



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. 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

The classes for the XIX Batch of the Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development commenced on June 12, 2013. Of the 40 candidates who joined the course, 14 are professional



degree holders, 14 are Post Graduate Degree holders and 12 are graduates. 24 candidates are girls. On June 11, 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 12 , 2013, at Maria Eugene Centre, Malaparamba , Calicut. An orientation



workshop was help for the students on 13 & 14 July 2013 at Prateeksha Centre at Sultan Bathery , Wayanad . The workshop was conducted by Anil Menon , visiting faculty , CREST .

Workshop – “You the Miracle”



Balachandran Gopinath, International Training Fellow of the Junior Chamber Training Institute of USA conducted a two day workshop “You-the miracle “ on 1&2 July 2013 with an objective to improve the confidence level of students. As a follow up a two day workshop was again conducted on 28& 29 August 2013 .

Special Lecture by Tamil writer Salma



Salma well known Tamil writer held a specisal talk to the students on 21 June 2013. The writer narrated the students her own biography – How she was debarred from education and confined to her home from the age of 13, how she made use of local library of the villsage she was born , how she got aquintaned literature, qand how she became a writer.

Salma, is based in the small town of Thuvrankurichi in Tamil Nadu. Salma is the author of two books of poetry: Oru Maalaiyum Innoru Maalaiyum (An Evening and Another Evening) (2000) and Pachchai Devathai (Green Angel) (2003). Her novel Irandam Jamangalinin Kathai (Midnight Tales, 2004, was listed for Men Asian Booker . Her works portray the patriarchal society in which she grew up .Her works are expressions on ‘forbidden life’ of women in a patriarchal society. “Read, read and read... “ was the message she had for the students of CREST.

Professional Skill Enhancement Programme for pre-final year NIT-Karnataka, Surathkal

A three week employability enhancement programme was held for the students from the disadvantaged background at National Institute of Technology Karnataka from July 1 – 20 at NITK Surathkal. The programme was organized in collaboration with SC/ST Cell NITK. Fifty students took part in the programme. The Workshop covered modules in o Communication Skills , Teamwork, Leadership , Interpersonal Skills , Decision making, CV writing, presentation skills, and career planning. Interviews. Group Discussions .

Session on Global Perspectives on Affirmative Action by Kannan Nambiar

Dr. Kannan Nambiar is Professorial Lecturer in Anthropology at George Washington University, Washington D. C conducted a special lecture on Global Perspectives on Affirmative Action for the Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development (PGCCPD) students on June 5, 2013.

Self Enrichment Workshop at IIT Delhi

A five day training programme addressing the needs of students from the underprivileged



communities was held at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi from 13 – 17 July 2013. The programme was aimed to enhance their learning skills, communication skills, inter-personal relationships and motivation with an objective to improve the performance level of Students from disadvantaged sections 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. IIT Delhi Following the program . a one day workshop , 'Building Mentoring Relationships: Tools & Techniques' was held for faculty members of IITD on 3 August 2013. The sessions were conducted by Balachandran Gopinath , Visiting Faculty CREST and Nirmal Joy , Course Coordinator CREST

Self-Enrichment Programme for the MBBS Entry Students at AIIMS

On invitation from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences , New Delhi, a ten days orientation programme entitled "Self-Enrichment Programme for the MBBS Entry Students" was held from 18 July to 27 July 2013. The program was held with the objective to enhance the self-confidence level of



students, particularly hailing from Scheduled and backward communities . The ten days course covered modules in (a) Communication Skills (b) Self Enhancement for Professional Excellence and (c) Theatre.

Mentoring workshop at AIIMS

CREST was invited to conduct a faculty mentoring workshop at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) New Delhi on 29 July and 30 July 2013. 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.A.R Vasavi , Dr.Ramesh Bijlani, Formerly

Professor, AIIMS Dr.Murmu, Professor, AIIMS Dr.Sunandan Roy Chowdhury, Professor AMITY University . 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 lecture by Shabnam Hashmi



On August 12, 2013 Shabnam Hashmi delivered a special lecture on widening inequalities and Development Model of Gujarat to the students of PGCCPD. Shabnam , a well known human rights activists , has worked for more than 20 years to combat communalism in India. She was associated with the creation and running of Sahmat, formed by artists and intellectuals in memory of her activist brother Safdar Hashmi , who was murdered while performing a street play in 1989.

Speaking on 'Gujarat Model " , she said it was a myth as the State is lagging behind many others in terms of socio-economic indicators like literacy and infant and maternal mortality rates. She applauded the Kerala model development which ensures an inclusive growth. Any debate on development without addressing inequality is farce, she added

Workshop on Understanding Media

K. Govindan Kutty, noted journalist and author conducted a one-day workshop on understanding media on 21 August 2013. Themes covered included gender and media, human rights, language political reporting and the media and the marginalized. Govindan Kutty who had worked for All India Radio and later for the Indian Express is the author of "His book 'Vararuchi's Children' a collection of articles he wrote

in the Indian Express under the caption 'Overview'. He has also authored , " A wasted Death" an intimate biography of rise and fall of business baron Rajan Pillai .

Special Lecture on Conservation



Mary Mathias , Environment journalist and Media Outreach Coordinator for Washtenaw County, Michigan took a special lecture on conservation on 13 July 2013 . On 14th she organized a study trip for the students to the Kadalundi Community Reserve, Kozhikode.

Interns

Following a Memorandum of Understanding between Oslo University College and CREST one Masters Degree student from Oslo University College, Norway Ms. Aspelund Ingrid has joined CREST for internship in August 2013. She will be interning in CREST for two months. Ms. Klara Katharina Feldes,



Forthcoming Events

Film Screening

A documentary on Tamil poet Salma will be screened at CREST on 9 October 2013. The film “Salma” Directed by the British film maker Kim Longinotto . The documentary focuses on women’s resistance to a developing world that hasn’t caught up with developments in gender equality. Salma will be present at the screening.

Presentation on Social Exclusion

On invitation from Oslo and Akershus University College, Oslo Norway two lectures on social exclusion will be held by Vinod Krishnan, Associate Program Coordinator CREST on 22 and 24 October 2013. Vinod Krishnan will be doing a presentation on CREST at Oslo and Akershus University College during its “Windows to the World” program inaugural day on 21 October 2013.

Fall 2013 Scholarly Lecture Series at CSAS, University of Michigan USA

Prof.DD. Nampoothiri, Executive Director, CREST will be giving a lecture ‘Addressing Under -Representation in the time of Globalization: A Kerala Experience in Affirmative Action” on October 2, 2013 at CSAS, University of Michigan USA

Music appreciation n Workshop

A music appreciation workshop will be held for students of PGCCPD on 11 November 2013.

Admission to 21st Batch of PGCCPD

Interview for admission to the 21th Batch of PGCCPD will be held on 15, 16 & 18 of November 2013. The admission will be on November 26, . 2013 and classes will commence on 02 December 2013

Valediction of 20th Batch of PGCCPD.

The valediction of the 20th Batch of the PGCCPD course will be held on 12 November 2013. Dr.Pulapre Balakrishnan , Director, CDS Trivandrum will be the Chief Guest.

