



# CREST News Bulletin

(May – August 2016)

# 22

**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

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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

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### Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development

26th Batch of PGCCPD Program began on 15th June 2016. 40 students joined the program of



which 31 were girls. A three day orientation program was held for the students from 15th to 17th June 2016 at Sultan Bathery Wayanad. The three-day workshop was held at Pratheeksha Training Centre, Sultan Bathery, Wayanad. The workshop covered themes on Team Building, Presentations and communication. The workshop was conducted by Mr. Anil Menon. On 16<sup>th</sup> June the students visited the Institute of Tribal Studies and Research (ITSR) set up by Calicut University at Chithalayam, Sultan Bathery, Wayanad with an objective to serve the educational aspirations

of the tribal community Kerala. A sensitization session on tribal issues was also arranged at ITSR by the faculty and students of ITSR.



## Workshop – “Redefine your horizons”



Balachandran Gopinath, International Training Fellow of the Junior Chamber Training Institute of USA conducted a two day workshop “Redefine your horizons “ on 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016 with an objective to improve the confidence level of students. The workshop covered themes on preparing a career map, long-term professional goals and action steps for achieving them, work style and analyzing strengths and weaknesses and professional reputation development

## Special Lecture on Inclusive Education



A Special Lecture on inclusive Education was conducted by Dr. Pavan Antony, Assistant Professor, Adelphi University , US on 13<sup>th</sup> of July 2016. Prof Pavan Antony is an Assistant Professor at Adelphi University, US. Dr. Pavan Antony started his career in special education by working with children with disabilities in a special school. He has a Masters degree in Public Administration. He pursued his doctoral degree in special education at Washington State University, where his philosophy of educating children with disabilities changed from emphasizing the segregation of these children for special attention to including them as far as possible in a regular school setting. He strongly believes that no child should be segregated on the basis of his or her disability. He is a strong advocate of inclusion. His teaching specializations are Inclusive Education, International Issues, Laws & Policies in Special Education, Family and Culture, Transition Issues and children with disabilities, working

with children with severe disabilities and Team Collaboration. His research interests include International issues in Special Education, Parents children with disabilities from culturally diverse communities; Transition issues and students with disabilities; and Individuals with Cerebral Palsy in College

## Self-Enrichment Programme for the MBBS Entry Students at AIIMS

On invitation from the All Indian Institute of Medical Sciences , New Delhi, a seven days orientation programme entitled” “Self-Enrichment Programme for the MBBS Entry Students” was held from 18 July to 24 July 2016. The program was held with the objective to enhance the



self-confidence level of students, particularly hailing from Scheduled and backward



communities . The seven days course covered modules Communication Skills , Self Enhancement for Professional Excellence and and Theatre . The sessions were conducted by Prof. Ashley Paul , Nirmal Joy, Balachandran Gopinath , Vinodkumar Jayanandan , Prof. Abhilash Pillai and Prof. Rangarajan.

## Private Sector & Public Sector Employability: A Realistic Perception



A two - day workshop on Private Sector & Public Sector Employability was held at CREST on 18 & 19 July 2016, conducted by Ms. Remya Roshni and Mr. Arun PT. Themes covered included Skills, Values and Competencies, Skill development and Employability and Innovations in Skills development. Remya Roshni was in the Indian Police Service (IPS). She has authored a self help guide book on the Myths and Realities on IAS Exams which was published by DC Books. Mr. Arun P T was in the Indian Postal Service and founder of DOOR Centre for Civil Services in

Chennai.

## Mentoring workshop at AIIMS

CREST was invited to conduct a faculty mentoring workshop at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) New Delhi on 25 July 2016. 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 organized in the backdrop that nearly a quarter of the students who join the MBBS programme are from relatively lower economic strata often from a parental background of first generation literates A significant section of the students from the Scheduled communities belongs to this category, who however qualify for admission after competing in an extremely rigorous examination. Barring a few, most of the students from this category are from



low income groups from rural areas. Parental support is minimal to this section of candidates as most of their parents are not adequately informed about the content of the courses at AIIMS. These students do not get proper mentoring support from parents suited to the medical education being received. The workshop is expected to help the faculty members to be effective mentors to the MBBS students throughout their academic career

## Orientation Programme for BTech Entry level 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 July 13 to July 28, 2016. Forty Three candidates were selected for the programme, based on the rank they



obtained in Common Entrance Examination 2016. Of the 43 candidates selected for the programme, 14 were girls.



The in-house programme was held at CIGI, 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 13<sup>th</sup> of July 2016.

## Special Lecture on Democracy by Prof. Peter deSouza

Prof. Peter deSouza renowned political scientist who holds Dr. Sarvepally Radhakrishnan Chair of Rajya Sabha gave a special lecture on democracy on 23 July 2016.

Speaking to the students he said free political expression forms the heart of democracy and people should be able to use our democratic space to articulate their voice and needs. It is difficult to imagine democracy on a national scale without the right of citizens to take part freely in politics, he said. Beyond communicating politically relevant issues, citizens need to



express their concerns and opinions in the public sphere for altering the old extraneous traditions founded on inequality.

Professor Peter deSouza was formerly Director, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla. Earlier, he had taught in the Political Science Department at Goa University for 16 years.. He was head of the Department from 1996 to 2002. He was a member of the International Political Science Association's Research Committees on Political Philosophy and Political Sociology and was a member to the University Grants Commission's expert panel in political science from 1997 to 2000. Professor DeSouza was awarded the British Council Visitorship to the U.K. where he made presentations at LSE, SOAS, Warwick and Sussex University in 1992. In March 2000 he was a Visiting Professor at Birkbeck College, London University, and in May 2001 he was a Visiting scholar at the Taubman Centre, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University



## Homage to Mahasweta Devi

Students of CREST paid their tribute to Mahasweta Devi , renowned writer and social activist on



July 29 , 2016 at a function held in CREST, KIRTADS campus Kozhikode. The staff of CREST and KIRTADS joined the students for the function which was organized under the tree in KIRTADS campus, from where she recited Tagore poems and spoke to the students. Mahasweta Devi had visited CREST on 21 December 2012 and had interacted with the students, sharing her experience as a student in Santhi Niketan and listening to the aspiration of the students. While paying

homage to the writer, students of CREST reiterated how students of their generation got inspired by the life and works of Mahasweta Devi. Dr.Predeep Kumar, Subash , Sarat Chandran , & Madhu Narayanan from KIRTADS and Vinod Krishnan from CREST also spoke at the function.



## Executive Committee Meeting

35th Meeting of the Executive Committee of CREST was held on Friday, July 22, 2016 at the office of CREST. The Executive Committee approved the budget of Rs. 28.26 Crores for 2017-18, including the construction of a new campus for CREST in the Government Cyberpark.

## Special Lecture on Transgender Rights

A Special lecture on transgender rights was delivered on 10 August 2016 by Kalaki Subramaniam, the founder of Sahodari Foundation which works for the social, economic and political empowerment of transgender persons in India. Kalki, who holds two Master's degrees in Journalism and Mass Communication and in International Relations, is an activist, author, actor and an entrepreneur. She campaigns for social, political, and economic equity and rights of



transgender and intersex people. She has lectured in numerous prestigious institutions like IIT Madras, Jindal Global Law School, National Judicial Academy, Shi Ram College Delhi, Gauhati University, University of Calicut, CET Trivandrum and many more institutions across India. She has also represented India in seminars internationally. Kalki was one of the major campaigners behind the Indian Supreme Court's verdict legalizing transgender identity in India.

Kalki shared with the students the legal, social and economic difficulties faced by transgender persons in India and how they are excluded and shunned by family and society and how their civil right as a human being is not recognized by society. The legal, social as well as economic difficulties face by transgender persons were discussed during the lecture.

Prema, another transgender activist from Tamil Nadu who also spoke at the function, shared with the students the life experience of a transgender and her quest for finding her identity and survival.

## Workshop on Language of Job Search

A two day workshop on resume and job search was conducted for the students of Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development (PGCCPD) by Dr. Rajeevan Karal on 22 & 23



August 2016. Dr. Karal is an accomplished teacher trainer and content developer, with over forty years experience in teaching English at all levels. He has authored many books on different aspects of English, targeted at learners at school and university levels. He has wide experience in organizing training programme in Business Communication, Technical Writing, and Presentation Skills for managers and executives from the corporate sector.

## Access Program

### Preparatory Training for Higher Secondary Students of MRS Aluva, Alapuzha , Peermedu & Thrithala

From 01.05.16 to 19.05.16 preparatory training was conducted focusing on helping students develop academic capital in order to obtain admission to undergraduate programs in nationally reputed institutions and overcome the achievement gap. Classes on Mathematics, English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Quantitative Aptitude, Reasoning, Mental ability and General knowledge were held for students who just completed 12th standard examinations from MRS Alapuzha, Thrithala, Aluva and Peermedu in different groups according to the students' choice for undergraduate program . The program was held at Adhyapakabhavan , Sultan Bathery , Wayanad for 34 students selected on the basis of their performance in the school took part in the program



Seven students were able to obtain admission to integrated Masters Program / undergraduate programs in nationally reputed institutions like Pondicherry University , National Institute of Fashion Technology, Azim Premji University etc. Students have also qualified in KEAM .

## **Academic support program for Higher Secondary students of MRS Thrithala and MRS Aluva**

Academic support program for Twelfth standard students of MRS Thrithala at Sreyas Training Centre Sultan Bathery, Wayanad from 22. May 2016 to 1 June 2016. Academic orientation on Chemistry, Physics, English, Mathematics, Biology and motivation classes were held for twelfth standard students of MRS Thrithala. From 20.05.16 to 30.05.16 Academic support sessions on Mathematics, English, Chemistry, Biology and Physics and motivation classes were held for students of MRS Aluva . The program was held at Government Youth Hostel , Kozhikode

## **Academic support programme for the students of MRS Thrithala**

Academic support session for Plus two, plus one and high school students of MRS Thrithala was held on 25th & 26th of June 2016. Sessions were held on Physics, Chemistry and Biology Motivation and Academic support programme for the students of MRS Thrithala on these dates.



On 23 , 24<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2016 July Performance enhancement sessions for plus one students and Physics classes for plus two students were held at the school. . English classes for

10th and 9th class students and motivation session for 10th standard students were also arranged at Thrithala for high school section. Similar program was held for the students of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> standard on 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of August 2016.

### **Preparatory Program for admission to Indian Institute of Science Education & Research (IISER)**

From 1<sup>st</sup> June to 4<sup>th</sup> July 2016 preparatory program for admission to integrated Masters Program at Indian Institute of Science Education & Research (IISER) was held at Government Youth Hostel Kozhikode. 12 students who just completed Plus Two examination from Model Residential schools ( who obtained "cut off" percentage announced by IISER in SSLC and Plus Two Examinations) took part in the program . Rigorous academic support in Chemistry , Mathematics, Physics and Biology was held for the students.

### **Self Enrichment Program for 10th standard students of MRS Vadakkanchery**

On 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of June 2016 a two day motivation and personality development/self enrichment program was held for the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> standard students of MRS Vadakkanchery. The objective of the program which was held at the school was to improve the aspiration and confidence level of the students. The program was held at the school. On 12<sup>th</sup> of June 2016 a



one day similar program was held for the 9<sup>th</sup> standard students of MRS Aluva. The program was held at the school. On 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of July 2016 a self enrichment program was held for the higher secondary students. The objective of the program was to improve the performance level . It was followed by a Two day academic support program held on 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2016.

### **Training programme for students of MRS Aluva**

On 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2016 a Theme Centered Interaction (TCI) workshop was held for plus two students . A similar session was held for the students of 9<sup>th</sup> standard on 18<sup>th</sup> of June 2016. Follow up of TCI was held for the Plus Two students on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2016. On 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> of July an academic support program in Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics were



held for twelfth standard students . On 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> August 2016 sessions on Self Development and Academic support for high school and higher secondary students .

### **Academic Support Program for MRS Azhiyoor**

On 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> of July , a two day academic support program was held for the high school students of MRS Azhiyoor ( Formerly MRS Ulliyeri) .The two day in-house program was held at Government Youth Hostel , Kozhikode.

### **Self Enrichment Program for High School Students of MRS Kasaragod**

On 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of June 2016 a two day motivation and personality development/self enrichment program was held for the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> standard students of MRS Kasaragod. The objective of the program which was held at the school was to improve the aspiration and



confidence level of the students . On 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> of July and on 13<sup>th</sup> , 14<sup>th</sup> , 20<sup>th</sup> , 21<sup>st</sup> , 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of August 2016 Personality development and academic support program was held for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> standard students of the school. Subjects covered included, English , Biology and social science.

### **Academic Support Program for Model Residential School Peermedu**

On 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> of June 2016, a self enrichment program was held for the Plus Two students of MRS Peermedu. On 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> of July a similar program was held for high school students. Support sessions on History, Hindi and Economics were conducted for 10<sup>th</sup> ,11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> standard students 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> , 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> of August 2016.

### **Training programme at Model Residential School Kuzhalmannam**

20.08.2016 21.08.2016 Subject classes on Physics, Mathematics and Academic motivation sessions were held for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> standard students of MRS Kuzhalmannam. Academic support programme for high school and higher secondary students of MRS Kuzhalmannam students at MRS Kuzhalmannam August 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>

## Training programme at Model Residential School Alapuzha

On 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2016 and on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2016 Personality Development classes and Theme Centered Interaction (TCI) for academic motivation for higher secondary students were held at the school. On 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> of July a two day academic support program on Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics were held for twelfth standard students. On 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> of July Theme Centered Interaction Workshop was held for plus one students the school. Academic support program on Physics and Chemistry was held for the higher secondary students on 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> of July and on 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> of August 2016.

## Training Programme at Model Residential School Chelakkara

A Self Development workshop was held for the high school students of MRS Chelakkara on 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> of July 2016. A follow up workshop was held on 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2016. The objective of the workshop was to improve the aspiration level of students.

## Interns at CREST

Ms. A. Aarthi and Ms. Alice Jane Tsibulsky, students from the Department of Anthropology, Toronto University, Canada interned with CREST during May-June 2016. Ms. Maggie Morris and Ms. Lama El-Hanan, also from the same university interned at CREST during July-August



2016. They were in CREST on Dean's International Initiatives Fund (DIIF) of Toronto University. The role of the interns were to assist CREST staff by coaching and mentoring trainees individually, and by organizing creative and fun group activities to develop the trainees' confidence, and overcome cultural barriers to communication. The academic objective is to learn about social exclusion in India through direct exchanges and discussions with trainees and staff in both formal, classroom settings and through informal interactions. Nashfa Hawwa, Student, Masters

Program in Environmental Management & Policy, Lund University, Sweden also interned at CREST during July 2016. She interned at CREST as a part of academic collaboration with the Swedish South Asian Studies Network (SASNET) and CREST.



# CREST in Media

Print as well as the visual media has given coverage to various programmes of CREST held during May - August 2016. *Mathrubhumi* Daily, *Deccan Chronicle* and *Deshabhimani* Daily covered news on CREST during these months.

**ക്രെസ്റ്റ് വിജയത്തിന്റെ ഉയരം**

2012-ൽ മതപ്രമുഖനായി ചിന്തിച്ചു വന്നതിനെത്തുടർന്ന് നിലവിൽ വിജയത്തിന്റെ ഉയരം കണ്ടു. ക്രെസ്റ്റ് വിജയത്തിന്റെ ഉയരം കണ്ടു. ക്രെസ്റ്റ് വിജയത്തിന്റെ ഉയരം കണ്ടു.

പാലക്കാട്, 19 ജൂലൈ 2016  
digitalpaper.mathrubhumi.com/c/1173634

**15 കോടി രൂപ അനുവദിച്ചു ക്രെസ്റ്റിന് സൈബർ പാർക്കിൽ ഫാർക്കിൽ ഫാർക്കിൽ കാമ്പസ്**

കെ.പി. ചന്ദ്രശേഖർ

പാലക്കാട്, 15 ജൂലൈ 2016  
digitalpaper.mathrubhumi.com/c/1173634

**ക്രെസ്റ്റിന് കോഴിക്കോട്ട് അത്യാധുനിക കാമ്പസ്**

പി. വി. ജി. ജോർജ്

കോഴിക്കോട്, 11 ഓഗസ്റ്റ് 2016

## CREST to get campus near Govt Cyber Park

DC CORRESPONDENT KOZHIKODE, AUG.11

With twelve years into training graduates from the backward sections across the nation, Centre for Research and Education for Social Transformation (CREST), the city-based institution is all set to have its exclusive campus near Cyber Park.

With the state government sanctioning ₹15 crore for the building complex, the blueprint is taking shape.

CREST director D. D. Namboothiri told DC that they hope to complete the construction in a year or so.

"Once it is over, we would be able to accommodate more students from the backward communities for the life skills training and other empowerment programmes," he said.

Now functioning on the KIRITRADS campus at Chevarambalam, CREST has proved its success in empowering the youngsters from the marginalised sections, assisting them to bag respectable jobs, improve living conditions and pursue goals with better pace and confidence.

"We are in the final discussion, and the master plan is getting finishing touches," he said.

"It's a long, long dream



**CENTRE for Research and Education for Social Transformation**

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It's a long, long dream to own a campus of our own. We are in the final discussion, and the master plan is getting finishing touches. We hope to complete the construction in a year or so.

— D. D. NAMBOOTHIRI, CREST director

to own a campus of our own."

CREST has been training students and professionals of NITs, IITs and from All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi.

So far CREST had prepared a thousand candidates in 24 batches, besides the faculty of elite

educational institutions. Rechristened in 2008 as CREST, the institution was an active presence in the arena of training since 2002. Named 'Centre of Excellence' earlier, it was an extended training arm of Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode.

# Forthcoming Events

## **Workshop Higher Education**

A one day workshop on higher education for students from disadvantaged background will be organized at Angamaly Panchayat on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016, with the support of Angamaly Presidency Club.

## **KR Narayanan Memorial Lecture**

KR Narayanan Memorial Lecture 2016 will be delivered by Dr. Janaki Nair, Professor of history, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on 6 November 2016

## **Theatre Workshop**

A theatre workshop will be held for the students from November 7 to 13, 2016. The workshop will be conducted by Dr. Abhilash Pillai, Faculty, National School of Drama, New Delhi.

## **Valedictory function of 26<sup>th</sup> Batch of PGCCPD**

Valedictory function for the 26<sup>nd</sup> Batch of PGCCPD will be held on 14 November 2016 at Hotel Alakapuri Auditorium, Kozhikode.

## **Admission to 27<sup>rd</sup> Batch of PGCCPD**

Interview for the admission to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Batch of Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development will be held on 23, 24 & 25 November 2016. Classes will commence from the second week of December 2016.

