

Sanchayan



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Developing Countries Research Centre (drcr)

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From Pratham Sevak (Director)

The Centre has been displaying its multifaceted and multivariate activities through its quarterly newsletter, *Sanchayan* since 2015. Taking social science research towards the realm of integrated, inclusive and innate knowledge has remained the key vision and mission of the Centre to be achieved through the collective endeavors of all its Fellows and Faculty, Students and Scholars, Social Scientists and Social Activists.

It is in continuation of our consistent march to the quarterly journey, we are happy to release the fourth issue of *Sanchayan* on the occasion of Constitution Day on 26 November 2020 amidst the virtual and gracious presence of Dr Hari Ram Parihar and Dr Dinesh Gehlot from Jodhpur, Rajasthan. The current issue covers three-month activities, events and programs of the Centre from August to October 2020. With the nation still struggling to contain and control Covid-19, we succeeded in organizing various online and offline events and activities.

My fellow *Navratnas*, the revered members of *dcrc Parivar* (*dcrc family*) and all my students, scholars and well-wishers deserve sincere gratitude from the core of my heart for steering our journey to the new heights of academic horizons.

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 past four years. 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 *dcrc* fellows continued to engage themselves with various research activities and projects at the centre for past four 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. 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.

Major Activities and Achievements

Many academic activities including lectures, talks, discussions and Web interactions were organised in the last quarter.

Interactive Discourses

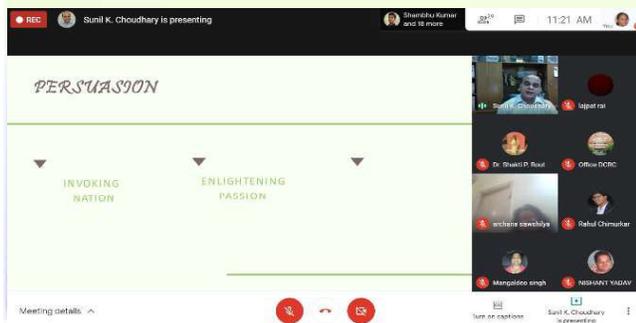
On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, the Centre held an Interactive Discourse both online and offline inviting students and scholars, fellows and faculty. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Hari Ram Parihar and Dr Dinesh Gehlot from Jodhpur, Rajasthan highlighted the salience of Gandhian values in contemporary times. Spearheading the Gandhian message with the motto, 'Clean India, Green India', a kindergarten student from Bal Bharati Public School, Brij Vihar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, Myra Biswal displayed the Gandhian portrait and shared her rhymes on the occasion. The Director of the Centre, Prof Sunil K Choudhary under-

lined the characteristics of Gandhian philosophy by projecting Gandhi as a 'Man of Action, Affection and Attention'.



Patel and Nation Building

The Centre celebrated the birth anniversary of India's Iron Man, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on 31 October 2020 with the theme, 'Patel and Nation Building'. The program enlisted online and offline participation of students and scholars all across the capital and the country. Many young scholars and fellows of the Centre shared their ideas on the contributions of Sardar Patel in nation building. Highlighting Sardar Patel's distinct role through the IPC Approach with a focus on 'Integration, Persuasion and Coercion', Prof Sunil K Choudhary emphasized incredible contributions of Sardar in India's nation building mission.



Lectures

The Centre's Director, Prof Sunil K Choudhary delivered many significant lectures both in University of Delhi and other institutions of learning during the quarter. Sharing his observations and comments on the Indo-Sino relations on a National Webinar on 'India-China Relations in Global Perspective: Emerging Relevance of Glossary' organized by Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, Bharati College, University of Delhi and Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT), Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India on 28 August 2020, Prof Sunil K Choudhary analysed T³ Phenomenon in terms of 'Teleology, Technology and Terminology' that



had defined the relations between the two nations since the 20th century.

Prof Sunil K Choudhary interacted with the students of Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh in a Pre-Ph D Course Work Webinar and delivered a lecture on the topic, 'Social Science Research: The DIE Phenomenon' on 15 September 2020.



The interaction evinced great response from the young scholars and faculty members on the changing dynamics of social science research in contemporary times.

On the occasion of the 75th year of UN foundation day, Prof Sunil K Choudhary delivered a lecture to the Government P G College, Sheour, Madhya Pradesh on 24 October 2020. Highlighting the transforming role of the United Nations, Prof Sunil stated the changes



and challenges faced by the UN in recent times. Prof Sunil's interaction with the post-graduate

students of the College as well as the faculty members present online in the lecture enlisted great appreciation.

Webinar

On the occasion of Teacher's Day, the Centre organized a Webinar on Higher Education in New Education Policy: An Evaluation by Prof. A.S. Narang from IGNOU, New Delhi on 5 September 2020. On this auspicious occasion of Teacher's Day, three generations of students came together. Mr. Devendra Kakkar, formerly associated with School of Open Learning and is a member of Advisory Committee of the Centre graced the occasion with his virtual presence. The event was started by release of its Newsletter, Sanchayan as well as the July 2020 issue of its Hindi Monthly Magazine, Sanshleshan, and followed by a profound talk by Prof A.S. Narang.

Prof Narang gave an elaborate account of the vision



behind the new education policy along with the challenges of its implementation. He elucidated on how post-independence democracy and education were seen as the agents of change but have themselves become victims of socio-economic stigmas of corruption and casteism.

According to Prof Narang, the New Education Policy aimed at elucidating not only the changes that the policy envisioned but also laid down an elaborate method to achieve the aforesaid. By laying down its focus on inclusivity and equity to expand the outreach of education, the policy marked a shift from the British influence to the American influence. It also tended to increase the intake by opening new higher education, encourage private institutions to maintain basic minimum standards of quality education.

The Webinar was concluded with a vote of thanks and an interactive session coordinated by Fellow, Dr Mahesh Kaushik.

derc in Media

The Centre and its Director, Prof Sunil K Choudhary figured prominently in the electronic media during this quarter. Since the quarter focused on elections in Bihar, Prof Sunil was a panellist in Rajya Sabha and India Ahead and underlined the changing electoral politics in the state of Bihar.



Releases of the Centre

The Centre released the first three issues of its blind peer review bi-annual journal, Globalense: A Journal of Social Science Research amidst the gracious presence of Prof Veena Kukreja, Head of the Department of Political Science, University of Delhi on 14 August 2020. Speaking on the occasion, Prof Kukreja ap-

preciated the efforts of the Centre in working assiduously in different domains of academics and research publications and congratulated all the fellows and students associated with the Centre in this mission.

Celebrations/Accomplishments

The Centre celebrated Teacher’s Day on 5 September 2020 with all its students, scholars and fellows and faculty members. Observing social distancing at the Centre, Students gathered at the Centre and expressed their gratitude to Prof Sunil K Choudhary who had transformed their lives as Teacher, Philosopher and Mentor.

The Centre also congratulated three of its students – Srishty, Jaya Ojha and Sham Kumar



for completing their M Phil degree with outstanding performance from the Department of Political Science, University of Delhi.

Future Vision and Mission

- Amidst national and global changes in academia, 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.
- The Centre proposed a committee headed by its Fellow, Dr Mahesh Kaushik assisted by Dr Abhay Prasad Singh of PGDAV College, University of Delhi to undertake the tabulation and analysis of its 103,731 samples under Samiksha: Delhi 2020. A team of 14 members was constituted to execute the project.
- The Centre proposed to carry out an election study of Bihar assembly under derc Samiksha: Bihar 2020 with support of post-graduate students of the Department of Political Science, University of Delhi.