



# CREST News Bulletin

(September – December 2011)

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**Centre for Research and Education for Social Transformation (CREST)**

An autonomous institution under Government of Kerala

KIRTADS Campus, Chevayur, Calicut – 673 017 Kerala India

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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

### Orientation Programme for Entry Level BTech Students at NITK

On invitation from National Institute of Technology – Karnataka (NITK), Surathkal an orientation programme was held for students from scheduled communities undergoing first year BTech Degree course at the NITK. The five day programme held from August 31 to September 4, was jointly conducted by SC/ST Cell of NITK and CREST. The objective of the programme was to improve the aspiration/ motivation level of students and learning skills. The modules covered included Goal Setting & Motivation, Effective presentation skills, Leadership & Creativity and Team Work. The modules were handled by Vinod Krishnan. T.Y. Associate Programme Coordinator, Nirmal Joy, Course Coordinator and Anil Menon, faculty of CREST. 40 students took part in the programme.

### International Day of Peace

International Day of Peace was observed in CREST on September 30, 2011, with two special lectures on world peace organized for students undergoing Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development there. Dr.Vankat Raman, Faculty, Indian Institute of Management



Dr.Vankat Raman,

Kozhikode delivered a talk on 'Peace and Conflict Resolution'. Speaking at the occasion Dr. Vankat Raman said that globalization, despite certain positive features, do not necessarily lead to a

peaceful international order. On the contrary, it accelerates conflicts especially among the developing countries and within people inhabiting there. He emphasized the need for a pro-active approach from the people of the developing countries for building up an equitable society. Maria Magdalena Waldvogel in her lecture on the role of women in peace building in the globalised scenario emphasized the need for women to become active participants at the negotiation table, where decisions are taken and future processes are implemented. As it is mostly women who stay at home, trying to provide basic structures by keeping up daily routines also in times of conflict, they take over key roles in society. Knowing about local conditions and being moreover directly involved in and confronted by the prevailing processes, the female part of the population can be considered as a source of reference, understanding the potentials and causes of conflict. As part of the affected community, women can furthermore mobilize others to start processes of consolidation.

## Theatre Workshop



A seven day workshop, organized as a part of communication skills / personality development module of the Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development was held for the students from October 24 , to 31 , 2011. The workshop was held at the Government Youth Hostel, Calicut .It was conducted by Ms. Jilmil Hazarika , visiting faculty of National School of Drama , New Delhi. The workshop was assessed by the students as a very effective programme for developing English communication and enhancing self confidence

## Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development

The classes for the XVII Batch of the Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development commenced on November 17 , 2011. Of the 40 candidates who joined the course, 16 are



professional degree holders, 21 are Post Graduate Degree holders and 3 are graduates. 25



candidates are girls. On November 16, 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 November 17 , 2011, at CIGI, Chevayur, Calicut.

## Self Enrichment Workshop

A three-day workshop on self development was held at Sreyas Training Centre, Sultan Bathery, Wayanad during November 18 – 20, 2011 for the candidate who joined for the PGCCPD programme (XVII Batch). The workshop covered the themes; Team Building, Corporate communication, and presentations. The workshop was conducted by Mr. Anil Menon. A sensitization programme was also arranged in connection with the workshop. The students were given opportunity to interact with the tribal people inhabiting in and around Muthanga wildlife sanctuary. A session was held for the students by Saseendran , Block Panchayat Member of Sultan Bathery Block, focusing on forest rights act.



## KR Narayanan Memorial Lecture

The fourth Annual National Lecture in memory of Sri.K.R.Narayanan, former President of India



was delivered by Sri.Gopalkrishna Gandhi , well known author, public intellectual and former



Governor of West Bengal on November 26, 2011 Saturday at Alakapuri Auditorium Calicut. Sr. Gopalkrishna Gandhi, who is the grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, delivering the talk entitled 'Kerala and Nehru: A Continuing Dialogue' said political discourse that began in the Nehru years with the Gandhi influence over it exercising an indirect effect, continues in many forms today, both within its domestic engagements and in its dealings with the outside world. 'Dogmas and doctrines change, they do not go away. Dogmatism remains, doctrinaire ways of thinking do not let go of their stranglehold over the processes of thought. Kerala, which has produced some very doctrinaire people is, in its essential being, anti-dogmatist. It is non-doctrinaire', he said, when new dogmas and doctrines, of native and foreign origin, want to dominate our ways of life and action, Kerala will, one trusts, continue to subject them to independent analysis and examination', he said. The people of Kerala are too conscious and too aware of their right to original thinking, to fresh thinking, to the privilege of critical enquiry and re-investigation, to become hidebound, he said, adding 'their ability to question, to probe, to not accept blindly any convention, any tradition, howsoever high its auspices, is nothing short of a colossal strength'. Sri. Gopalkrishna Gandhi was welcomed and introduced to the audience by Prof.D.D.Nampoothiri, Executive Director and vote of thanks was proposed by Prof. Ashley Paul, Associate Programme Coordinator.

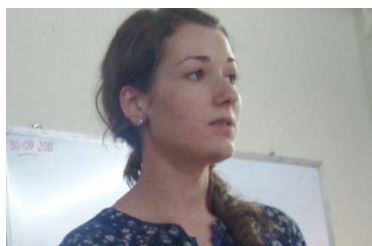
## Peer-level mentoring workshop at IIMK

A peer level mentoring workshop was held for PGCCPD students at the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode, on September 27, 2011. The workshop served as an introduction to the



regular peer-level mentoring sessions conducted by IIM students for CREST students. Sessions covered included communication skills, inter-personal skills, CV writing and interview skills.

## Interns at CREST



Ms. Maria Magdalena Waldvogel from Germany undergoing Masters degree in Culture, Communication & Globalization at Aalborg University, Denmark interned with CREST for four months during September – December 2011. She has been providing soft skills, particularly communication skills to the students of PGCCPD program on one-on-one basis. She also did special sessions on issues of global concern.



Legend	Color	Description
1	Green	Grass
2	Yellow	Concrete
3	Red	Asphalt
4	Blue	Water
5	Orange	Path
6	Pink	Building
7	Light Green	Field
8	Dark Green	Tree
9	Light Blue	Pool
10	Dark Blue	Shower
11	Light Yellow	Storage
12	Light Green	Field
13	Dark Green	Tree
14	Light Blue	Pool
15	Dark Blue	Shower
16	Light Yellow	Storage
17	Light Green	Field
18	Dark Green	Tree
19	Light Blue	Pool
20	Dark Blue	Shower
21	Light Yellow	Storage
22	Light Green	Field
23	Dark Green	Tree
24	Light Blue	Pool
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91	Light Yellow	Storage
92	Light Green	Field
93	Dark Green	Tree
94	Light Blue	Pool
95	Dark Blue	Shower
96	Light Yellow	Storage
97	Light Green	Field
98	Dark Green	Tree
99	Light Blue	Pool
100	Dark Blue	Shower

Seven special lectures/ workshops were held during September – December 2011. The resource persons included Balachandran Gopinath, International Trainer JCI Mr. Anil Menon , Ramesh Chandran, Aegon Asset management, Netherlands , T N Krishnan , Associate . Professor , IIMK Dr.Prabhakaran Paleri ( Former Director General , Coast Guards) , Dr. Bhaskaran Nair, Lincoln University, UK , Dr.Santhosh , Faculty , Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai and Dilraj KR , Vice-President , OZTERN Technology , Technopark, Trivandrum. The special lectures covered a broad range of topics like employability, opportunities in corporate sector, Strategic management, social analysis, communication, interview skills, and career planning and Theme Centered Interaction

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## Indo-European mobility programme



will study about the role of farmers in the Kerala model development

CREST , an associated partner in an Indo-European mobility programme initiated by Swedish South Asian Studies Network (SASNET) has accepted two interns from Lund University , Sweden , as a part of fieldwork for their graduate thesis. Ms. Emelie Rohne and Ms. Lizzie Sagrelius, undergoing Bachelor of Science Programme in Development Studies (BIDS) at Lund University, will be attached to CREST from January – March 2012. While interning with CREST Lizzie Sagrelius will work on a project entitled "Access and benefits sharing" and Emelie Rohne

## Faculty Activities

Prof.D.D.Nampoothiri, Executive Director attended a Consultation meeting with Lt General P .S. Bhalla, AVSM , Director General, NCC, Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India, New Delhi and Brig C.Sandeepkumar, Dy.Director General, NCC held in Thiruvananthapuram on December 28, 2011 in connection with discussing the feasibility of conducting skill –enhancement programmes for NCC Cadets hailing from marginalized backgrounds in India. He also Presented a Paper on 'Interdisciplinarity in Social Sciences: Privileging Student Outcomes' in the National Seminar on "Doing Sociology in India: Retrospect and Prospects" organized by Indian Sociological Society, New Delhi held on December 27-28, at the university of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram. On October 14, 2011 he gave a lecture on 'New Public Management and Enhancing Institutional Well- Being at the Faculty Development Workshop at Centre for Water Resources Development and Management (CWRDM) . On December 15, 2011 he delivered a talk on 'Social Science Theory and Methods' in the ACQUIRE Programme of Kerala State Higher Education Council held at M.G.University Kottayam for selected first year degree students of the University region.

Vinod Krishnan.T.Y , Associate Programme Coordinator, on invitation from Oslo University College, Norway , held three lectures in Oslo University College on social exclusion in India , on October 18, 19 & 24 , 2011 The lecture series was held in Oslo university college in connection with their annual event "Window to the World"

## Forthcoming Events

### Special Lectures /workshops

A two-day workshop on Conflict Resolution and decision making will be held for students of XVII Batch of PGCCPD programme on January 6 & 7, 2012 at CREST, The workshop will be conducted by Vasudevan PS, industrial psychologist and international trainer , based in Chennai.

Dr.Abhilash Nair, Asst. Professor , IIMK will deliver a special lecture for PGCCPD students on Project Preparation , on January 16, 2012

A two day workshop on Theme Centered Interaction will be held on January 23 & 24, 2012 by Prof. Thomas Abraham, International trainer , TCI

On January 27, 2012 , Ms.Geetha Chandran , Bangalore based financial consultant will conduct a session on financial planning and opportunities in Banking Sector

On February 1 & 2 , Fr. Gaston Roberge ( Author and Film Critic and former director of EMMRC Calcutta ) and Sunandan Roy Chowdhury ( Editor - Publisher , Sampark Journal of Global Understanding and lecturer in Asian Studies, Satakunta University , Finland ) will conduct special lectures on contemporary media

On February 11, 2011 Prof A Ramanathan, Head , Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at IIT Bombay will deliver a special lecture on Analytical Design of Social Economic Policy

#### **Executive Committee Meeting**

17<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting of CREST will be held at CREST on January 18, 2012.

#### **Valedictory Function**

The certificate awarding ceremony for the XVI Batch of PGCCPD will be held on 14 January 2012, at CIGI , Chevayur, Kozhikode. Dr.Saji Gopinath , Professor, Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode will be the chief guest

#### **IIMK- CREST Lecture**

Dr. Satish Deshpande Professor & Head , Department of Sociology ,Delhi School of Economics University of Delhi will deliver the second lecture of IIMK-CRET Lecture series on February 27, 2012

