



CREST News Bulletin

(September – December 2009)

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



Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development (XIII Batch)

The XIII Batch of the Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development commenced on October 28, 2009. Of the 40 candidates who were selected on the basis of the mark they obtained at the Degree examinations, entrance test and the interview , 27 are professional Degree holders and rest are Post Graduate Degree holders .



PGCCPD students XIII Batch

On October 27, parents of the selected candidates were invited and were briefed about the objectives of the programme, opportunities etc. Course began with the ice-breaking session that held on October 28 and 29. The sessions were conducted by Mr.A.R. Vinod ,Jayagopal Chandrasekharan and Nirmal Joy, faculty of CREST and Ms. Sethambara , Intern .

Personality Development Workshop at Wayanad



A three-day workshop on Personality Development was held at Prateeksha Youth Centre, Sultan Bathery, Wayanad for the candidate who joined for the PGCCPD programme (XIII Batch). The workshop covered the themes; Team Building, Corporate communication, Interview skills and presentations. The workshop was conducted by Mr.Balachandran and Mr.Anil Menon , corporate trainers from Cochin. The workshop ended with a trek to Edakkal Caves in Ambalavayal.

Special Lectures

Four Special Lectures were held in CREST during the past four months. On 2th of November 2009, Prof. Raghava Warriar gave a special lecture on ancient history of Wayanad with special reference to Edakkal Caves.

Prof. Mohammed Abdul Kalam, Head of Department, Department of Anthropology, Madras University gave a special lecture entitled "Class, Merit and Reservations: Misleading Interpretations and hollow arguments on 17 December 2009. On December 31, 2009. Prof.A.H.Kalro, former Director Indian Institute of Management and Current Vice Chancellor Ahmadabad University gave a special lecture on contemporary educational scenario.



Dr.Kalam addressing students

Film Screening

Ms. Shalini Raghaviah , documentary film maker based in Bangalore presented her documentaries "*I'll be on my way home*" and "*A Time To Rebound*" on December 4, 2009. The films depicted the lives of thousands of children, who eke out a living on India's railway platforms and the street children of India.

Workshop on Assertive Communication

A two-day workshop on 'Motivation , Assertive Communication and Business & Social Etiquettes' was held on December 15 & 16, 2009. The workshop was conducted by Ms.Lekha Menon , a corporate trainer based in Chennai.

Orientation Programme for First Year Engineering Students

A pilot programme was conducted for candidates hailing from Scheduled communities who undergo first year BTech Degree Courses in Government Engineering College, Calicut University Institute of Engineering & Technology, and Co-operative Institute of Technology, Vadakara. 28 Students participated in the programme. The in house programme was held during five consecutive weekends starting from November 20, 2009. The modules covered included English Communication Skills, Engineering Graphics, Mechanics and Personality Development. Sessions were conducted by the faculty from CREST and Government Engineering College, Calicut.

Theatre Workshop

A theatre workshop was held for the students from 6 to 13 December 2009 at the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode. It was conducted as a part of communication skill / personality development module of PGCCPD programme and was conducted by Mr. Jake Oorloff and



Ms.Ruhanie Perera, directors of Floating Space theatre group , Colombo Srilanka. All the students undergoing the CCPD programme attended the workshop which was inaugurated by Dr. Debashis

Chatterjee, Director, Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode. On December 13, the participants performed an English play, "33.3" which depicted issues related to contemporary social themes, before an invited audience. Felicitations were given by Prof. Radhakrishna Pillai, IIMK, Prof. MGS Narayanan, Historian, Jayaprakash Kuloor, theatre personality and Prof. Bhaskaran Nair, Lincoln University. The workshop attendance certificate was given by Dr. Jayakuram Director CWRDM and Dr. Suresh Kumar, Director, Palliative Care Institute, Medical College, Calicut.

Workshop on Success and Excellence

A two day workshop entitled "*Beyond Succellance*" on success and excellence was conducted by Mr. Balachandran Gopinath, International Trainer, JCI on 28 and 30 December 2009. The themes covered in the workshop included practical sessions on Group Discussion, Presentations etc.

Developmental Intervention

CREST was invited to present the observations from the study CREST conducted on Adivasi communities of Wayanad before planners and government officials in connection with the proposed Adivasi development programme initiated by the Government of Kerala with the support of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Prof. D.D. Nampoothiri, Executive Director, CREST and Vinod Krishnan.T.Y., Associate Programme Coordinator presented observations from "Wayanad Initiative", the study conducted by CREST on Adivasi communities of Wayanad.

Career Guidance Workshops



Workshop on employability by Ramya Roshni & Arun Kumar

A workshop on employability was conducted by Ms. Ramya Roshni and Mr. Arun Kumar, formerly with Indian Police Service, on November 13, 2009. A career guidance workshop was held for the students on December 31, 2009. It was conducted by Dr. T.N. Krishnan, Faculty, Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode. The workshop covered themes like new generation jobs, career options, requirements, etc.

Forthcoming Events

Research Committee Meeting

A full day-session in connection with designing research programmes of the Centre will be held on January 9, 2010 at CREST. Expected experts include Dr.A.R.Vasavi , Professor , National Institute of Advanced Studies , Bangalore , Dr. Sanal Mohan , School of Social Science, MG University , Prof.P.Sivanandan (Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum).

Faculty Retreat

A faculty retreat will be held on January 10, 2009 at Hotel Hyson Heritage, Calicut.

Special lectures

Prof. Tania Li, (Department of Anthropology, Toronto University, Canada), Dr.Anna Lindberg, (Professor, University of Lund, Sweden) and Dr.Sudheep Kumar (Professor, TA Pai Institute of Management) will be delivering special lectures at the Centre in January – February 2010.

Workshop

Dr.S.Jayavelu , Fellow of IIMA , (former faculty , Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode) will be conducting a workshop on Personality Development in February 2010.

