

# Brochure 2018



**Developing Countries Research Centre (dcrc)**  
**University of Delhi**  
**Delhi - 110007**

## About Us

Developing Countries Research Centre (dcrc) was set up by the University of Delhi on 20th April 1993 under the Board of Interdisciplinary Program through Ordinance XV-A. Vide Ordinance XX (9) it acquired the status of a constituent of the Faculty of Social Sciences in 2004.

The Centre acquired a new currency with Prof. Sunil K Choudhary at the helm of affairs as Director since July 2015. A Gold Medalist from the University of Delhi and recipient of several awards and accolades, including the very prestigious 'Global South Award 2014', Prof. Sunil calls himself 'Pratham Sevak', inculcating a spirit of togetherness among dcrc fellows so characteristic of a 'Parivar'.

## Strength, Vision and Mission

- The biggest strength of the Centre is its multi-cultural and interdisciplinary approach with Fellows drawn from diverse regions and disciplines across social sciences focusing on gender parity and multifarious areas of research.

- Aiming high to reach new horizons by recreating a global institution that represents academic forte of the university.

- To collaborate with other research organizations at national and international level.

- Subject to the final approval of the Advisory Committee of University of Delhi, the Research Committee and the Fellow Council of the Centre have formally approved the introduction of five Certificate Courses like Cyber Security Awareness, Social Security, Political Economy of Climate Change and

India, Computer Applications in Research and Political Communication.

- Apart from yearly Annual Report and Quarterly Newsletter, the Centre is also coming out with its Biennial Journal, *GlobaLense: Journal of Social Science Research* which will be unveiled very soon.

- The Centre is also working towards publication of 'Samiksha 2017: UP Elections Survey' Project, sponsored by ICSSR.

- The Centre is planning to undertake Lok Sabha Elections, 2019 Survey covering all 543 constituencies under 'Samiksha Lok Sabha 2019'.

## Institutional Structure

Advisory Committee of the Centre is the highest decision making body. It is headed by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor with the Director, dcrc as its ex-officio Member Secretary. With 28 Fellows, DCRC has fourteen key committees headed by fellow conveners who meet regularly in their respective committees and contribute to the corporate life of the Centre. Some of the committees are: Library, Gender, Purchase, Journal, Web, Seminar, Annual Report, Infrastructural, etc. The Fellow Council meets on the first working Friday of every month. For all research related decisions, the Centre has the Research Committee which meets quarterly to discuss, deliberate and decide on the research issues.

## Infrastructure

The Centre has its own library with about 600 books and access to University e-resources apart from a Committee room and recently renovated and wi-fi-enabled Fellow Rooms with the facility of Computers and Printers.

## Activities and Programs

## 2016-2017

The Centre has organized almost 100 academic activities, particularly from 2015-18, including international and national conferences, seminars, workshops, interactive discourses and psephological surveys. DCRC Brochure 2018 apart from providing an overview of the Centre, gives a glimpse of Centre's major activities in the previous five years to its readers.

## 2013-2014

The Centre organised Tenth Oliver Tambo lecture on 'Epistemologies of the South: South Dialogues and Intercultural Translations' by Boaventura De Sousa Santos, Professor of Sociology, University of Coimbra (Portugal) on 4 Feb 2014.

## 2014-2015

DCRC organized a workshop on 'Research in Wetland Management Methods and Approach' on 16-17 April 2015.

## 2015-2016

•A day Seminar was organized on 'New Directions in Indian Polity: The Way Forward' in collaboration with School of Open Learning on 11 March 2016

•10th Pablo Neruda lecture was delivered by Prof Brij Maharaj, eminent social scientist of international repute on the topic, "Sports Megaevents and Human Rights Violations: Experiences from India, Brazil and South Africa" on 26 March 2016.

•Seminar on 'Linguistic Impact of Partition' was jointly organized by dcrc and National Council for the Promotion of Sindhi Language on 13th August 2016.

•The Centre in collaboration with ICSSR organised two day international conference on 'South Asia in Global Perspective: Issues and Challenges' on 17-18 February 2017.

•The Centre organized the 11th Oliver Tambo lecture on 23 March 2017. It was delivered by Dr A Surya Prakash, Chairman, Prasar Bharati on 'Democracy in India: Our Legislatures, Our Representatives'.

•The Centre organises a monthly lecture every month. Till date centre has organised 12 Monthly lectures. In the first monthly lecture,

Prof. S M Patnaik, Department of Anthropology, University of Delhi addressed the gathering on 'Anthropology in Conversation with other Disciplines: Reflections on Public Policy' on 8 April 2016

•In the series of the monthly lectures C. Uday Bhaskar, well-known Defence Analyst gave the fourth monthly lecture on 'India's Security Challenges' on 1 July 2016.

•Moving from Social Sciences to Physical and Biological Sciences, the fifth monthly Lecture was delivered on 'World of biotechnology' by Prof Paramjit Khurana from Department of Plant Molecular Biology, University of Delhi on 13 July 2016

•On 2 September 2016, Padma Bhushan Dr Isher Judge Ahluwalia, renowned economist and planner gave a talk on 'Role of Cities in India's Development'.

## **2017-2018**

•The Foundation Day Lecture of the Centre was delivered by a renowned author and thinker Shri Sushil Pandit on 'Kashmir: Present Challenges in Historical perspective' on 20 April 2017.

•The Tenth Monthly lecture was delivered by renowned thinker and activist, Shri K N Govindacharya on 14 July 2017 on 'Swadeshi Model and Ecology'.

•The Centre organized Grassroots Social Science Colloquium on 'Naxalism' on 27 February 2018.

•A Seminar on 'Comparative Theory Today: Changes and Challenges' was organized on 12 March 2018.

•The Centre successfully organized two week Capacity Building Program sponsored by ICSSR New Delhi from 16-29 May 2017. The Capacity Building project was interdisciplinary in nature and 30 participants from different social science disciplines were included in the program.

•The Centre celebrated 'Constitution Day' on 26 November 2017. The Constitution Day at the Centre began with the oath ceremony of the Preamble undertaken by all the participants. The students, scholars and Fellows pledged to undertake and imbibe the basic postulates of the Constitution in their lives.

•An interactive discourse was organised on 21 August 2017 on the theme 'Pitching Research

Seminar'. Prof Robert William Faff and Mr Alistair Laurenceson from Queensland University, Australia were the resource persons.

•Another interactive discourse on 'Governance: A Constitutional Riddle' was organized with Professor Bidyut Chakrabarty on 20 March 2018.

•11th Pablo Neruda Lecture was delivered by drc Director Professor Sunil K. Choudhary on 'Philosophical Origins of Creative Teaching' on 3 April 2018. The audience appreciated the spontaneity of the Director in delivering 11th Pablo Neruda lecture.

## ***Samiksha 2017***

•A meticulously planned, scientifically designed and objectively executed psephological research survey of the legislative assembly of Uttar Pradesh was conducted by Centre under the title '*Samiksha 2017*'. With a sample of almost 83,000 voters taken from all constituencies covering all seven phases of the elections in the state, '*Samiksha 2017*' happened to be one of the first field based election study of any state in the post-independence history of India.

•The Centre successfully completed its second field study based election survey project of the Municipal elections in Delhi in April 2017.

Under the ambit of *Samiksha*, the Centre has succeeded in forging links with the grassroots, especially by connecting with the students and scholars, faculty and fellows all across the colleges, departments, universities and institutions of India in general and Delhi in particular.



## **Distinguished Visitors**

### ***Foreign Scholars***

The centre has hosted some very distinguished international visitors including Prof Boaventura de Sousa Santos, University of Coimbra, Portugal; Professor Subrata Mitra, University of Heidelberg; Prof. Takashi Kurosaki, Institute of Economic Research, Japan; Prof Brij Maharaj, eminent social scientist, University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa; Prof. Harsh V. Pant, King's College, London; Mr Waliur Rahman, Former foreign Secretary, Bangladesh; Dr Alana Mann, University of Sydney, Australia; Prof Robert William Faff and Mr Alistair Laurenceson from Queensland University, Australia; Mr Manuel José Saldias, Chargé d'Affairs, Embassy of Chile; Mr M Sakhawat Hussain, former Election Commissioner of Bangladesh; Daniel Carmon, Ambassador of Israel; Prof Vijay Kant Karna, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal.

### ***Eminent National Visitors***

The centre was also graced by the presence of eminent national personalities like Shri Ram Madhavji, General Secretary, BJP; Prof Dinesh Singh, former Vice Chancellor of University of Delhi; Prof Yogesh Atal, former Principal Director, UNESCO; Prof Sangit Ragi, Shri Prakash Singh, Prof Ujjwal K Singh, Prof Bidyut Chakrabarty, Prof Madhulika Banerjee, Prof Shanta Verma and Prof Veena Kukreja Department of Political Science, University of Delhi; Prof A. S. Narang, IGNOU; K.G. Balakrishnan, former Chief Justice of India; Prof S D Muni, Professor Emeritus and Prof Pushpesh Pant, JNU; Shri Amrendra Khatua, former Director General ICCR; ; Mr Shakti Sinha Director Nehru Memorial Museum and Library; Dr A

Surya Prakash, Chairman, Prasar Bharati; Prof. S M Patnaik, Vice Chancellor, Utkal University; C. Uday Bhaskar, Defence Analyst; Padma Bhushan Dr Isher Judge Ahluwalia, renowned economist; Dr Subramanian Swamy, Hon'ble Member of Parliament; Prof Sushma Yadav, Indian Institute of Public Administration; Prof Pami Dua, Director Delhi School of Economics; Prof Amita Baviskar, Institute of Economic Growth; Mr Shubhranshu Choudhary eminent Journalist, Chhattisgarh; Dr Himanshu Roy, Senior Fellow, Teen Murti; Shri Sushil Pandit and Shri K N Govindacharya, renowned thinkers and activists; Shri Ajay Mehra, Chief Commissioner, Madhya Pradesh; Prof K G Suresh, Director General, Indian Institute of Mass Communication.

### **International and National Collaborations and Awards**

- Prof. Sunil K Choudhary was honored with the prestigious Global South Award, 2014 by the International Political Science Association in Montreal, Canada for making distinct research contribution in the countries of Global South.



- Dr Vandana Mishra, Deputy Director of the Centre received Young Political Scientist Award, 2016 by Indian Political Science Association.

•Professor Sunil K Choudhary and Dr Surendra Singh visited IPSA World Congress held in Poznan, Poland in July 2016 and presented papers.

•Educational exchange cum field work research trips of the Centre were held with Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth University, Udaipur in November 2016 and Uttarakhand in March, 2017.

## Publications

•The Centre is regularly publishing yearly Annual Report and Quarterly Newsletter. Till date we have published 3 Annual Reports and 7 Quarterly Newsletters.

•The Centre is also coming out with its Biennial Journal, *GlobaLense: Journal of Social Science Research* which will be unveiled very soon.

•The Centre is also working towards publication of 'Samiksha 2017: UP Elections Survey' Project, sponsored by ICSSR.

•Besides the Centre's publications, the fellows have also published individual books and articles.

## DCRC in Media

•During 2017-18, the Centre and its programs under the astounding direction of Professor Sunil K. Choudhary received wide coverage in leading national newspapers and media including *Samiksha 2017*.

•Prof Sunil K. Choudhary was also invited by Lok Sabha TV, Rajya Sabha TV and DD News to discuss India-Israel relations in programs like 'Insight' and 'Public Forum'. Recently Prof Choudhary's book on 'The Changing Face of Parties and Party Systems: A Study of Israel and India' published by Springer Nature and Palgrave Macmillan was released by Daniel Carmon, Israel Ambassador; Prof. Dinesh Singh Former VC of University of Delhi, and Shri Shakti Sinha, Director, NMML. This event was also covered by DD News.



•Keeping up with digital India, drc launched its twitter handle @drcofficial in May 2017. Within a short time it has garnered hundreds of likes and followers making a mark at the social media platform.