



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

Activities

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 30 & 31 January 2017 and on 25 & 26 April 2017 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.

Visit of Oslo University College students



Following the MoU between CREST and Oslo and Akershus University College Norway for academic collaboration between two institutions, thirteen undergraduate students of Development studies of Oslo University College, Norway visited CREST on 1 February 2017. Sessions were held by the students of CREST on Kerala development model, caste issues, gender issues in Kerala, etc.

Special Lecture on Electoral Success of the Right

Sashi Kumar , noted media person , gave a special lecture on emergence and electoral success of the right in India, for the students of CREST on 3 Feb 2017. Speaking to the students, he said electoral victory of the right, be it in India or outside, does not mean that victorious is always



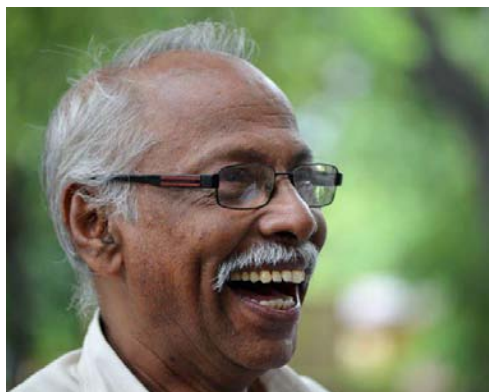
correct, politically. He added that the youth should be more concerned about it than his generation as they need to survive longer in a time devoid of reason. Sashi Kumar was one of the earliest newscasters of Doordarsan . He was the founder of Asianet TV , India's first satellite TV channel in regional language. He is the chairman of Media Development Foundation, the not for profit public trust which set up and runs the prestigious Asian College of Journalism in Chennai. He was the West Asia correspondent of The Hindu in the mid eighties. He has directed numerous short films and documentaries which includes the feature film *Kaya Taran* in Hindi based on the short story "When Big Trees Fall" by writer N.S Madhavan. He has written and lectured extensively on the media . He is currently the chairman of Asian College of Journalism.

Special Lecture on Higher Education in Norway



A special lecture on Norwegian higher education system was held by Dr. Berit Helene Vandsemb Faculty of education and international studies, Oslo and Akershus University College on Norway On 6 February 2017 . She also spoke on Norway , the country that tops the 185 member countries in the UN Nations .

Nalla Basha - Workshop on effective communication in Malayalam



Prof.MN Karassery, renowned Malayalam literary and cultural critic, conducted a workshop on communication skills for the students on 10 February 2017. The workshop covered themes on local dialect, Malayalam in formal setting, and writing in Malayalam. He also insisted on the importance of communicating effectively in Malayalam. Knowing the language forms the foundation, but effective communication requires skills one needs to develop through reading, writing and interacting with people. However simple, lucid and direct prose has its charm, provided it is used in specific contexts. Prof.Karassery told the students.

Hon'ble Minister Sri.AK Balan visits CREST

Sri.AK Balan , Honorable Minister for Minister for Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes



, telling how he challenged the adverse conditions in which he grew up and excelled in academics. He added that sharing his time with students will be another memorable experience for him.

and Backward Classes, Law, Culture and Parliamentary Affairs and Chairman of CREST had an interaction with the students of CREST on 21 February 2017. Interacting with students , he shared his personal story

Special Lecture by Aparna Venugopal



A special lecture “Realizing your potential “was held by Aparna Venugopal on 6 March 2017 for the students of PGCCPD at CREST. Aparna Venugopal holds PhD in Management from the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode. Her specialization is in strategic management, organizational design of innovations, data analysis techniques for strategic analyses and problem solving in businesses. At present, she is a post doctoral fellow with the J Herbert Smith Centre for Technology Management and Entrepreneurship at University of New Brunswick, Canada.

Special Lecture on Creative Designs

On 14 March 2017 , a special Lecture on Creative Designs was held by Prof. AG Rao , IIT Mumbai . Prof. A.G. Rao is a faculty at the Industrial Design Centre, Indian Institute of Technology. He has been with the product design program for more than a decade at IDC, IIT Mumbai. He has been



deeply involved in understanding the way in which technologies in tools can enable crafts people to re-view their work . He was also a team member of the experts who designed Electronic Voting Machine for Election Commission of India.

MoU with ITSR , Wayanad

CREST has signed a MoU with Institute of Tribal Studies and Research (ITSR) Calicut University that sets forth a framework of cooperation between the two institutions. As per the MoU , CREST would involve in strengthening the curricular and co-curricular activities of students doing undergraduate program in Sociology at ITSR . ITSR has been set up by Calicut University at Chithalayam, Sultan



Bathery, Wayanad, in 2015 with an objective to serve the educational aspirations of the tribal people of Kerala. The Institute has initiated a residential undergraduate program in Sociology, exclusively for the students from Scheduled Tribes of Kerala who have successfully completed their Plus Two education. This residential UG programme is the first of its kind in India, with entire student community belonging to Scheduled Tribes. Eighty students are undergoing the BA Degree in Sociology in a residential program there. ITSR and CREST will cooperate to provide support to the students to create an enabling environment for academic excellence.

Self Enrichment Workshop at ITSR Wayanad

Following the Memorandum of Understanding between CREST and Institute of Tribal Studies and



Research (ITSR) Calicut University On 17th & 18th March 2017 a self enrichment workshop was held for the students undergoing BA program in Sociology at ITSR , Chithalayam , Wayanad. Sessions were held by CREST faculty team comprising of Ms. Sandhya Varma, Nirmal Joy and Vinod

Krishnan . Eighty students undergoing the Bachelor programme in sociology took part in the



workshop, which was coordinated by Mujeeb Rahman , Faculty ITSR, Chithalayam .

Workshop on Language of Job Search by Rajeevan Karal



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 29 & 30 March 2017. 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.

Special Lecture on Gender Relations



On 1st of April Dr.J.Devika gave a special lecture on gender relations at CREST. J Devika teaches in Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum where she is an Associate Professor. She has authored several books, and articles on gender relations in Kerala society. She has translated both fiction and non-fiction books between Malayalam

and English. Also she writes on contemporary politics and culture in Kerala on the team blog www.kafila.org . Devika has translated a number of books from Malayalam to English. Notable among them are the translation of Nalini Jameela's autobiography and the short stories of K R Meera and Sarah Joseph . Also translated the well acclaimed Malayalam novel 'Hangwoman' by K R Meera Devika is also a social and political commentator who writes regularly on social and political issues focused on Kerala . She has also written for children, and her work was published by the Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishat.

Mock Interview

On 6th 7th & 8th Mrs Suma Aswini Kumar conducted mock interview sessions for the students . She is an external consultant in the training department of UST Global, a Multi National Company in Technopark, Trivandrum. She is an expert in taking assessments of freshers joining the MNC to align with the specified requirement to meet the standards. Exhaustive interviews were conducted personally with each student (half an hour per student) to be followed by a feedback session for all the students.

Workshop on Music appreciation

On 7th April 2017 a workshop on music appreciation was held for the students of the Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development. Sessions were held by well known Hindustani bansuri player Himanshu Nanda and Ms. Ratnasree Iyer, a tabla expert. In the evening they did a



performance at CREST, accompanied on flute by CV. Prasanth. Himanshu Nanda is an accomplished Hindustani Classical flautist and Director for Music at Chinmaya Naada Bindu. A noted senior



disciple of the legendary bansuri maestro Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia, Himanshu has a Masters degree in music from Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune and Sangeet Visharad from Gandharva Maha Vidyalaya. A double degree holder in Science and Education with a Computer Science Diploma he has a strong academic background and is an experienced teacher.. Himanshu Nanda is a visiting faculty at IIT, Bombay Retnasree Iyer is an accomplished Hindustani Classical Tabla artist. She is the first female professional classical tabla artist in South India. She is a double PG holder in Tabla and science and also the first Keralite to have a Post Graduation in Tabla. She has done many solo performances and has accompanied both Hindustani and Karnatic Classics. She has accompanied great artists like Ustad Faiyaz Khan, Pandit Shailesh Bhagawath, and Pandit Arun Kashalkar (Mumbai), to name a few, on the Tabla.

Walking Kozhikode



On 1st and 27th of April 2017, CREST partnering with Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode (IIMK) , National Institute for Research & Development in Defence Shipbuilding (NIRDESH) and Canara Bank organized ***Walking Kozhikode***, a stroll through the historical monuments and heritage sites of Calicut. The participants included professors, doctors, bankers, government officials, army officers, architects, journalists, hoteliers, tour

operators, businessmen, teachers and students. They visited important heritage structures like North Pier, Lighthouse, Buddha Vihara, Connolly Park, Mother of God Church, Anglo Indian School and old Telegraph office, Big Bazar , Gujarati Street etc . CREST students took part documenting the event organized for understanding the heritage and history of Kozhikode.

Video Conferencing on Entrepreneurship Development

A video conferencing with Sudhakar Vishnubhotla , Head of IT Governance , Great Western Bank USA was organized for the students on 21 April 2017. Entrepreneurship Development was the theme of the video conferencing.

Stepping out in the Corporate World



A two day workshop, “Stepping Out in the Corporate World” was held at CREST on 27th & 28th April 2017, conducted by Mr. Ramesh Chandran formerly General Manager, AEGON Asset Management (AAM), based in The Hague in The Netherlands. This workshop focused on the aspect of professionalism, the traits of professionalism and the impact of showcasing a professional image. The students were also appraised about the workplace etiquette and the dos and don'ts of workplace behavior in corporate sector.

Access Program

Support program for candidates qualified for interview for admission to Azim Premji University

On 7th & 8th of January 2017 a support program was conducted for five students qualified for interview after written test conducted by Azim Premji University, Bangalore

Academic support Program at MRS Kasaragod

On 13th and 14th of January 2017 academic support sessions were held for Physics, Chemistry, English, Biology and Mathematics for 9th and 10th standard students of MRS Kasaragod. On 11.02.2017 Academic support sessions on Physics was held for 9th standard students of MRS Vellachal, Kasaragod. On 18th & 19th February 2017 academic support sessions were held for Physics, Mathematics and Social Science for 9th and 10th standard students of MRS, Vellachal, Kasaragod. Motivation session for 8th standard students of MRS Vellachal was held on 19th February 2017. On 21st & 22nd February 2017 arranged academic sessions in Chemistry for 10th standard students of MRS Kasaragod

Academic support Program at MRS Aluva



On 14.01.2017 an academic support session for Physics and Mathematics was held for 10th standard students of MRS Aluva. On 17.& 18th of January 2017 academic support sessions were held for Physics and Mathematics for plus one and plus two students of MRS Aluva. On 25th and 26th of January 2017 Academic support session in Physics and Mathematics for plus two students, MRS Aluva. On 28th & 29th of January 2017 conducted Academic support session in Physics and Mathematics for plus two students of MRS Aluva. On 11th & 12th of February 2017 Academic support sessions on Mathematics was arranged for plus two students of MRS Aluva.

Academic support session and Career guidance session for plus two students of MRS Thrithala

On 21st & 22nd of January 2017 Physics classes for 9th standard students and English classes for 10th standard students were held at MRS Thrithala. A Career Guidance session was held for Plus Two students on 22nd January 2017. On 04.02.2017 Academic support sessions in science were held for 9th standard students of MRS Thrithala

Training programme at Peermedu MRS

On 4th & 5th of February 2017 sessions in Mathematics and Physics were held for 8th , 9th and 10th standard students along with motivation session for 8th standard students of MRS Peermedu, Idukki.

Academic Support programme at MRS Alapuzha

On 04.02.2017an Academic support sessions in Mathematics were conducted for plus two students of MRS Alapuzha . On 18th & 19th February 2017 organized academic sessions in science subjects for 9th and 10th standard students of MRS Punnapra, Alapuzha. A ten day camp was organized for 9th standard students of MRS Alapuzha at SRC Calicut from 17.03.2017 to 27.03.2017. Academic support sessions were held for science, English and mathematics and social science

Camp for students of MRS Vadakkanchery, MRS Chelakkara, MRS Kasaragod

A two week in-house Academic support program was held for 9th standard students of MRS



Vadakkanchery, MRS Chelakkara, MRS Kasaragod at Government Youth Hostel, Calicut. Subjects covered included science, English, social science and mathematics.

Academic support programme at MRS Azhiyoor

On 24.02.2017 to 27.02.2017 a four day academic support program in Mathematics, English and Physics was held for 9th and 10th standard students of MRS Azhiyoor.

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

From 07.04.17 to 30.04.17, an in-house preparatory program was conducted focusing on entrance examination 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 42 students



who were selected from Model Residential Schools of Aluva, Alapuzha, Peermedu and Thrithala. The program was held at Adhyapakabhavan, Sultan Bathery, Wayanad and Pratheeksha training Centre, Sultan Bathery, Wayanad

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Faculty Activity

Prof.D.D.Nampoothiri , Executive Director participated in the international seminar on Diversity and Discrimination in Higher Education India held on February 27 & 28, 2017 at New Delhi. He was a panelist in the session on 'Diversity Initiatives in India - Institutional Perspectives', held on 28 February, 2017, . The seminar was organized by Centre for Policy Research in Higher Education , National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) , New Delhi . On March 25, 2017 he chaired the International Seminar session on Tribal art organized by KIRTADS, Kozhikode . He also Chaired the Session on “Changing Paradigms of Development in Kerala – Is Local level Development Waning” in CDS-Asian College of Journalism Workshop on “Development, Welfare and Well-being from Below: Challenges to Reporting from/of the Local” held at Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram on 29 & 30 April 2017

Mr. Vinod Krishnan TY , Associate Program Coordinator and **Nirmal Joy** , Course Coordinator participated in the Grass Root Tourism summit held at Mothakkara in Mananthavady on 24th & 25th of January 2017. On 11th March 2017 they also represented CREST at Bamboo Fest organized by URAVU with the support of ST Development Department in Thrikkepotta , Wayanad

Forthcoming Events

Valedictory function for the 27th Batch of PGCCPD

Valedictory function for the 27th Batch of PGCCPD will be held on 18 May 2017 at Hotel Alakapuri Auditorium , Kozhikode of Dr. Michael Tharakan , former Vice Chancellor , Kannur University will be the Chief Guest.

Theatre Workshop

A theatre workshop will be conducted by From 10th May to 16th May 2017 . The workshop will be held at Marion Eugene Centre. The workshop will be conducted by Ms.Sukhamany , Purple Mangoes New Delhi.

Communication skills workshop at ITSr Chithalayam

A communication skills workshop will be conducted by Ms. Sukhamany , Purple Mangoes , New Delhi from 18th May to 25th May 2017 for the undergraduate students of sociology at Institute of Tribal Studies and Research (ITSr) , Chithalayam .

Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development

Interview for the Admission to 28th Batch of Post Graduate Certificate Course for Professional Development will be held on 24, 25 & 26 May 2017. Classes will begin on 14th June 2017

