



CREST News Bulletin 35&36

(September 2021 - April 2022)

Centre for Research and Education for Social Transformation (CREST)

An autonomous institution under Government of Kerala
KIRTADS Campus, Chevayur, Calicut – 673 017 Kerala India
Tel: + 91 495 2355342, 2351496 Fax : +91 495 2355342 www.crest.ac.in
Email: crest.calicut@gmail.com

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. CREST conducts a five months Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development (PGCCPD) as its flagship program.

Activities

Communication skills Workshop

A theatre workshop was held for the students of the 34th batch of the Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development (PGCCPD) from 22nd to 27th November 2021. The workshop



was conducted by Prof .Vineetha S. Gabriel , who was a faculty of Functional English at Malabar Christian College, Calicut . The workshop was held at KIRTADS auditorium , On 30th of November the students performed a play which was adramatized adaptation of the poem , “ Night of the Scorpion” by the Indian Jewish poet Nissim Ezekiel , before an invited

audience. The theatre workshop was conducted in connection with the communication skills module of the Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development.

Valedictory function

Valedictory function for the 34th Batch of the Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development was held on 30 November 2021 at KIRTADS Auditorium, Kozhikode. Presidential



Address was given by Prof. D.D. Nampoothiri Executive Director, CREST. Prof. Jayaprakash Raghaviah was the Chief Guest. Prof. Jaiprakash Raghaviah is a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Socio-Economic and Environmental Studies(CSES) Cochin. He has been engaged in research in



applied economics, economic history and also in tribal studies. He has served as faculty of the Indian Institute of Bank Management, Guwahati. Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) and at CREST. He was awarded the Senior Research Fellowship by the Indian Council of Social Sciences Research, New Delhi.

The function was organized following the Covid 19 Protocol, partly online and partly offline. Prof. Vineetha S. Gabriel Faculty, CREST Prof. Ashley

Paul , Associate Program Coordinator, CREST , Mr. Sravondev P. A. Alumni, CREST gave the felicitations. Ajith V. P. and Nitha P Mohan , students of the 34th Batch of PGCCPD shared their experience at CREST. Mr. Vinod Krishnan T.Y. Associate Program Coordinator gave the vote of thanks

35th Batch of Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development

Interview for admission to the 31st Batch of Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development (PGCCPD) was held on 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th of January 2022 , following the Covid 19 protocol. 40 students joined for the program of which 33 were girls.



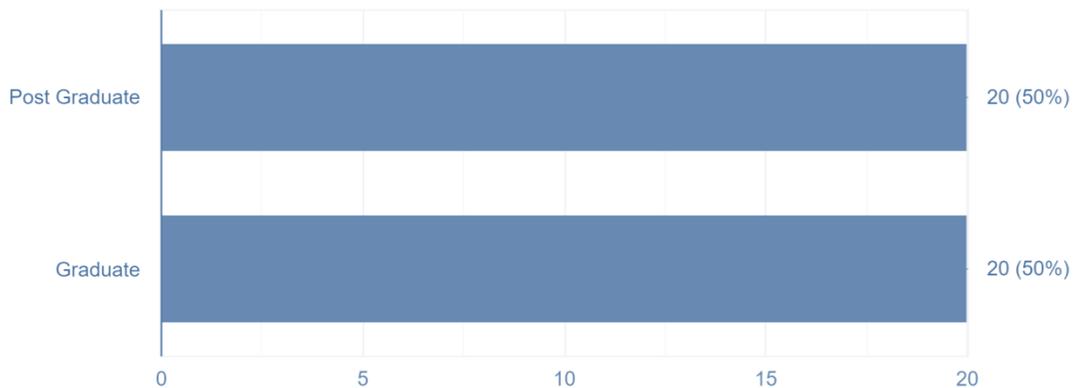
A session was held for the parents on 25th February 2022. Vinod Krishnan TY , addressed the parents. Newly joined students also were briefed about the five months PGCCPD

35th Batch of Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development - Profile of the Students

Educational Background: Data gathered from the students show that 50 % of the students who joined for the PGCCPD hold Masters Degree while other 50% holds Bachelor's Degree. Of the 20 candidates who have Bachelors Degree, two are Engineering Degree holders. The academic performance at entry level have shown that of the Masters Degree holders, 35% has above 80% in their Post Graduate Examinations, 60% within the range of 60% to 80% and 5% within the range of 50-60% . For those who have bachelors degree 5% has grades above 80%, 65% within the range of 60-80 % and 30% within the range of 50-60 %

Educational Qualification

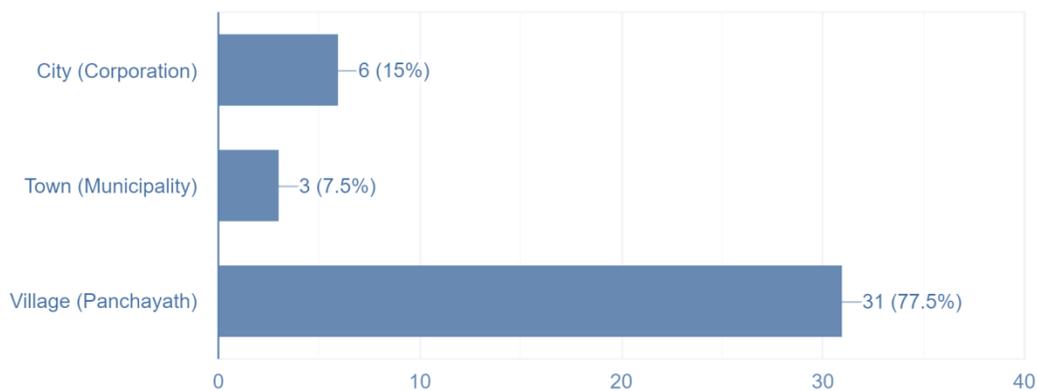
40 responses



Rural/Urban background : 78% of the students are from rural background. 15% of the students hail from cities and 7% from small towns.

Location

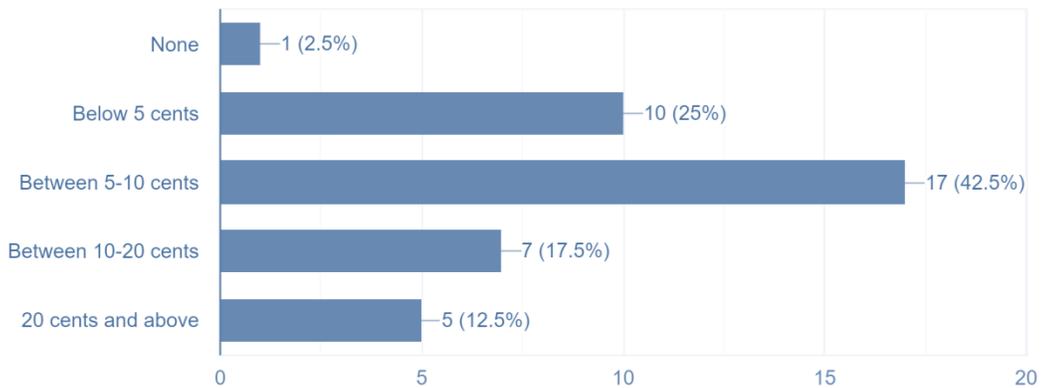
40 responses



Income : Most of the students who have joined for the course hail from low income groups. Parental income of the 70% of the students falls within the range of 5000-20000 Rupees per month. Majority of the students hail from families that do not have any significant resource base (land). Most of the candidates are from parents who work in unorganized sector (agricultural labour, construction etc)

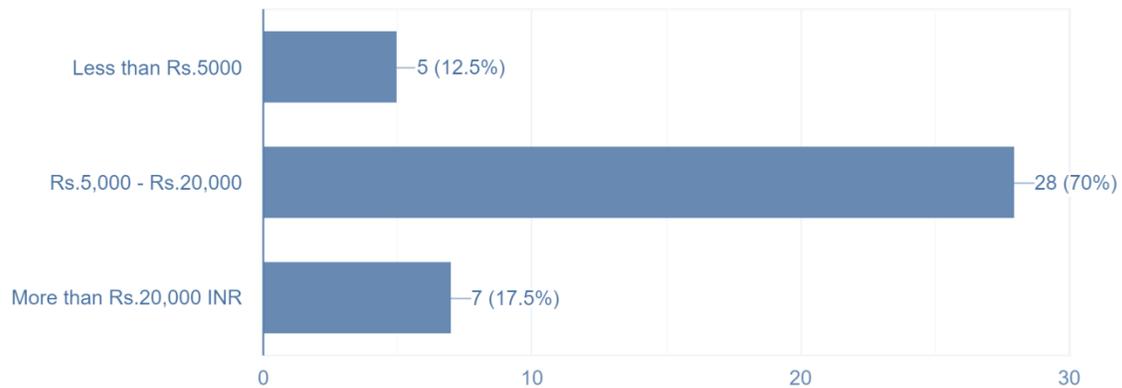
Size of the land owned by the family

40 responses



Estimated monthly parental income of the family

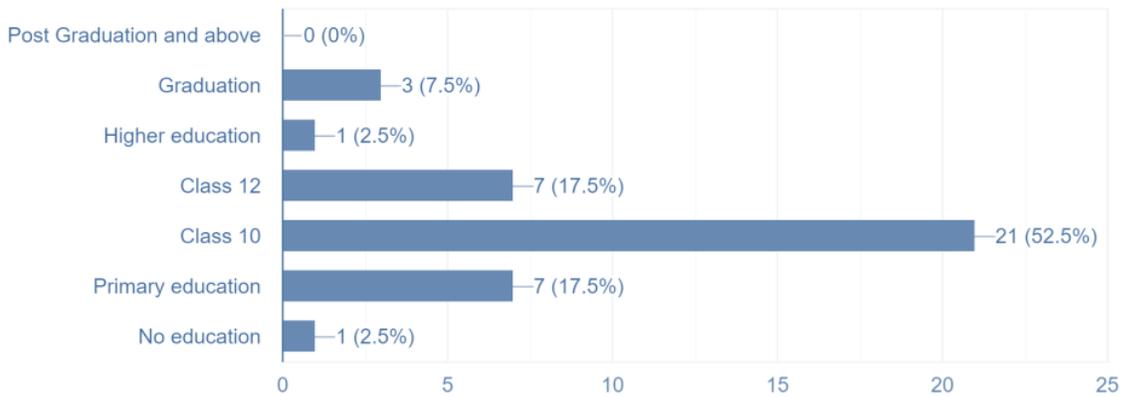
40 responses



Educational background of parents : Educational background of male parents show that 34.1% has obtained high school education, 12.2% graduation, 17.1% higher secondary education and 24.4 % primary education. 9.8% have obtained post graduate education. 2% does not have formal education. Among female parents 51.2 % have studied up to 10th standard and 17.1 % primary schooling and another 17.1% higher secondary education. 9.8% hold graduation.

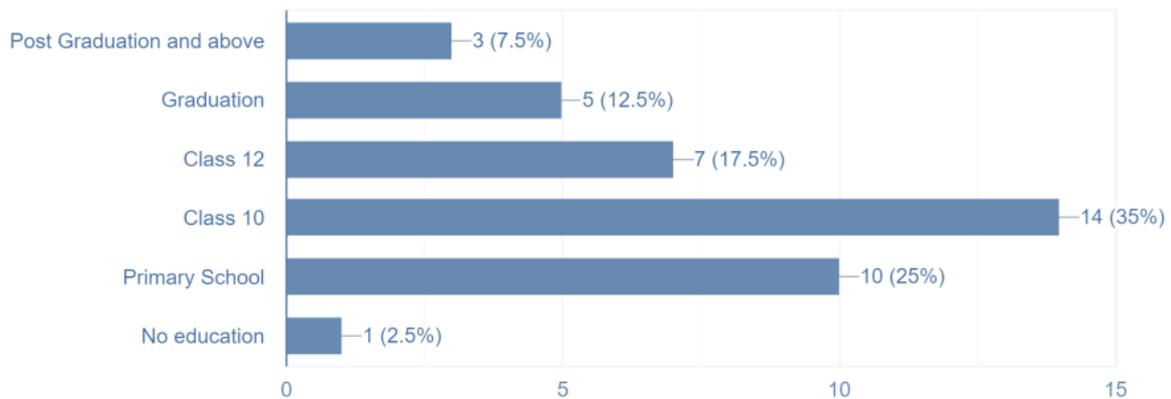
Educational qualification of mother

40 responses



Educational qualification of father

40 responses



Orientation for 35th Batch of Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development

An ice-breaking session was held for the new batch of PGCCPD students at the Gender-Park



Kozhikode on 9th of March 2022. It was conducted by AR Vinod and Sucharita Hota. Sucharita Hota holds Masters Degree in Social Work from Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS) Mumbai. She was a Fellow at Xavier Labor Relations Institute (XLRI) Jamshedpur and AHRD (Academy for Human Resources Development , Hyderabad.) She had been a consultant to UNDP and UNICEF and was the Head of Department of Social Science, St.Josephs College, Devagiri Calicut. She has also worked as a qualitative researcher for ORG-MARG. She is a faculty of CREST, handling Self Enrichment for Professional Education module for the Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development. AR Vinod is a HR trainer attached to CREST. He holds Masters in Commerce and has been involved with handling HR Training for the students of CREST. He also provides voluntary mentoring support for students after the completion of PGCCPD course.

Introduction to Professional Development Course



An introductory session of the PGCCPD was held for the students on 10th of March 2022. It was conducted by Vinod Krishnan, Executive Director in Charge of CREST . It covered the objective of the program, rationale of the course, different modules and expected outcome of the program. This was held at the Genderpark

Communication Skills Workshop

On 10th & 11th of March 2022, communication skills workshop was organized for students. It was



It was conducted by Prof. Vineeta Christy and Anoop Jayaprakash, faculty members of CREST. Techniques of theatre were used for the entire workshop. With structured and rehearsed processes, the students were trained to speak more clearly with confidence, while learning how to vary their pitch and tone. They also learned the power of pause, the

impact of body language, and expressions. It also functioned as an ice-breaker for the students resulting in increased companionship and a stronger bond between them. The workshop was held at the Genderpark Kozhikode.

Workshop on Gender and Sexuality

Ms. Aparna Viswanathan , Founder of RACE, an experiential learning firm providing assistance to professionals and students conducted a one day workshop on gender and sexuality for the



students undergoing the Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development (PGCCPD) at CREST . The workshop was held on 12 March 2022 and it was expected to let the PGCCPD students to be empathetic into the views that students hold about their own and the other genders. The workshop was intended to help them in examining their personal attitudes and beliefs with regard to gender. This workshop focused on basic questions around gender and sex and how individuals navigate their experience of a particular gender. While covering issues relating to lived experience, identities, societal norms and power dynamics, and how people challenge conventional notions of masculinity and femininity were discussed at the workshop. The issue of gender and sexuality across multiple sites like caste, religion, and physical ability were covered during the workshop

Aparna Viswanathan is an educationist and founder of Zocio, an organisation working extensively in the social-emotional learning space. She works closely with children, teachers, public and professionals on topics relating to communication, gender, sexuality, mental health and diversity & inclusion. She is a social entrepreneur who has been facilitating health support through interactions and interventions specially during COVID times. She is an independent media contributor who now writes a column in Mathrubhumi newspaper and Economics Daily. She is a postgraduate and a gold medal winner in Journalism and Communication. She passed out of IIM Bangalore with a second rank for her business model under the Women Entrepreneurship Program.

Workshop on Personal Mastery

A special workshop was organized for the students on shaping career goal ,by Amit Kumar , formerly with India Today, Times of India and the World Bank and now a Visiting Faculty at “ Young India Fellowship” of Asoka University . The workshop was an intro to “ Personal Mastery” , series of 10 workshops that are being planned for the present batch of students undergoing the



Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development at CREST. These workshops will be focused around self awareness, communication skills, learning skills, obstacles to learning, cognitive biases, Managing failures , among others.

Mr Amit Kumar has more than 25 years of diverse experience in organisations across India, the USA, Nepal and Mauritius. He has been conducting workshops on persuasive presence, presentation, business writing, conflict management, negotiation, emotional intelligence. He has worked with organisations like The World Bank, Deloitte, Flex, Ashoka University, Vedica Scholars, Jindal Stainless, W.E. Connor, Carrier-Midea, Manzil, Cornerstone, Jamia Millia University, Macleods, Sakal, Sify, MarkeTopper, TVSi, ISOMES, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies, Egis, Analogic, Babasaheb Ambedkar Research and Training Institute, Madras School of Social Work, News24, E24, and Lifeline Hospit . He is volunteering for CREST.

Art Appreciation Workshop

Greece based artist / sculptor from Kerala, Johns Mathew conducted an art appreciation workshop



for the students undergoing the Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development (PGCCPD) at CREST, Kozhikode. The objective of the workshop was to develop creativity and imagination through a series of activities which included working with colors. It also aimed to explore non-verbal communication through creative expression. It assisted students to use artistic and aesthetic sensibility in day-to-day life situations. It involved exercises that boosted their creative ability. Johns Mathew holds BFA from Faculty of Fine arts, M.S. University, Baroda. He has

been involved with the Radical Painters and Sculptors Association. He is also a travel writer.

Personal Mastery Journey

A Personal Mastery program was held for the students Amit Kumar on 1 April 2022. The objective of the program was to set a clear vision on personal goals and achieving it. It also intended to help



the students in identifying their capabilities and perceive how to unshackle them in order to create the future which they wanted for themselves. This Self-Mastery course has been designed in such a way that it would help students who find it difficult to motivate themselves or pursue actions required to achieve their goals. The was a part of a series of sessions that would cover a broad range of self enrichment programs. The 'Journey' will broadly include self awareness, potential, presence, interdependence, resilience and emergence. Sub-themes like emotional intelligence, managing failure, managing rejection and workplace politics will also be covered in the forthcoming workshops.



Cultural Evening

A Cultural Evening was organized by the students on 11th April 2022. It functioned as a platform to



unleash their hidden talents in the variety of genres ranging from creative skills to dance, music, and video presentations. All the forty students took part in the event that showcased their talents and hobbies. The event coincided with the Vishu , the New Year Celebration of Kerala.

Music Appreciation Workshop

A music appreciation workshop was conducted by Mr. Vinod Shankar for the PGCCPD students on 26 April 2022. The workshop was conducted as a part of General Studies / Understanding India module of the PGCCPD course.



Born in Kozhikode, Vinod Shankar studied Veena at Swathi Thirunal Music College, Thiruvananthapuram. Getting interested in Hindustani music he joined the M S University, Baroda where he completed Degree in Sitar. After completing his undergraduate course in Sitar, Vinod Shankar started practicing in sitar under A S Pathan, one of the faculty members of the university by assisting him for concerts across North India. In 2008, Vinod released an album, 'Conversations,' in which he portrayed musical conversations between sitar and tabla. He is an All India Radio (AIR) accredited artist. He has been associated with various cultural groups in India and in the Maldives where he was teaching Sitar.

Forthcoming Events

Workshop on Start-ups



Preethi Manniledam , Chief Executive Officer at Technology Business Incubator, National Institute of Technology Calicut (NITC) will conduct a workshop on work shop on start up for the students in the mid of May to encourage students towards entrepreneurship and also to update about the possibilities of start up and the process to be adopted for starting one.

Workshop on Self Enrichment



A one day workshop on self enrichment will be held for the students of PGCCPD on 12th of May 2022 It will be conducted by Balachandran Gopinath . Balachandran Gopinath is an international trainer of JCI. He was the Certification Commissioner for JCI University, U.S.A. in 2008. He has experience of over 14 years as the Divisional, Regional and National Head of the Marketing Departments of reputed Companies. He is a highly acclaimed corporate trainer, HRD Consultant and a motivational speaker since 1990. He has over 100 clients in India and abroad. He is a visiting Faculty to many Universities and Institutes for their MBA programs.

Workshop on Emotional Intelligence.



A two-day workshop on emotional intelligence will be conducted by Amit Kumar in the first week of June 2022. Amit Kumar , formerly with India Today, Times of India and the World Bank and now a Visiting Faculty at “ Young India Fellowship” of Asoka University . The workshop will cover emotional intelligence, Managing Failure, Managing rejection and Workplace politics, among other themes. Amit Kumar has over 24 years of cumulative experience as a communication coach, journalist, learning specialist, and manager in organisations across India, the US, Nepal, and Mauritius. His training experience spans across institutions such as the World Bank, Deloitte, Jamia Millia Islamia, and Jindal Stainless among others. Amit received an MSc in computer and information science from Cleveland State University, USA

Workshop on Cultural Industry and the Margins



An online workshop will be organized by Dakxinkumar Bajrange on Cultural Industry and the Margins in the last week of May 2022. Dakxin is an award winning filmmaker, playwright and an activist from the Chhara De-notified Tribes of Ahmedabad in the western part of India. He is a recipient of Ford Foundation International Fellowship (2010-11) to study Graduate studies in ‘Theatre and Global Development’ at the University of Leeds, UK. His book ‘Budhan Bolta Hai’ (Budhan Speaks) awarded first prize for “Mahatma Gandhi Best Creative Writing on Human Rights” by National Human rights Commission (NHRC) for 2010-11.

Screening of "The Story of India"



A six part BBC documentary series, "The Story of India" written and presented by historian Michael Wood will be screened for the students during 13-18 June 2022 . A panel of experts will be talking on Indian history . This is being organized in connection with the ‘understanding India’, falling under the General Studies module of the PGCCPD Course.