

# Sanchayan



Newsletter  
October 2019

Vol.- IV, No.4



Developing Countries Research Centre (dcrc)  
University of Delhi

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### **From *Pratham Sevak* (Director)**

Without breaking the consistency in our quarterly academic journey in 2019, we are happy to publish the fourth and the last issue of our Newsletter, Sanchayan which is a modest attempt to display the multifaceted activities of the Centre. The increasing participation and integration of students and scholars, social scientists and social activists shows our untiring efforts towards our mission of achieving integrated, inclusive and innate knowledge.

The current issue covers three-month activities, events and programs of the Centre from August 2019 till October 2019. Despite struggling for streamlining the activities and appointments at the Centre, we succeeded in organizing good number of events at the Centre in addition to hosting the distinguished guests and celebrating successes with some of our students and scholars associated with the Centre for over the past four years.

My fellow Navratnas, the revered members of dcrc Parivar (dcrc family) and all my students, scholars and well-wishers deserve sincere thanks for striving us towards the path of knowledge.

### **DCRC: Faculty and Functioning**

Ushering a new phase, dcrc with the help of its 28 fellows from different disciplines of social sciences undertook many academic and research activities

and programs for the past three years, 2016-2019. The fellows appointed through a democratic and transparent process of selection, were regular faculty and researchers across Universities and Colleges. With their distinct expertise and specialisation in different disciplines of social sciences, the fellows continued to engage themselves with various research activities and projects at the Centre for the past three years.

The Centre worked with nine committees including Gender, Purchase, Library, Journal, Seminar, Publications etc. headed by different fellow conveners who used to meet regularly to deliberate on academic and research issues from time to time.

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 the academic committees. The Fellow Council and the Research Committee generally meet on the first working Friday of every month and quarterly respectively.

### **Major Activities and Achievements**

Many academic activities, including Special Lecture and talks, were organised by the Centre in the last quarter of the current year.

#### **Monthly Lecture**

Adding to the series of its popular monthly lectures, the Centre organized its 13th Monthly Lecture on 'Reforming the Muslim Society: A Triple Talaq Perspective' on 27 August 2019 in its auditorium.

Releasing the Centre's monthly Hindi magazine, Sanshleshan on theme 'Triple Talaq', Shri Arif Mohammad Khan, formerly Union Minister, Government of India, the keynote speaker on the occasion, highlighted both diversity and pluralism as the strength of Indian society.

Shri Arif Khan stated that 'social evils anywhere are threat to equitable society everywhere'. Arguing that 'any practice which is bad in religion can't be good in law'. Describing religion of India as

spiritual, he described religion as a set of obligations and duties. Appreciating the decision of the Government of India, particularly the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, by making triple talaq – instant oral divorce by a Muslim husband to his wife by uttering talaq thrice – Shri Arif Mohd Khan said that the triple talaq legislation by the Parliament would have larger impact in terms of spillover effects reforming the Muslim society.



Chairing the session, Shri Raj Kumar Bhatia Ji, formerly with University of Delhi, stated that the need of the hour is not only introducing reforms in the Muslim society only, but reforming other societies too.

Arguing that Muslim vote bank politics prevents reforms in Muslim society, Shri Raj Ji said that the reforms in Muslim society should be undertaken by progressive Muslims within the Muslim society itself. He pointed out that the triple talaq legislation by the Parliament would usher new chapter in Hindu-Muslim relations.



## Visitors

Prof Bidyut Chakrabarty, Vice Chancellor of

Vishwa Bharti University, Shantiniketan, West Bengal visited the Centre and interacted with the students and fellows over a cup of tea. Breaking the common myths that adversity prevents prosperity, Prof Chakrabarty advised students and scholars to keep on striving for academic excellence with positive thinking and optimistic orientation.



## Achievements/Felicitation

It was also a moment of coincidence and pride for the Centre when Shri Arif Mohammad Khan became the Governor of Kerala in September 2019 soon after delivering his prestigious lecture on Triple Talaq at the Centre on 27 August 2019. On his personal invitation, a delegation of the Fellows and Students of the Centre led by Dr Bhuwan Jha visited Shri Arif Khan's residence in Delhi and felicitated him with souvenirs.



The Centre had a proud moment when one of its associated members and the 'Twitter Man', Chander Shekher was appointed as Assistant Public Relations Officer at the Banaras Hindu University. The Centre has been getting consistent media exposure through facebook and twitter because of Chander Shekher. The Centre wishes him a very bright future.



The Centre also congratulated some of its young scholars – Preeti Yadav, Nisha Kumari and Mohini Mittal for getting into permanent placements as Lecturers at the Directorate of Education, Delhi. The Centre acknowledges their outstanding contributions in organizing various programs at the Centre and pray for their successful teaching career.

### DCRC in Media

- The Centre and its programs under the astounding direction of Professor Sunil K. Choudhary have received wide coverage in leading national and state newspapers and media in the previous quarter. As the current quarter was full of elections news, with a focus on Maharashtra and Haryana assembly elections, the Centre's Director, Prof Sunil K Choudhary appeared in Rajya Sabha TV, Dainik Jagran and Dainik Hindustan for their popular shows and got wide publicity for the Centre throughout this quarter. His ideas on Indian Diaspora and painstaking observations on Haryana and Maharashtra assembly elections received wide acceptance, particularly amongst young students and scholars in the country.



The role of Opposition also became hot topic of discussion in Dainik Jagran when Prof Sunil said that the conglomeration of opposition adversaries appeared to be more for saving their existence and identity rather than democratic resistance.

Moreover, his comments on Article 370 in the context of Jammu region highlighting the changing democracy with transforming demography received wide accolades in national Hindi dailies too.

## जम्मू के लोगों का प्रतिनिधित्व बढ़ जाएगा : प्रो. सुनील चौधरी

### जम्मू के सवाल

केंद्र शासित राज्य होने से जम्मू के लोगों का प्रतिनिधित्व विधानसभा में प्रभावशाली होगा। जब चुनाव होगा तो जम्मू का महत्व घाटी की अपेक्षा अधिक होगा। जब सरकार का गठन होगा तो जम्मू की भूमिका प्रभावशाली होगी।

राजीव गांधी ने भी एक बार कहा था कि जम्मू-कश्मीर की समस्या का समाधान सारिखाकी परिवर्तन है। यदि स्थितिघाटी में सामान्य होती है तो उसका प्रभाव जम्मू में भी पड़ेगा। क्योंकि जो निवेशक हैं, वह जम्मू में निवेश भी बढ़ेगा। जो कश्मीरी पंडित घाटी छोड़कर देश के अन्य इलाकों में चले गए। स्थिति

सुधरेगी तो वह जम्मू के माध्यम से घाटी में पहुंच जाएंगे। आने वाले समय में बहुत स्वनामक परिवर्तन देखने को मिलेंगे। केंद्र



प्रो. सुनील चौधरी,  
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सारी प्रमुख शक्तियां उपराज्यपाल के पास होती हैं। इसमें चुनी हुई सरकारें विकास कार्य देखती हैं। यहां के सियासी दल नेशनल कांग्रेस, हुरियत कांग्रेस, पीडीपी या अन्य दल जो अलगाव की बात करते हैं, यह उनके लिए धक्का है। उनकी राजनीति शून्य होने जा रही है।

### Future Vision and Mission

- With the changing times and an enterprising Director, the Centre is aiming high to reach new horizons by recreating a global institution that represents academic forte of the university and engages its epistemology with the global concerns.

- Apart from yearly Annual Reports, Quarterly Newsletters, Monthly Hindi Magazines - Sanshleshan, Annual Calendars and Brochures, the Centre is also coming out with the second issue of its Biennial Journal, GlobaLense: Journal of Social Science Research on the theme, 'India's Changing Electoral Democracy'. GlobaLense is our blind peer review journal and we are in the process of getting its ISSN soon.