinator CREST and Dr. Doddamani, Faculty NITK. The in-house programme consisted of modules designed to assist students during their placement. The modules covered sessions on self analysis, team building, leadership, conflict resolution, understanding power, opportunities in emerging sector, English communication skills etc. 40 students participated in the programme. Valediction ceremony was held on July 21.

Ten Days Self-Enrichment Programme for First Year BTech students at IIT Delhi

The ten-day programme was inaugurated on July 9, 2012, by Prof. SN Singh, Deputy Director, (Operations) held at IIT-D in which the students, parents, faculty members of CREST and IIT participated. The programme was coordinated by Prof. Anurag Sharma, Dean, IIT-D. The workshop was held at the Student Activity Centre and the faculty from Humanities and Social Science department were the observers. During the course, interactive sessions were held with participants and faculty of IIT-D.

The ten days training programme addressing the needs of students from the underprivileged communities, was aimed to enhance their learning skills, communication skills, inter-personal relationships and motivation with an objective to improve the performance level of SC/ST Students who join for BTech Degree courses. The ten days programme also was intended to equip them to develop study strategies as well as aspiration levels. The modules, developed over the years at



CREST, Kozhikode, draw on the understanding that scaffolding the personal needs (emotional, social) and orientations of an individual enables and facilitates better academic orientation.

The pedagogies drawn on for the training programme are that of reflexive teaching, critical dialogues and discourse, personal attention to individual trainees, integration of emotional-social-intellectual enrichment, preparation and orientation for conflict resolution and stress management etc. The valediction was held on July 18, 2012 with faculty members of CREST and IITD giving felicitations.

Self Enrichment Program for MBBS students at AIIMS

On invitation from the All Indian Institute of Medical Sciences , New Delhi, a ten days orientation programme entitled "Self-Enrichment Programme for the MBBS Entry Students" was held from 19 July to 28 July 2012. The program was held with the objective to enhance the self-confidence level



of students, particularly hailing from Scheduled and backward communities . Of seventy students who got admission for the MBBS course this academic year, 67 candidates took part in the programme. The ten days course covered modules in (a) Communication Skills (b) Self Enhancement for Professional Excellence and (c) Theatre. The ten days programme included theoretical sessions as well as practical sessions. Personal attention was given to each student and



often sessions were held on one-on-one basis. The teacher activity was limited to 30-40% and major tasks were taken by students individually and in groups.

The program was inaugurated by Prof. R.C Deka, Director AIIMS. Prof.D.D Nampoothiri, Director CREST, Balachandran Gopinath, Visiting Faculty CREST, Dr.Shiela Wadhwa, Dean (Academic),

Dr.Sanjay Arya, Registrar, AIIMS and Dr. Pratap Saran, Professor, AIIMS spoke at the function. The valediction was held on 28 July 2012.

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 August 1 to 14 , 2012 . Forty Three candidates were selected for the programme, based on the rank they obtained in Common Entrance Examination 2010. Of the 66 candidates selected for the programme, 30 were girls.

The in-house programme was held at the Government Youth Hostel, Calicut. The programme included 160 sessions (1 hour 15 minutes) covered modules in Mathematics, English, Mechanics, Engineering Graphics and Personality Development. The sessions were held by faculty of CREST and Government Engineering College 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 1st of August 2012.

Mentoring workshop at AIIMS

CREST was invited to conduct a faculty mentoring workshop at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) New Delhi on 31 July and 1 August 2012. The objective of the workshop was to



enable faculty members to be teacher-mentors who would have a better understanding of the learning needs of the students , particularly from disadvantaged background undergoing MBBS Degree Course at AIIMS . The Workshop was inaugurated by Prof. R.C Deka, Director AIIMS, AIIMS. Sessions were held by Dr.Ritu Priya, Professor, Centre for Social Medicine and Community

Health, JNU, New Delhi, Prof.D.D.Nampoothiri, Executive Director, CREST Dr.Ramesh Bijlani, Formerly Professor, AIIMS Dr.Amar Jesani, Researcher and Teacher in Bioethics and Public Health, Mumbai & Editor, Indian Journal of Medical Ethics Dr.Murmu, Professor, AIIMS Dr.Sunandan Roy Chowdhury Centre for Asian Studies, Satakunta University, Finland and Editor, Sampark Journal of Global Understanding, Kolkata. Mr.T.Y.Vinod Krishnan, CREST Dr.Rama V.Baru, Professor, Centre for Social Medicine and Community Health and Dr. Pratap Saran, Professor, AIIMS

Special Lectures/ Workshops

Six special lectures/ workshops were held during May – August 2012. The resource persons included Balachandran Gopinath, International Training Fellow of the Junior Chamber Training Institute of USA. Joseph Taramanagalam, Professor Emeritus at Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, Mount St. Vincent University, Canada Prof. Thomas Oommen, formerly Prof. Al Mergeb University, Libya and Prof. Thomas Abraham , TCI trainer. The special lectures covered a broad range of topics like employability, International affairs, communication skills etc.

Governing Council Meeting

The fifth meeting of the Governing Council was held at 11.00 AM on 14 May 2012 at the Chamber of Hon'ble Minister for the Welfare of Scheduled and Backward Communities, in the Kerala Legislative Assembly building, Thiruvananthapuram. The meeting was attended by Shri. A. P Anilkumar, Hon'ble Minister for the Welfare of Scheduled & Backward Communities Kerala . Dr.KV Kunhikrishnan , Chairman Executive Committee CREST, Dr. S.Subbiah , IAS (Principal Secretary , SC/ST Development Department) Dr.Rajasekharan Pillai, Vice Chairman , Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, Thiruvananthapuram Ms. K. Lalithambika, IAS (Director, SC Development Department, Thiruvananthapuram) , Ms. CA Latha, IAS, (Director Scheduled Tribes Development Department, Thiruvananthapuram) Shri. Vinodkumar Jayanandan, (EMC Data Storage Systems (India) Pvt. Ltd) Bangalore. Vinod Krishnan, T.Y. (Associate Programme Coordinator, CREST) Prof. D.D. Nampoothiri, (Executive Director, CREST) .

Faculty Activities

Prof.D.D.Nampoothiri, Executive Director conducted a special session on social science researchers on ACQUIRE State Level Camp held at School of Social Sciences, MG University Kottayam on 13 August 2012.

Forthcoming Events

Admission for 19th Batch of PGCCPD course

Admission to the 19th Batch of PGCCPD will be held during the last week of October 2012. Of the 40 seats available, 28 will be given to Scheduled Casters, 8 will be for Scheduled Tribes and 4 for Other Backward Classes. The classes for the batch will begin by the second week of November.

Self Enrichment Programme for SC/ST and Other Backward Communities at National Institute of Technology – Karnataka, Surathkal (NIT-K Surathkal)

CREST with the support of SC/ST Cell, NIT –K Surathkal will be conducting a five day self enrichment programme for students from SC/ST and OBC communities who obtained admission to BTech Programme at NITK. Fifty first year BTech students will be taking part in the programme which will be held at NITK from October 24 -28 , 2012.

Need Assessment study at National Institute of Technology Calicut

CREST has been invited to conduct a need assessment study to design an appropriate programme that would help in improving the performance level of SC/ST students who obtain admission for BTech programme in Civil Engineering at National Institute of Technology Calicut. The study will be held in mid October 2012.

Theatre Workshop

A one-week theatre workshop will be held Government Youth Hostel Kozhikode for the students of PGCCPD course. The workshop will be conducted by Chilean Theatre person Ms. Valeria, C. It will be held 31 October - 6 November 2012.

Valedictory Function

Valedictory function of the ongoing Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development will be held on 6 November 2012.



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