

Sanchayan



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Newsletter

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Developing Countries Research Centre (dcrc)

**University of Delhi
Academic Research Centre Building
Guru Tegh Bahadur Marg
Delhi-110007. INDIA**



From Pratham Sevak (Director)

Sanchayan is a miniscule lens of reflecting the multi-variate activities of the Centre in each quarter of the year. For past nearly six years, we have been sharing the news of the Centre in terms of various activities, events and programs organized with the collective endeavors of all our fellows and faculty, students and scholars, social activists and social scientists. Striving towards an integrated, inclusive and innate knowledge, we have been working assiduously in transforming the researching ambiance by engaging, expressing and exposing to the new global realities.

In continuation of our consistent march to the quarterly journey, we are happy to release the second issue of Sanchayan in 2021. The current issue covers three-month activities, events and programs of the Centre from February-April 2021. With the New India succeeding in containing the widespread tentacles of Covid through indigenous vaccination program amidst lockdown, we organized various online and offline activities at the Centre during this quarter.

DCRC: Faculty, Functioning and Fellow Extension

With the collective and holistic endeavours of its Fellow Navratnas, the Centre entered a new phase in social science research and activities in 2021. While all the Fellows have been contributing in their respective institution of learning, their active interest in the Centre's activities during the quarter also imparted new dynamism and momentum.

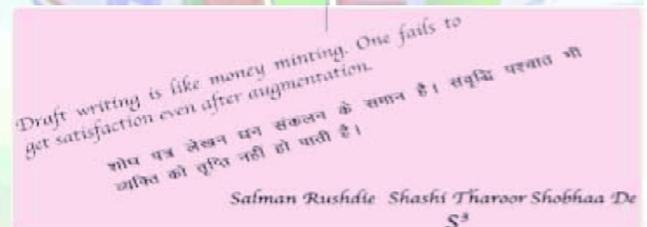
Working in a transparent and democratic manner since the joining of the Centre as its Pratham Sevak, the Centre has been working with the help of its various committees which meet regularly to deliberate on academic and research issues. The Advisory Committee headed by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor is the apex decision making body of the Centre while the Fellow Council and Research Committee are its academic committees.

Major Activities and Achievements

Since the second half of the quarter was marked by countrywide lockdown, the Centre did succeed in organizing many academic activities including lectures, talks, discussions, Webinars and web interactions both online and offline.

Samiksha 2020: Delhi Workshop

To facilitate the compilation of more than one lakh samples, a Workshop with all 14 Draft Writers along with the Draft Facilitators was held under the banner of Samiksha Delhi 2020 on 6 February 2020. Initiating the discussion the Samiksha Draft Convenor and Coordinator, Fellow Dr Mahesh Kaushik requested all the draft writers to be objective, holistic and analytical in their writings. Samiksha Co-Cordinator, Dr Abhay Prasad Singh urged the fellow draft writers to be original in their writings so that their drafts should be matched with the competing global standards.

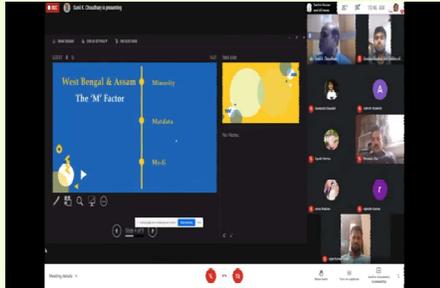


Appreciating the efforts of all the seven draft writing teams, the Director of the Centre, Prof Sunil K Choudhary highlighted the salience of draft writing

amidst new concerns and challenges by stating that there should be linkages between the history and contemporary realities.

Samiksha 2021: Assam and West Bengal Workshops

Under the banner of Samiksha series, the Centre organized a three-phase study of Assam and a seven-phase study of West Bengal assembly elections during March-April 2021. With the help of the post-graduate students of Political Science, University of Delhi along with various other colleges and universities of Assam and West



Bengal, the Centre conducted its second online election study gauging the

behaviour of the two states during the course of assembly election. Covering all 292 constituencies of West Bengal and 126 constituencies of Assam with 14968 samples collected in both online and offline modes, the Centre projected the survey results of the two states on 29 April 2021.

Countering and contradicting all the pollsters and poll agencies who had been predicting the assembly election results from a miniscule sample size, the Samiksha survey results of the Centre projected the right trends in the changing electoral behaviour of the two states. Much to the dismay of many partisan professional and party pollsters, the Election Commission results also endorsed the survey results of the Centre.

After celebrating the survey success stories from Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Bihar, Samiksha Assam and West Bengal strengthened Centre's incredible achievements in the domain of psephology.



Holi Milan Celebrations

Continuing with its past traditions of fanfare and gaiety, the Centre celebrated the festival of color, Holi on 27 March 2021. The program was marked by release of the special issue of Globalense: A Journal of Social Science Research, viz., Samiksha Uttar Pradesh: Assembly Election, 2017.



Dr Kaushal Gupta, Senior faculty at the University and Fellow Dr Malvika Singh greeted the students and scholars on the occasion and wished a colourful and delightful future for all those associated with the Centre.

drc in News

The Centre and its Director, Prof Sunil K Choudhary figured prominently in the electronic media during this quarter. Centre's Samiksha journey figured and featured in many English and Hindi dailies highlighting a month's mammoth exercise and humongous efforts of covering all the 418 constituencies of Assam and West Bengal. A special coverage of the survey was released by Dainik Hindustan's correspondent, Abhinaw Singh and PTI's Saloni Bhatia who projected Samiksha's survey initiatives as new milestones in psephological studies.



This quarter would also be memorable for Centre's projection in the Rajya Sabha TV debates on the programme, 'Youth in Politics'. Speaking on the occasion, the Centre's Director, Prof Sunil K Choudhary emphasised the dynamic role of the youth in politics which was succeeding slowly and steadily in containing dynastic politics in contemporary India.



Prof Sunil K Choudhary also delivered many significant lectures on contemporary issues and developments both in University of Delhi and other institutions of learning during the quarter.

Visit of Dean of Colleges

It was during this quarter that the Dean of Colleges, University of Delhi, Prof Baliram Pani visited the Centre and appreciated the great work done under the collective efforts of the Director and its Fellow Navratnas. The Director also expressed gratitude to the Dean for giving extension of the fellows.

Parivar Achievements

It was a matter of pride when its Fellow – Dr Bhuwan Kumar Jha's book was released by Shri Amit Shah, Hon'ble Union Home Minister on CRPF Day. Titled, 'Rashtra Pratham – 82 Varsho Ki Swarnim Gatha' the book unfolds the chronicles history of CRPF, scrupulously mapping changes over a period of time and locating developments in the context of wider shifts in society and politics.



This quarter got filled with accolades and achievements when the Centre's Fellow Kumar Raajesh and scholars Deepika and Mangal Deo were awarded doctoral degrees in a glittering ceremony of University of Delhi's 97th Convocation. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Hon'ble Union Minister of Human Resource Development, Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank.



The Centre also took pride when three of the doctoral students working with its Director, Prof Sunil K Choudhary successfully presented their pre-submissions in a short span of three years. It could be seen as one of the rarest academic achievements when collective doctoral pre-submissions were done under the supervision of a single Professor within the shortest possible time frame.

Future Vision and Mission

- Under the Coordinatorship of Fellow, Dr Mahesh Kaushik and Dr Abhay Prasad Singh of PGDAV College, University of Delhi, the Centre expedited the tabulation and analysis of its 103,731 samples under Samiksha: Delhi 2020. The work is in the process of seeing the light of publication.
- The Centre proposed to carry out an election study of Uttar Pradesh and Punjab assemblies under drc Samiksha 2022 with support of post-graduate students of the Department of Political Science, University of Delhi and other colleges and universities in the states of UP and Punjab.
- The Centre renewed its efforts of getting RNI and ISSN for its Hindi monthly magazine, Sanshleshan and the blind peer-review bi-annual journal, Globalense registration from Government of India.