

10 YEARS  
GROWTH  
ACHIEVEMENTS  
MILESTONES  
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NADU  
SUCCESS  
STORY  
CUTN  
THIRUVARUR



VOLUME  
**ONE**

A DECADE OF PROGRESS

CUTN DECENNIAL PUBLICATION ● 2009-19

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF TAMIL NADU ● ESTABLISHED BY AN ACT OF PARLIAMENT IN 2009 ● THIRUVARUR - TAMIL NADU - INDIA



**HISTORY  
IS WHO  
WE ARE  
AND WHY  
WE ARE  
THE WAY  
WE ARE.**

# Alpha in this Delta region.

Through concerted efforts, CUTN has flourished to become one of the nodal institutions for higher education in the Cauvery Delta region. CUTN highlights that progress through this Volume of the Decennial Publication (2009-19).





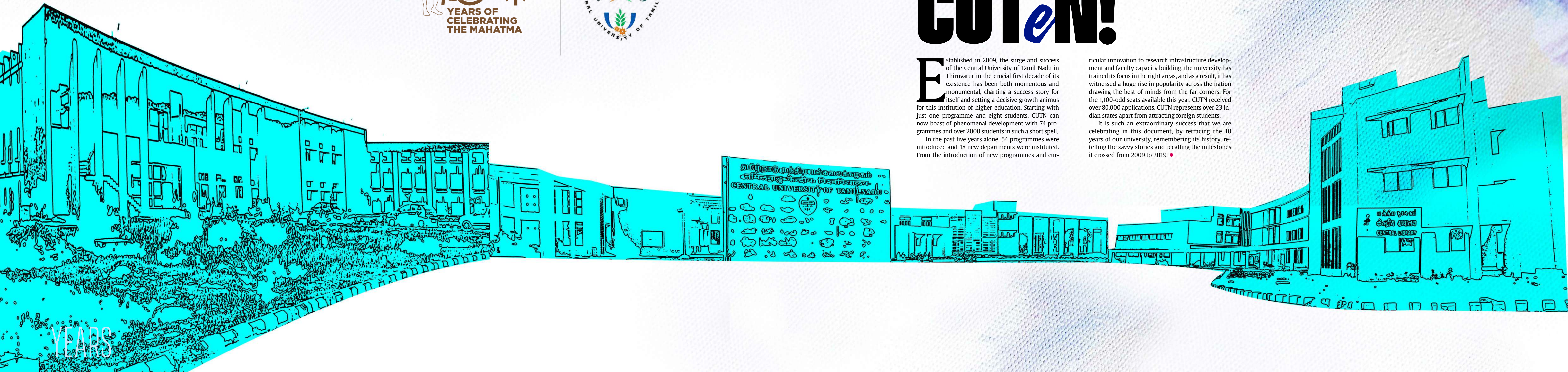
# Celebrating CUTeN!

**E**stablished in 2009, the surge and success of the Central University of Tamil Nadu in Thiruvananthapuram in the crucial first decade of its existence has been both momentous and monumental, charting a success story for itself and setting a decisive growth animus for this institution of higher education. Starting with just one programme and eight students, CUTN can now boast of phenomenal development with 74 programmes and over 2000 students in such a short spell.

In the past five years alone, 54 programmes were introduced and 18 new departments were instituted. From the introduction of new programmes and cur-

ricular innovation to research infrastructure development and faculty capacity building, the university has trained its focus in the right areas, and as a result, it has witnessed a huge rise in popularity across the nation drawing the best of minds from the far corners. For the 1,100-odd seats available this year, CUTN received over 80,000 applications. CUTN represents over 23 Indian states apart from attracting foreign students.

It is such an extraordinary success that we are celebrating in this document, by retracing the 10 years of our university, remembering its history, retelling the savvy stories and recalling the milestones it crossed from 2009 to 2019. ●



YEARS

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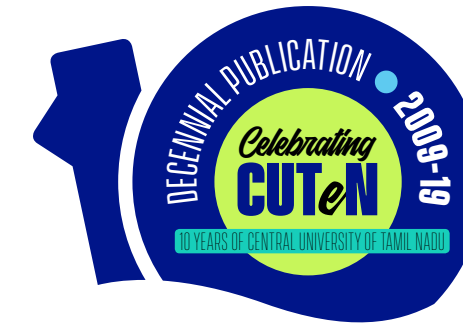
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## FOREWORD

# Proud of our achievements

Ten years ago, the foundation of the Central University of Tamil Nadu was laid on September 30, 2009. Today, it has blossomed as a premier university, renowned for its significant contributions in teaching, research and extension. On this happy occasion of the completion of 10 years, we, who are fortunate to serve this great institution at this momentous time, rededicate ourselves to work better for the promotion of quality higher education and research for all. Located at a vast rural landscape of 516.76 acres, the Central University of Tamil Nadu has grown like a banyan tree and become a premier institute, widely acknowledged for its quality higher education in India, with a balanced emphasis in the disciplines of Social Sciences and Humanities, Basic and Applied Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Sciences, Behavioural Sciences, Commerce and Business Management, Communication, Education and Training, Technology, Performing Arts and with a firm commitment to social justice and rural upliftment.

It has all the tradition, infrastructure and potential for playing a pioneering and leading role in the field of higher education. We feel proud of our achievements. But we fully realise that the tasks to be carried out are many. We have no time to rest on our past successes and we should strive harder to render better service to the society. I have no doubt that the faculty of CUTN will continue to keep up the glorious tradition of guiding as well as accomplishing the higher education goals of the country. Hundreds of faculty members, officers, staff, and students deserve credit for what the university is today a premier institution.

Ten years is significant in the history of an academic institution. CUTN has played a noteworthy role in meeting the knowledge needs and research needs at the national and international levels over a period of 10 years.

Our university continues to grow in reputation. New initiatives towards furtherance of excellence, efficiency and equity are undertaken and implemented. Together, teachers and students have played active and interactive roles in co-developing and shaping the best learning and research environments that unleash their full potential.

The success of CUTN is based on high-quality courses, good facilities, friendly ambience and dedicated academic staff. This lively, multicultural mix creates a dynamic learning environment and a great opportunity for increased cross-cultural understanding. The university fosters collaboration and a multidisciplinary approach with a global outlook which helps students develop the all-round vision to succeed anywhere in the world. Perhaps, the 10-year-old and yet modern of the Centre of Learning in the Southern part of our country, it is now looking back with pride, the path it has traversed over a decade. I wish and hope that this preeminent institution will continue to grow on sound and modern lines in the years to come with major breakthrough achieved in frontier areas. I would like to record my appreciation for the efforts and pains taken by the Decennial Publication Committee led by Prof. R. Karpaga Kumaravel in preparing the two volumes of this historic publication. ■

**Prof. A. P. Dash**

Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Tamil Nadu.



Decennial Publication Team  
**Prof. K. Karpaga Kumaravel**  
**Dr. A. Raghupathy**  
**Prof. S. Ravi**  
**Dr. S. Beer Mohamed**  
**Dr. Velmurugan P. S.**  
**Dr. E. M. Shankar**  
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**Dr. Aakriti Grover**  
**Dr. N. Boobalakrishnan**  
**Dr. Francis P. Barclay**  
**Mr. T. P. Girishwaran**

News Editor  
**Dr. Francis P. Barclay**

Photo Editor  
**Mr. T. P. Girishwaran**

Photo Contributors  
**Mr. T. P. Girishwaran**  
**Mr. M. Thangaraj**  
**Mrs. S. Prema**

Research Data Contributor  
**Mrs. Esakkiammal S.**



# Enlightenment bestowed!

## About THIRUVARUR

*Jananat Kamalalaye, Kasyantu maranam, mukti,  
 Darsnanat Abhrasadasi, smaranad Arunachale...*

In the good-old scriptures, it is stated that being born in Thiruvavarur, seeing Chidambaram, dying in Kasi or remembering Arunachala—any one of these alone can confer mukti or the ultimate liberation. Pertinently, now, a new front of knowledge and liberation is born in Thiruvavarur in the incarnation of Central University to offer enlightenment in form of education!

Historically, Thiruvavarur has been a spindle of artistic-cultural

tradition and a religious landmark. It was one of the five traditional capitals of the Chola empire, with one of the emperors of the dynasty having it as his capital. The town is believed to be of significant antiquity and has been ruled, at different times, by the Medieval Cholas, Later Cholas, Later Pandyas, Vijayanagar Empire, Marathas and the British. The town is known for the Thyagaraja temple and the annual chariot festival held in the month of April. Perhaps, the about 90-foot-tall temple chariot of the Thyagaraja temple weighs some 300 tonnes (660,000 pounds) and turns out to be the

largest temple chariot in the whole of Tamil Nadu.

What more? Thiruvavarur is the birthplace of Thyagaraja, Muthuswami Dikshitar and Syama Sastri, popularly known as the Trinity of Carnatic music.

Thiruvavarur was a part of Thanjavur district till 1991 and now it is a separate one, bifurcated by the Odambokki river. The town is a part of the Cauvery delta region and agriculture is the major occupation. As per folk legend, Thiruvavarur is mentioned as the capital town of a legendary Chola king, Manu Needhi Cholan, who killed his own son to provide jus-

tice to a cow. His name is commonly used as a metaphor for fairness and justice in Tamil literature and culture.

Thiruvavarur has been known to be a town of temples, with its cultural traditions and artistic expressions revolving around these temples. Organised around the Thyagaraja temple of "immeasurable antiquity" which houses "the lord of eternal fame," Thiruvavarur is cited by historians as typical of Dravidian town planning. Thiruvavarur and towns and villages close to it in the eastern part of the Cauvery Delta is dotted

with temples, big and small, Sivaite and Vishnuite, almost all reputed for their sculptures, architecture, temple traditions, idols of deities and festivals and legends of religious and spiritual significance. Thiruvavarur has often been mentioned in inscriptional texts as a centre for dancing tradition sustained and developed by temple dancers (devadasis) and the musical tradition called nagaswaram, similarly, sustained by widwans (doyens) attached to these temples. These temple dancers and musicians have both been the only learning

resource for the early dancers and especially vocalists when these art traditions began to attract learners and performers from the elite segments of the society.

While Thiruvavarur has retained its idyllic settings and cultural tradition, the Central University of Tamil Nadu unfolds a new avenue for unravelling. Knowledge, enlightenment and liberation are the new mantras. ■

—Francis P. Barclay



# A new front of knowledge

About CUTN

By Francis P. Barclay

In this landmark temple town of Thiruvavur, in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu, the Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) was established through an Act of Parliament in 2009. As CUTN celebrates the 10 years of its existence and history, the university glorifies its fast-paced growth and development into a nodal centre for higher education in this delta region.

In the quiet-rural environs, this university bubbles with academic activity—research, teaching and extension. Most students and the faculty reside together in the campuses which makes teaching and learning continue beyond the class work and the classroom. CUTN received over 80,000 applications for the 1,100-odd seats this year, against the about 60,000 applications received last year and the 40,000 received in 2017, indicating the tremendous growth in popularity across the nation. CUTN is also witnessing a steady rise in academic and infrastructure development. While the number of programmes offered by 22 departments was 46 in 2017, it has risen to 28 departments offering 74 programmes this year. This year also

witnessed a higher influx of foreign students.

Students from any part of the country can apply to the programmes offered by the Central University of Tamil Nadu, but the admission gateway is the CUCET (Central Universities Common Entrance Test). That is, the students will have to take up the CUCET to avail admission to the CUTN programmes. However, candidates with national-level fellowships such as UGC-JRF or UGC-CSIR-JRF and applying for admission to MPhil or PhD programmes have to apply through the CUCET 2019 online portal and they are exempted from the CUCET entrance examination. As a Central-government institution, the university in Thiruvavur presents a culturally-diverse learning experience with students from almost all states of India, apart from foreign students. With advantageous infrastructure and distinguished faculty from across the country, the university is thriving to become a hotspot for higher education and research in this region.

CUTN offers five integrated five-year MSc programmes in Chemistry, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Physics and Eco-

nomics, which students who have passed in plus-two examinations can apply for. An integrated four-year BSc-BEd programme in Mathematics is also offered by the university.

Two-year postgraduate programmes are offered in Applied Psychology, Commerce, Library and Information Science, Chemistry, Computer Science, Epidemiology and Public Health, Geography, Microbiology, Materials Science, Classical Tamil Studies, Economics, English, Hindi, History, Mass Communication, Business Administration and Social Work.

Two-year postgraduate programmes are also offered in General Economics, Financial Economics, Applied Quantitative Economics, Environmental Economics and Actuarial Economics, in collaboration with the Madras School of Economics (MSE), Chennai. An undergraduate programme is offered in (BPA) Music. CUTN also offers three MBA programmes in Apparel Management, Retail Management and Textile Management and an undergraduate programme in BSc Textiles at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International School of Textile Management (SVPISTM), Coimbatore.

MPhil programmes are offered in Applied Psychology, Chemistry, Commerce, Computer Science, English, Geography, Library and Information Science, Management, Mass Communication, Mathematics, Music, Physics, Social Work and Tamil, while PhD programmes are offered in Applied Psychology, Chemistry, Commerce, Computer Science, Economics, Education, English, Epidemiology and Public Health, Geography, Hindi, Library and Information Science, Life Sciences, Management, Mass Communication, Materials Science, Mathematics, Microbiology, Music, Physics, Social Work and Tamil.

These apart, new programmes were introduced this year: M.Sc. Statistics & Applied Mathematics, M.Sc. Horticulture & Floriculture, MBA Tourism & Hospitality Management and LL.M. Corporate Governance and Industrial Jurisprudence, M.Sc. Geology. Looking beyond the four walls of the classroom, the Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) in Thiruvavur is aiming

to provide holistic education with a balanced emphasis on teaching, research and extension.

It is spread across 516.76 acres in the verdant Thiruvavur. Though it is just bursting forth, this relatively-new university has already reached highs and bagged laurels.

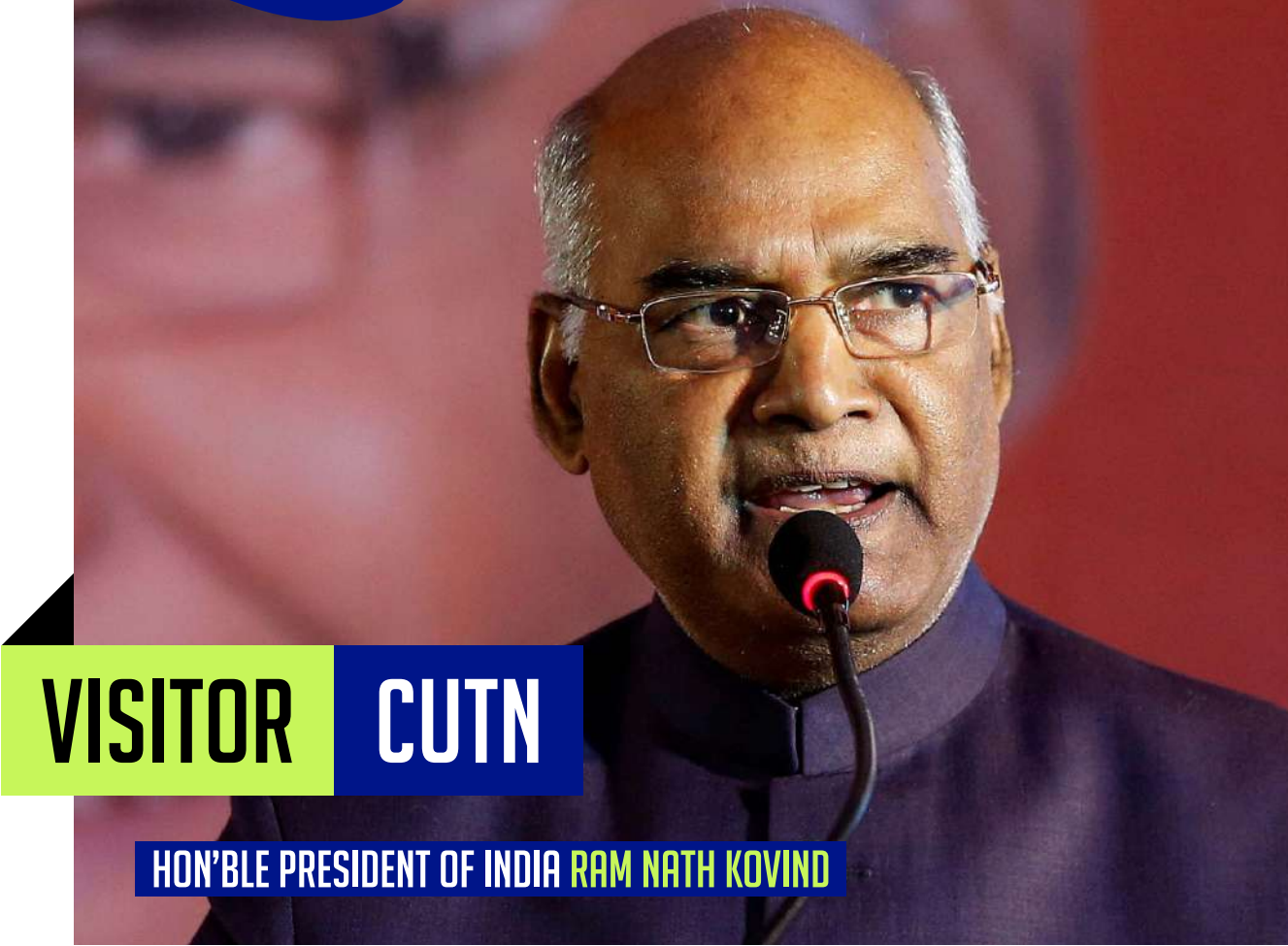
With its agenda for extension and a firm commitment to social justice and rural upliftment, CUTN has emerged as a role model institution for inclusive rural higher education in the region. This apart, the varsity has also made its mark in research with several flagship publications in high-impact peer-reviewed international journals such as Nature, Lancet and Lancet Infectious Diseases. It has also undertaken several internationally-funded projects and bagged fellowships.

CUTN's citation track is also strong, with some of the faculty members having over 8,000 citations and an h-index of 47. CUTN has managed to secure over 447 publications in Scopus-indexed

journals, with over 3,800 citations and an h-index of 29. With students from diverse regional and socio-cultural backgrounds, CUTN has created a campus culture and climate that respect differences, encourage inclusiveness and reflect diversity as a core value of the university. It is also building and strengthening partnerships with diverse communities, community-centric organisations as well as government entities to advance diversity and multiculturalism in the university and the region.

Now, one among the reputed Indian universities, CUTN is already exhibiting a national character with students from almost all states. Apart from world-class laboratories, library, hostels, mess, health centre, media theatre, residential complexes, guest house, community college, gymnasiums, sports facilities, SBI bank, ATM, post office and free WiFi, CUTN also provides a safe and secure green environment that creates the ideal climate for education. ■





**VISITOR CUTN**

HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF INDIA **RAM NATH KOVIND**

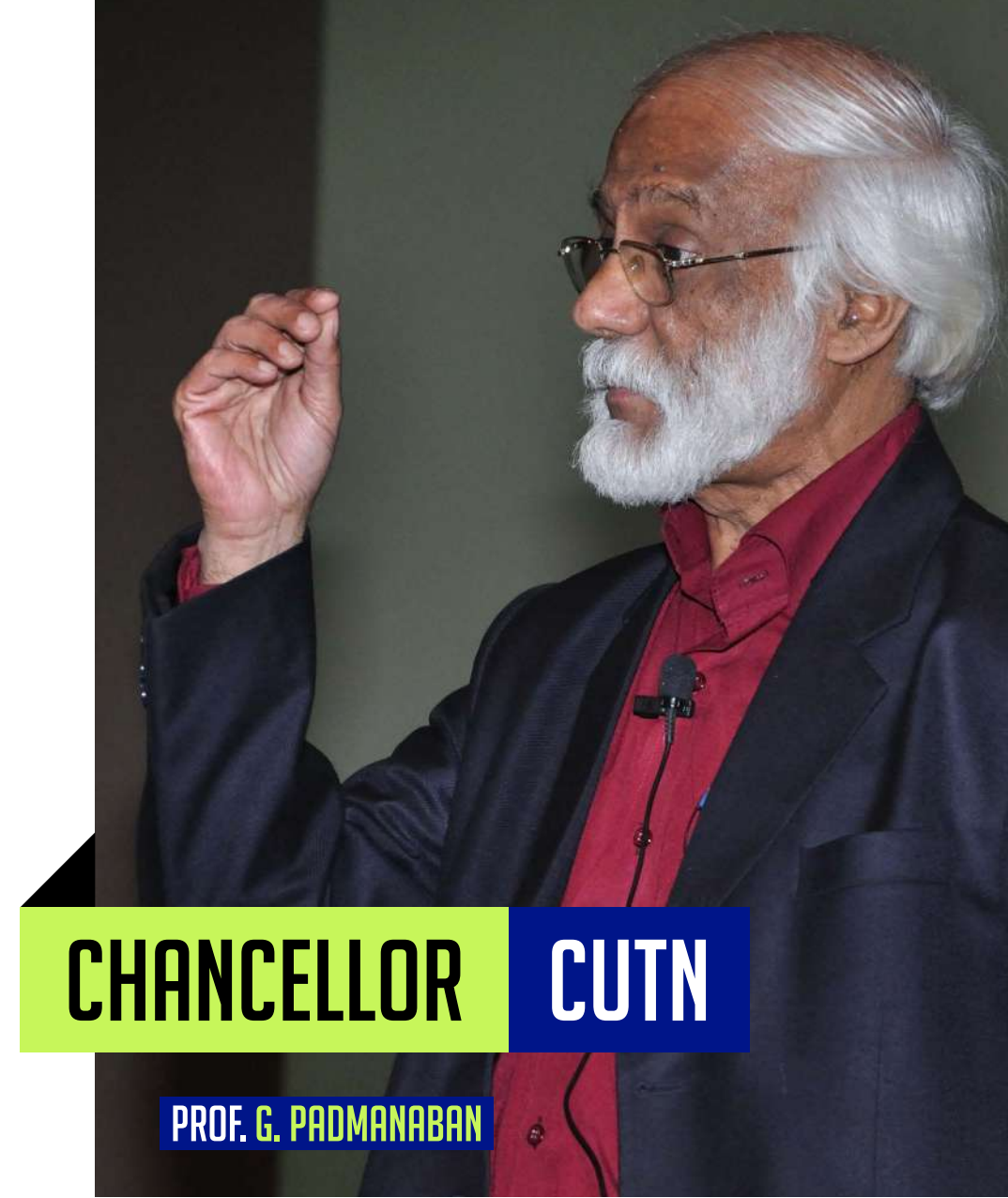


Former Visitors: **Shri. Pranab Mukherjee** (above) (25 July 2012 – 25 July 2017)  
**Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil** (below) (27 Sept. 2009 - 25 July 2012)



**HRD MINISTER**

HON'BLE MINISTER OF HRD **RAMESH POKHRIYAL**



**CHANCELLOR CUTN**

**PROF. G. PADMANABAN**



Former Chancellor  
**Dr. V. Krishnamurthy**

**AT THE  
 HELM OF  
 CUTN**



**VICE-CHANCELLOR CUTN**

**PROF. A. P. DASH**



Former Vice-Chancellors: **Prof. B. P. Sanjay** (Vice-Chancellor) 2 March 2009 – 2 March 2014 (left)  
**Prof. T. Sengadir** (Acting Vice-Chancellor) 3 March 2014 – 5 August 2015 (right)



Former Ministers of HRD: (from left) **Shri. Kapil Sibal** (29 May 2009 – 29 Oct 2012);  
**Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju** (30 Oct 2012 – 26 May 2014); **Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani** (26 May 2014 – 5 July 2016);  
 and **Shri. Prakash Javadekar** (5 July 2016 – 25 May 2019)

## STATUTORY OFFICERS



**Dr. S. Bhuvanewari**  
Registrar

### A PRESTIGIOUS MOMENT

It is a prestigious moment for us all. It is time to recall and relish our successes in the past decade. As CUTN completes its first decade of existence, it is time to celebrate our glory and plan our future course. This fine document of decennial publication is an expression of this faith. While celebrating the successes of the past decade, it is important to keep up this fast pace of development. At this proud moment, we also reiterate our commitment to the development of the community.



**CMA. V. Palani**  
Finance Officer

### FAST GROWTH

CUTN has been growing fast. In the first decade of its existence, it has exceeded its expectations. Most of our administration and functioning has been digitised and services from admission to semester fee payment have are done online for speed and transparency. We commend the team for this publication, for recording our success stories in this document which is important.



**Dr. A. Ragupathy**  
Controller of Examinations

### HAPPY ABOUT THIS

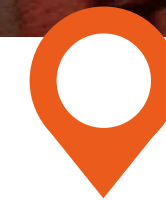
I am happy about this publication recording our journey of 10 years. It gives me immense pleasure that I am also part of this journey which will go a long way in the process of prospering as a world-class university. This gives a clear picture about the various aspects of the university, namely, the academic programmes offered, the profile of the faculty members and students' achievements. I congratulate all who have been involved in the making of this decennial publication. Wishing all the best.



**Dr. R. Parameswaran**  
Librarian

### PROUD AND HAPPY

I feel proud and happy to associate with CUTN as a team member in transforming CUTN into a state-of-the-art institution and bring about developments in all aspects. We work together for CUTN to reach greater heights. I wish all success in all its endeavors.



## Where music was born!

Thiruvarur is the birthplace of Tyagaraja, Muthuswami Dikshitar and Syama Sastri, popularly known as the Trinity of Carnatic music of the 18th century. CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash and Prof. T. Sengadir took a tour of their abodes in Thiruvarur to learn about their glorious histories and pay respects to the musical saints.



## 2009-2019 DECENNIAL PUBLICATION

P09



## At the symbol of justice

Ellalan was a member of the Tamil Chola dynasty and also known as 'Manu Needhi Cholan'. Upon capturing the throne, he became the king of Anuradhapura Kingdom, in present-day Sri Lanka, from 205 BCE to 161 BCE. The Mahavamsa states that he ruled "with even justice toward friend and foe, on occasions of disputes at law, and elaborates how he even ordered the execution of his son for killing a calf. His name has been used as a metaphor for fairness and justice in Tamil literature. His capital was Thiruvarur. In Oct 2019, Prof. Dash and Prof. T. Sengadir paid a visit to the Manimandapam in Thiruvarur that has been build in honour of this great king.



## @ ground infinity

At the abode of Mathematics genius **Srinivasa Ramanujan** in Kumbakonam, which is 38km from CUTN. Ramanujan, born on 22 December 1887, lived in this small traditional home on Sarangapani Sannidhi Street in the town of Kumbakonam, before moving to England to claim his rightful place in history. The family home is now a museum. CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash, along with Prof. T. Sengadir, visited the house recently for the extraordinary feeling that the visit offers and to celebrate the local heritage

## DEANS



**Prof. S. Nagarajan**  
Dean, Student's Welfare  
School of Basic and Applied Sciences



**Dr. Velmurugan P. S.**  
School of Commerce and Business Management



**Prof. S. Ravi**  
School of Communication



**Prof. Sulochana Shekhar**  
School of Earth Sciences



**Prof. R. Karpaga Kumaravel**  
School of Education and Training



**Prof. Ram Rajasekharan**  
School of Life Sciences



**Dr. R. Roopkumar**  
School of Mathematics and Computer Sciences



**Dr. V. Premalatha**  
School of Performing Arts and Fine Arts



**Prof. S. V. S. S. Narayana Raju**  
Social Sciences and Humanities

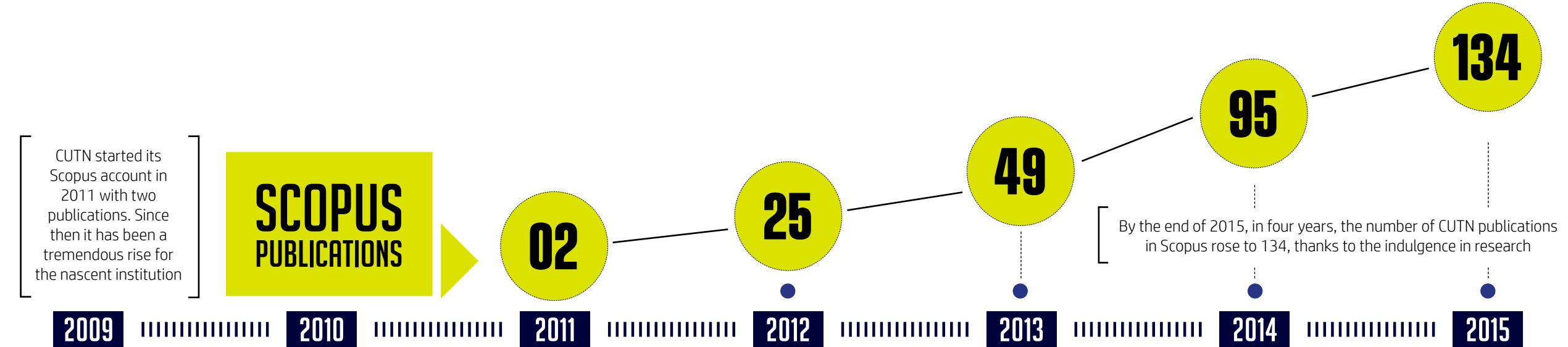


**Dr. Beer Mohammed**  
School of Technology



# Rising numbers

**RESEARCH.** CUTN is among the top Central universities with regard to research output. With over 447 Scopus publications, 3,800 citations and an h-index of 29, CUTN aspires to become a nodal institution for research in a quick span with concerted efforts



It's yet another feather in our cap that CUTN is at the top among the new-found Central universities when it comes to research output. Since its inception in 2009 and within such a short span, the Central University of Tamil Nadu has been able to achieve a feat of 29 in h-index, with over 447 top-notch Scopus publications.

Adding to this accreditation, the CUTN has made its way into several top journals of the world, including the Lancet, Nature and the Lancet Infectious Diseases.

A research paper on 'Nations within a Nation: variations in epidemiological transition across the states of India, 1990-2016 in the Global Burden of Disease Study' was published in 'The Lancet', one of the world's top academic journals, with

an impact factor of 47.83. This India State-level Disease Burden Initiative was a joint initiative between the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), and Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India along with experts and stakeholders associated with over 100 Indian institutions. CUTN had a role to play with Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash being an expert in the area. It was the first comprehensive set of state-level disease burden, risk factors estimates and trends for each state in India for informed health planning to reduce health inequalities amongst states in India. CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash was one among the 166 col-

laborators for this disease burden initiative.

Another publication from the university has appeared in 'Nature', ranked as the top cited scientific journal in 2010, with an impact factor of 40.13.

CUTN has attracted over 60 projects and the total of EMR grants sanctioned amounted to about Rs11.2 crore.

Remarkably, another outstanding achievement of 2017 is that CUTN attracted projects worth Rs 3.45 crore, the highest annual fund score thus far! Needless to say, CUTN is already creating a benchmark to reach the epitome of success in the academic-research world.

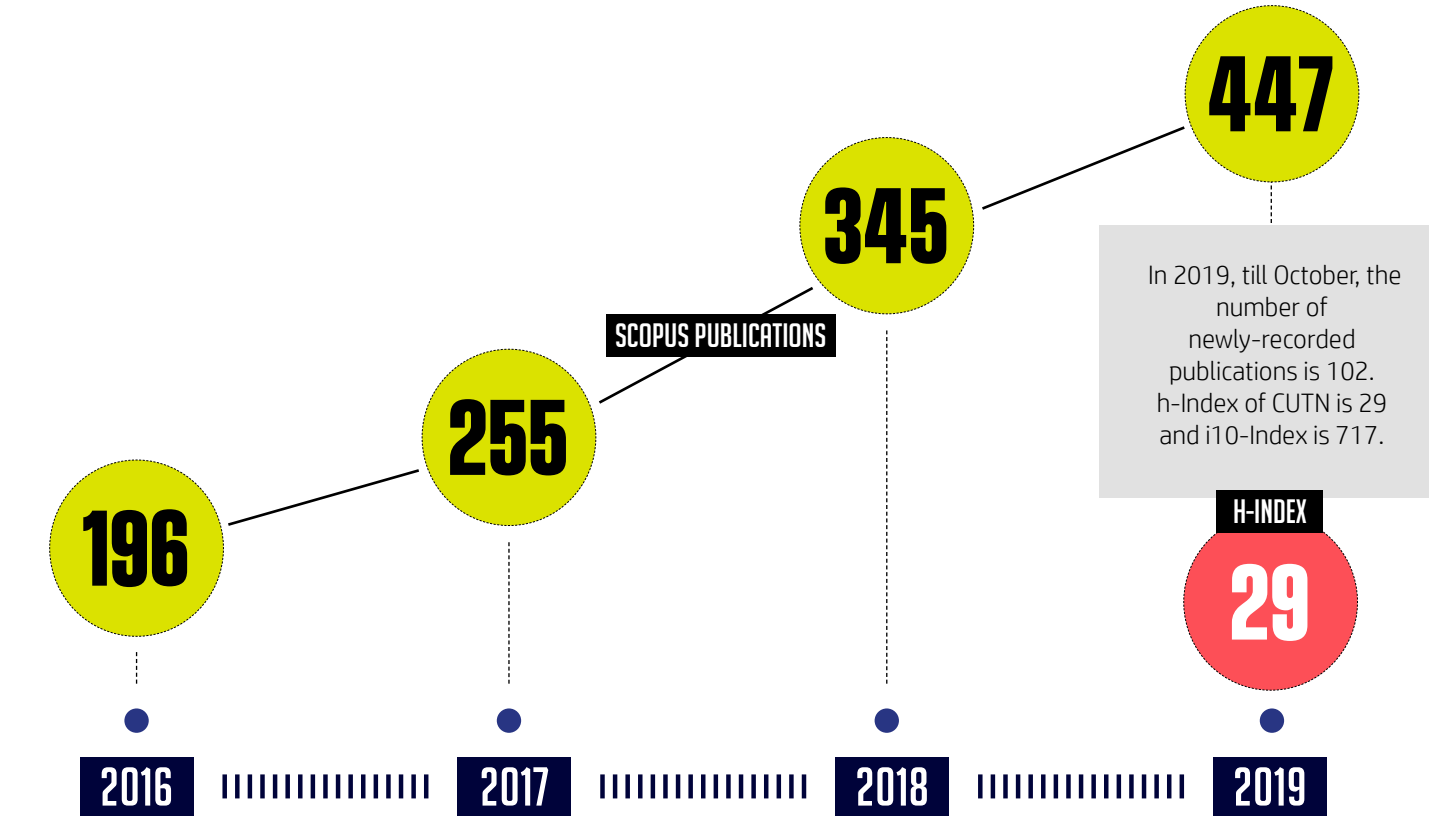
CUTN, so far, has over 3,816 citations in Scopus alone and 192 publications in the past two years. ■

**TREMENDOUS RISE**  
 In 2016, CUTN recorded 62 new publications in Scopus, taking the total to 196. In the past three years alone, CUTN recorded 251 publications in Scopus, highlighting the university faculty members' active indulgence in scholarly research. In 2018, CUTN recorded 90 in Scopus, the highest annual score thus far.

**447** is the total number of publications that CUTN has in **Scopus**

**397** is the total number of publications that CUTN has in **Web of Science**, with **3,603 citations**. CUTN has 1,139 publications in the institutional repository. The number of citations for CUTN's Scopus publications is 3,816. Average number of citations (per paper) for CUTN publications in Scopus is

**8.344**



**Rs 11.2 CRORE**  
 is worth of the about 60 projects CUTN has bagged so far

**CUTN MAKES GREAT STRIDES**  
 CUTN proposed to conduct an inter-disciplinary research on climate change and submitted a proposal for funding under the STRIDE (Scheme for Trans-Disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy) scheme. About 10 departments of CUTN have come together to conduct this project, which has been sanctioned under the scheme for funding of Rs46 lakh.

**EXPERT CONSULTATION**  
 World Health Organization identified the Central University of Tamil Nadu to host an international expert consultation on elimination of kala-azar, a disease affecting the poorest of the poor and that is targeted for elimination by 2020. CUTN organised it in Chennai in 2016

**LANCET PUBLICATION**  
 A research paper on 'Nations within a Nation: variations in epidemiological transition across the states of India, 1990-2016 in the Global Burden of Disease Study' was published in 'The Lancet', one of the world's top academic journals, with an impact factor of 47.83. This India State-level Disease Burden

Initiative was a joint initiative between the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), and the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India along with experts and stakeholders associated with over 100 Indian institutions.

**NORWEGIAN TIE-UP**  
 These apart, the University of Oslo in Norway has signed a pact with the Central University of Tamil Nadu under the Indo-Norwegian Collaborative programme to further research.

**IMPRESSIVE**

## Six in one go!

Six project proposals submitted by the faculty of the Central University of Tamil Nadu, Tiruvavur, have been approved for funding under the IMPRESS scheme of the Union HRD Ministry.

Impactful Policy Research in Social Science (IMPRESS) is a fund-granting scheme for research projects that aims to provide a research roadmap to address policy challenges pertaining to society and so, social science areas. The identified domains encompass the major areas or themes that have been in public policy debate due to new developments, earnest concerns, emerging issues, critical deficiencies, and amplified expectations.

CUTN's six approved project proposals are: Impact of urban Governance on Urban Transformation in Selected Cities of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu by Dr. K. Kanaka Raju in the Urban Transformation domain; Ethics, Autonomy, Privacy and Regulation: Balancing the Social Media Spheres of Political Influence by Dr. Francis P. Barclay and Dr. Boobalal Krishnan N. in the Social Media and Technology domain; Access and Barriers to Mental Health Care: A Situational Analysis of the Families of Persons with Mental Illness in Tiruvavur District, Tamil Nadu, by Dr. Chitra K. P. in the Health and Environment domain; Community-based Participatory Research on the Psycho-social Impact, Problems and Reality Responses to Disasters: Study on the Experiences of Women in Gaja-hit Areas by Dr. Sivakami N. and Dr. Shamala R. in the Health and Environment domain; Gatekeeper's Attitude: Skill and Knowledge about Psychosocial Care for the Disaster Affected by Dr. Mamman Joseph C. in the Health and Environment domain; and The Impact of Natural Disaster on the Mental Health of Rescue Workers by Dr. Vidhya V. in the Health and Environment domain.

On the latest feat, CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof A. P. Dash said, "Bagging six projects in one go is yet another indication of our commitment to scholarly-impactful research. As a Central varsity, we have been giving an impetus and driving our faculty members to engage in quality research with publications in top-notch journals." ■



2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2009-2019 DECENNIAL PUBLICATION

P13

First publications with CUTN affiliations came out in 2011. As many as six publications were recorded. An institutional repository recording CUTN publications tracked 23 publications in the following year.

**TOTAL PUBLICATIONS**

06

29

53

150

303

CUTN repository records publications from the faculty members in UGC-listed journals, apart from internationally-renowned journals

527

840

1060

1139

**PATENT**  
CUTN's patent filed was on 'Uses and development of neuro defend for treating neurodegenerative diseases' by Dr. D. Siva Sundara Kumar from the Department of Microbiology, CUTN

**ACADEMIC NETWORKING**

CUTN encourages academic collaborations with institutions in India and abroad. CUTN has research collaborations across the globe, including ties with Norway, the United States and Hong Kong.



**RESEARCH GRANTS**

CUTN has secured over 60 funded-projects worth over Rs11.2 crore. CUTN witnessed a 200-percent rise in external funding in the second half of the last decade. For the first call for project proposals under the IMPRESS scheme of the ICSSR, CUTN responded with 24 proposals and bagged as many as six projects, indicating the rising research capabilities of this nascent university.



**RESEARCH INCENTIVES**

Along with encouragement, CUTN offers several incentives to the faculty members to pursue their research. CUTN allows the project investigators to use the institutional overhead fund secured through funded projects for research and allied activities, such as publication of books and research papers in journals, participation in research conferences for presentation of research.

**RESEARCH PROGRAMMES**

CUTN offers institutional fellowships for PhD scholars to promote research. CUTN has introduced research programmes in the university departments and has increased the scholar intake manifold in the past few years. It offers affordable accommodation for the research scholars. PhD programmes are offered by 21 university departments.



**INNOVATION**

Under the MHRD Innovation Cell implemented to foster the culture of Innovation across all educational institutions, CUTN has instituted an Institution's Innovation Council (IICs) to create a vibrant local innovation ecosystem, prepare the institution for Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements Framework, establish a function ecosystem for scouting ideas and pre-incubation of ideas and develop better cognitive abilities of tech-students.



# CUTN's RESEARCH ECOSYSTEM

**IN PLACE.** CUTN has a well-planned ecosystem to promote multidisciplinary and high-impact research

**RESEARCH GOVERNANCE**

CUTN has instituted a Project Cell to help project investigators. It facilitates them in receiving official approvals, for the smooth conduct of research and management of funds.



**IPR AND PATENT**

CUTN's IPR Cell strives to educate the research community and have a shared understanding of what IPR is and the legal, ethical benefits behind protecting the ideas. It also aims to identify, create and maintain the IP portfolio of CUTN and promote IPR culture in the university.

**RESEARCH ETHICS**

CUTN's Institutional Human Ethics Review Board reviews project proposals that involve human subjects in research. It meets periodically to review ethical aspects of research by the investigators of CUTN and ensure that ethical standards are met. The board also ensures that the proposed research designs are scientifically sound and appropriate for addressing research questions and will not expose research participants to risks.



**RESEARCH JOURNALS**

In June 2017, the Department of Media and Communication, CUTN, launched the university's first peer-reviewed research journal 'Journal of Media and Communication'. Original research articles and political commentaries are published in this open-access journal. JM&C intends to publish and promote communication research activities in India. It was included in the revised UGC-CARE list of approved journals, a feat for the university.



**SCIENCE LABS**

CUTN's Department of Chemistry houses world-class laboratories with elaborate exhaust and safety features. Department of Physics has also constructed a few of the best research laboratories. Materials Science laboratories have capabilities to produce and study nano-materials.



**RESEARCH FACILITIES**

Non-Science Schools of CUTN such as the Social Sciences, Communication, Computer Science and Humanities have constructed world-class media, language and computer labs to facilitate research and production. Sophisticated instruments like LCMS with HRMS, 400 MHz NMR, DSC-TGA, FTIR, UV with DAD, GC with FID, HPLC with DAD, DSC, Cyclic Voltammetry, Gel documentation system, I-V characterisation instrument, UV-NIR are available to carry out quality research activities. All the teaching and research labs are with fume hoods, spot extractors and safety norms were taken into consideration in the design of the interior lab work.



**INTERDISCIPLINARY**

Breeding of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research has been our focus. Apart from encouraging programmes across disciplines, CUTN also promotes project proposals that cut across departments and schools. In the Social Sciences, participatory and action research are favoured to propagate social development.

RESEARCH PROJECTS-H-INDEX PROGRAMMES APPLICATIONS FACILITY  
 TAMIL NADU  
 GROWTH  
 10 YEARS  
 P12

# Where the Eves rule

**GIRLS COUNT.** With the steep rise in its popularity across the nation, CUTN has been attracting more and more students from the far corners of the country. It is worthwhile to note that girls are a majority on this university campus, outnumbering the male students



**STUDENTS IN PLAIN NUMBERS**

**23 STATES**  
 CUTN has students from at least 23 states of India, apart from students from foreign countries

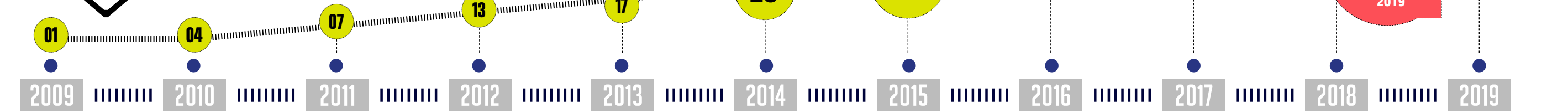
**2308 STUDENTS**  
 Since its inception in 2009, the number of students admitted to the various programmes that CUTN offers has been witnessing manifold increase with each passing year. This year, the student count crossed the 2000-milestone

**58% GIRL STUDENTS**  
 In CUTN, the girls outnumber the male students and their percentage is about 58.

**RISING POPULARITY**  
 CUTN received over 82,000 applications for the 600-odd seats this year, against the about 60,000 applications received last year and the 40,000 received in 2017, indicating the tremendous growth in popularity across the nation.

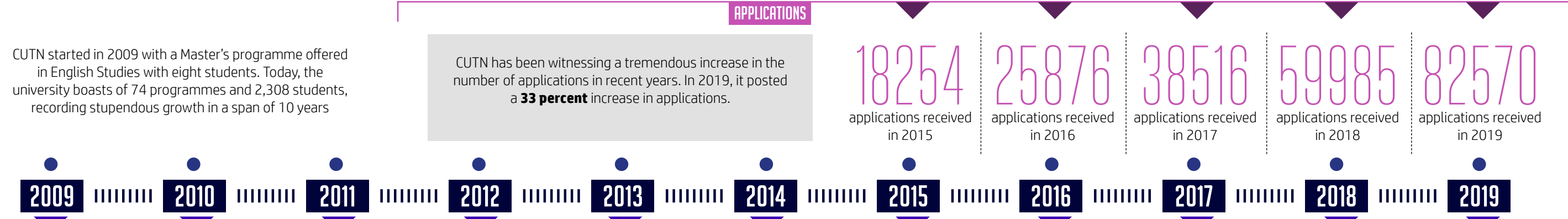
**28** is the total number of **Departments** in CUTN. While the number of programmes offered by 22 departments was 46 in 2017, it has risen to 28 Departments offering 74 programmes this year. This year also witnessed a higher influx of foreign students.

**EXPONENTIAL INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES (CUMULATIVE)**

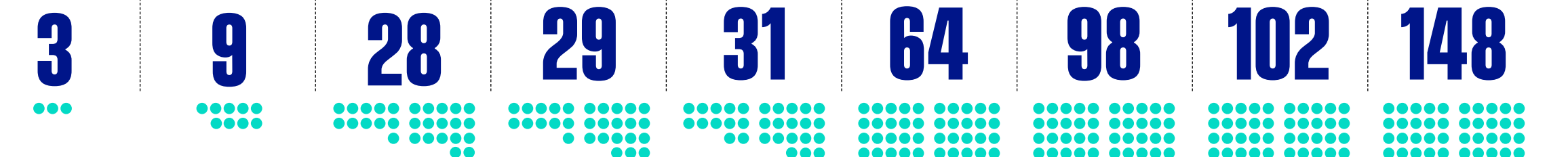


CUTN started in 2009 with a Master's programme offered in English Studies with eight students. Today, the university boasts of 74 programmes and 2,308 students, recording stupendous growth in a span of 10 years

CUTN has been witnessing a tremendous increase in the number of applications in recent years. In 2019, it posted a **33 percent** increase in applications.



**FACULTY GROWTH** CUMULATIVE



**RIGOROUS RECRUITMENT**

CUTN was started in 2009 with a single postgraduate course and contractual faculty members. CUTN made its first regular faculty appointment in 2011 with three of them joining the fledgling university. Today, the university has 148 faculty members. In the year 2013, 19 regular faculty members were appointed, taking the total number of regular faculty members to 28. In 2016, 33 regular faculty members were appointed through a transparent recruitment drive, taking the total to 64. It was the second largest recruitment then, after 18 regulars were appointed in 2013. It also catalysed the creation of new departments and introduction of new programmes to draw the best of minds from across the country to the university. As of the academic year 2017, 98 regular faculty members were in 22 departments. Perhaps, the largest recruitment drive was conducted during this year, appointing as many as 34 new faculty members. By January 2020, CUTN targets filling of over 80 percent regular teaching posts.

**06 NEW DEPARTMENTS LAUNCHED IN 2019**



# Nostalgia

CUTN • 2009-19

REWIND • REPLAY • REMEMBER

## A grand beginning!

CUTN was inaugurated on September 30, 2009, by the then Union Minister Kapil Sibal who laid the foundation stone (right). Prof. B.P.Sanjay, Former Director of IIMC and former Professor in the Department of Mass Communication, University of Hyderabad, was appointed as the first Vice-Chancellor of this university. (Below) Minister Sibal launching the official website of the varsity.



2009-11

**THE FIRST BATCH OF 8!**  
 CUTN started in 2009 with a Master's programme offered in English Studies with eight students. Today, the university boasts of 73 programmes and 2,132 students, recording stupendous growth in a span of 10 years.



## Development of Nagakudi campus!

When CUTN set its foot on the Nagakudi campus, it was a long stretch of barren land. Roads were laid and the construction of residential blocks started. Two blocks of quarters for the Assistant Professors and eight blocks for the Associate Professors were completed on May 14, 2013, and 30 individual houses for Professors were completed on May 24, 2013.

- 1 2 3 Nagakudi campus
- 4 Associate Professors quarters
- 5 Assistant Professors quarters



# Nostalgia

CUTN • 2009-19

REWIND • REPLAY • REMEMBER



**Assuming office in 2015**

(Above) Prof. A. P. Dash assumes the office of the Vice-Chancellor at CUTN on August 6, 2015.  
 (Below) CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash greets former Chancellor Dr. V. Krishnamurthy.



**AGM OF INSTITUTE OF LIFE SCIENCES**

Prof. A. P. Dash at the Annual General Meeting of the Institute of Life Sciences (Department of Biotechnology, Govt of India)

Attending AGM meeting of the Institute of Life Sciences (Dept. of Biotechnology, Govt of India); Chaired by Dr Harsh Vardhan, Minister Science, Technology, Earth Sciences, Health & FW. Seating (L to R): Sri Ashak Panda, Minister Science & Technology, Odisha; Dr Harsh Vardhan; (Standing (L to R): Dr Shekhar Mande, DG, CS IR; Dr A.K. Parida, Director, ILS (3rd from left); A.P. Dash; Dr Pattanayak, VC, Utkal University



CUTN • 2009-19  
**MOMENTS**  
 REWIND • REPLAY • REMEMBER



2018  
**RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN**  
 CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash at the Rashtrapati Bhavan attending the Vice-Chancellors Meet on January 6, 2018.



**When the VCs met!**

CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash meets former Vice-Chancellor of CUTN Prof. B.P. Sanjay. Both the Vice-Chancellors have major contributions for the fast-paced development of this Central varsity in the first decade of its existence.



(Left and right) CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash apprising the President of India about the development of CUTN during the exchange of MoUs between the industry and academic institutions during the Visitor's Conference on November 4, 2015.

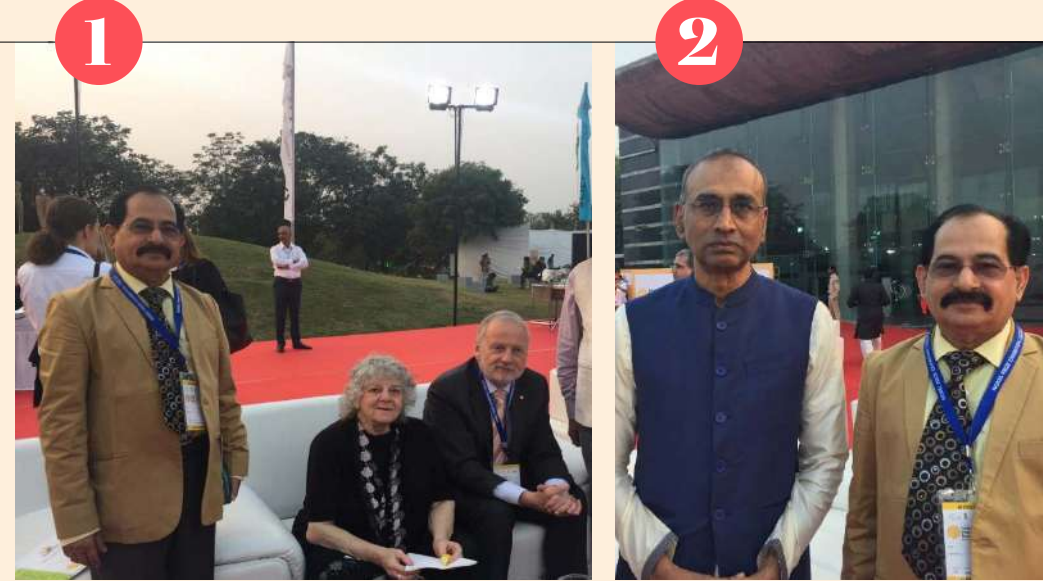
(Below) Acting Vice-Chancellor Prof. T. Sengadir is greeted by Pranab Mukherjee, former President of India, at the two-day Annual Conference of Vice-Chancellors of Central Universities with the Visitor during February 4-5, 2015.



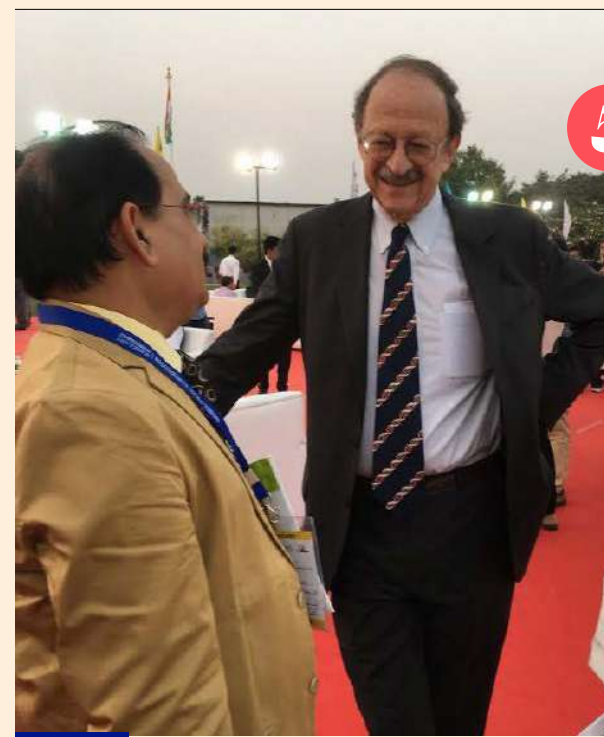
CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash greets Pranab Mukherjee, former President of India, in 2016

CUTN • 2009-19  
**MOMENTS**  
 REWIND • REPLAY • REMEMBER

CUTN • 2009-19  
**MOMENTS**  
 REWIND • REPLAY • REMEMBER



(From top left clockwise) **1.** Prof. A. P. Dash with Dr. Ada Yonath, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry (2009) and Dr. Hartmut Michel, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry (1988); **2.** With Dr. Venkataraman Ramakrishnan, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry (2009); **3.** With Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Minister of Science and Technology (2017); **4.** With the Regional Director, WHO, Indian Ambassador to Maldives and Health Minister, Maldives on March 5, 2016, at Male; **5.** With Dr Harold Varmus Nobel Laureate in Physiology & Medicine (1989).



**A Nobel encounter!**

CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. A. P. Dash met a host of Nobel Laureates, including Dr. Harold Varmus, an American Nobel Prize-winning scientist in the field of Physiology or Medicine, Dr. Ada Yonath, who in 2009 had received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, Dr. Hartmut Michael, a German biochemist, who received the 1988 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, and Dr. Venkataraman Krishnan, an Indian-American-British who in 2009 shared the Nobel Prize in Chemistry. It was at the Nobel Prize Series, India 2017 event held on Jan 9 and 10 in Science City, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, organised by the Dept. of Biotechnology, Govt. of India, and inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Mr. Narendra Modi.



2015

**RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN**  
 CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash at the Rashtrapati Bhavan attending the Visitor's Annual Conference on November 4-6, 2015.



CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash greets Pranab Mukherjee, former President of India, in 2017



CUTN • 2009-19  
**MOMENTS**  
 REWIND • REPLAY • REMEMBER







**SOCIAL WORK.** CUTN student rescues woman who was thought to be suffering from mental illness and had been at a psychiatric Home

# Reunited with her family

By Francis P. Barclay

Lost for over a year in Tamil Nadu, a 23-year-old woman from Uttar Pradesh was reunited with her family by a student from the Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur. Banothu Babu, second-year student pursuing an MA in Social Work, in August 2019, rescued the woman from Thiruthuraiipoondi near Thiruvavur and handed her over to her parents in Varanasi. As part of his Concurrent Field Work, he was placed in Nambikkai Psychiatric Residential Home (NPRH) in Thiruthuraiipoondi which comes within the Thiruvavur district jurisdiction. During his visit to the organisation, he spotted the woman. She was thought to be suffering from mental illness and had been at the Home for the past one year. Due to the language barrier, she couldn't share her family details with others.

During her interaction with her, Banothu found out that she was rescued from a bus stand near Mannargudi by the police and sent to this Home.

Banothu learned that she was not suffering from any kind of mental illness and it was just the language barrier. He collected information about her residential address in Varanasi and with the help of the Superintendent of Police, Varanasi, he verified it. She belonged to Kachchiya village in Pindara Post of Varanasi district in Uttar Pradesh.

Following this, Banothu spoke to the Director of the Home, who advised to take the legal route to reunite her with her family. Banothu then met the district Collector T Anand on 29 July 2019. Banothu visited the SP's office with the verified proofs of her residence and parents on July 30, 2019.

Banothu sought an escort to take her to her parents but since she was a minor, she was denied. So, Banothu brought her father here on August 7, 2019, and secured necessary permissions to take her home. Along with her father, Banothu took her to her home in Varanasi on August 14, 2019, performing all legal obligations, including registering her arrival at Varanasi in the Varanasi police station. Banothu also took care of the travel expenditures and gave her some money to meet her immediate expenses.

"Her parents being economically weak used to travel to other cities for work. She was also taken to Surat in Gujarat for work. As she didn't like the work she wanted to return to Varanasi. She got into the wrong train and landed in Thiruthuraiipoondi," Banothu said. ■



# A path to peace

**FROM THE VALLEY.** While several efforts are under way to promote peace and harmony, CUTN presents an interesting way through education

By Malini S.

When Sheik Aasif Majeed and Irfan Ahmed Lone landed in Thiruvavur from Kashmir for the very first time, it was as if they were in a new-unknown world. Different language... different people... different climate... different culture... they were all different! But today, their thoughts have changed and they hope to continue their higher studies, as well, in this Central university.

Aasif will be advancing to the third year of his five-year integrated MSc programme in Mathematics, while Irfan will be moving to the third year of his programme in Physics. CUTN shelters students from the far corners of the country, offering the ideal mix for education, integration and cultural exchange.

While several efforts are under way to promote peace and harmony, the Central University of Tamil Nadu in Thiruvavur presents an interesting way through education. Students have been moving out of their states such as Jammu and Kashmir for educational reasons. But coming to a South Indian state like Tamil Nadu has a different and positive effect on these students. Tamil Nadu is a state where its people welcome people from all races and regions and treat them with due respect.

Since CUCET is conducted nationwide, people can attend the entrance examination without the need to come to Tamil Nadu. CUTN attracts students from all states of India. Experiencing the friendly attitude of the people and fellow students here, the Kashmiri students have only good feelings and messages that they can



## Talking Point

CUTN attracts students from all states of India. Experiencing the friendly attitude of the people and fellow students here, the Kashmiri students have only good feelings and messages that they can take back home

take back home. "Under all these skin-deep differences, there are similarities between us. We, students, eat from the same platter just as we used to do back home in Kashmir. We get home-made snacks from local students and share them with joy," Aasif avered, adding that, "we are happy here." "We will surely recommend studying in a state like Tamil Nadu," says Irfan, expressing interest to learn the local cultures. ■



# A helping hand

**RECKONING REALITY! CUTN in Moolakarai: A first-hand experience of the plight of Gaja-victims**

By Francis P. Barclay

It was a tearful experience for the group of Central University of Tamil Nadu members who visited Moolakarai village near Vedaranyam on December 5, 2018, to distribute relief material to the Gaja-victims. CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash, Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvaneshwari, and Dean (Academics) Prof. T. Sengadhir were among faculty members, students and staffers from several university departments, who visited the village to have a first-hand understanding of the plight and immediate needs of the villagers.

CUTN launched an Social Responsibility Cell 'Kelir' on the day to oversee the relief-efforts and the Department of Social Work joined hands to procure and transport the relief material. Villagers emerging from the dark of dilapidated houses without roof and electricity, to narrate their harrowing experiences and meager existence after the cyclone devastated their village a fortnight ago, sent across a distressing chill among the relief volunteers.

Even the two-hour journey to the village was daunting

with fallen trees, twisted electric poles and disrupted roads. As desperate crowds jostled for the relief materials, a majority of them being weak women carrying toddlers and among aged men and women, the relief workers understood that their needs were bare, basic and urgent.

Of the relief materials distributed to them, there were mats, bed-sheets, sarees, inner-clothing for men and women, lungis, detergents, sanitary napkins, grocery items, including dal, packaged food and water. CUTN collected relief material from philanthropists, including Mrs. Jayalakshmi, Chennai, and Mrs. Seethalakshmi from Sumaitangi Trust (Annai Illam) and the Unorganised Workers Federation, Chennai. Prof. Shanmugha Velayutham (Retd) from the Loyola College, Chennai, also supported the relief measures.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash said, "With a commitment to the development of the surrounding areas and social responsibility as an institution of higher education, CUTN has been engaged in wide and varied extension activities for the welfare and development of

the villages in the delta region. After Gaja struck Thiruvarur, various teams of CUTN have been engaged in visit to affected regions to ascertain the losses and identify needs and channelise relief efforts. CUTN has ensured personal distribution of relief material to reach the needy. Wednesday's visit to Moolakarai was yet another experience which made us understand the plight of people and their immediate needs. It was a heart touching experience for me as people were affectionate towards us. It was also good to see the smiles and satisfaction on their faces."

The villagers were also distributed tarpaulins to cover their roof. Social Work Department Head Dr. P. Sigamani and Extension Cell members Prof. V. Madhurima and Dr. N. Sivakami, along with other Social Work department faculty members oversaw the relief distribution, which itself was harrowing as villagers thronged in huge numbers with extended hands to secure the relief material.

Prof. Madhurima noted that: "Ever since the inception of CUTN in the picturesque rural setting of Thiruvarur, its fraterni-

ty have felt the strong urge and need to integrate the university with the needs of the people living around it. This has variously translated into special lectures for schools and colleges, conduct of educational camps, distribution of books and footwear, among other things, to underprivileged students and teaching basic literacy skills to children of construction workers, all on a voluntary basis. This spirit of CUTNites has been formalized now in the form of Kelir - the CUTN Social Responsibility Cell and the relief work at Moolakarai is the first effort of Kelir."

It took over three hours and extended till 9pm to evenly distribute the relief material to over 300 cyclone-victim families. Faculty members and students, individually, interacted with the villagers, who thanked the CUTN members for their efforts, and sought several such visits to fulfil their immediate needs. In several sections, snapped electricity lines were being repaired and power was yet to be restored even 18 days after the fateful night of November 15-16.

Students from the Department of Psychology visit the cyclone-affected areas for counselling and to help the victims recover from their losses and shock.

**All-out efforts**

Being a victim of the Gaja cyclone and suffering exhaustive

**Kelir launched!**

CUTN launched an Social Responsibility Cell 'Kelir' on December 5, 2018, to oversee the relief-efforts and the Department of Social Work joined hands to procure and transport the relief material to Gaja victims. Of the relief materials distributed to them, there were mats, bed-sheets, sarees, inner-clothing for men and women, lungis, detergents, sanitary napkins, grocery items, including dal, packaged food and water

damage, the Central University of Tamil Nadu in Thiruvarur has been making all-out efforts to help the cyclone victims of surrounding villages regain normalcy.

CUTN faculty members and staffers have donated their one day's salary towards the relief fund.

After Gaja struck Thiruvarur, causing extensive damage to electric poles, sub-power stations, property and trees, the Central university fraternity had been paying regular visits to nearby villages to ascertain the loss and channelise relief measures. Over 3,000 food packets were earlier distributed to the victims. These apart, several department faculty and students groups engaged in relief collection and distribution

in the last fortnight. Students collected funds amounting to Rs1.18 lakh and distributed 110 pairs of mats and bedsheets worth Rs22,000 to the Maraignana Nallur victims, 200 packs of rice and groceries worth Rs60,000 to the villages around Vedaranyam, rice bags and candles to the victims of Akkarai-kottam near Mannargudi and rice bags and mosquito coils to the victims in Keeranallor near Thiruthuraiipoondi.

Heavy rains and strong winds uprooted trees and damaged property in CUTN. Concerted efforts were taken to repair the damage and extend help to other affected areas.

NSS volunteers from the Central University of Tamil Nadu were engaged in collection of relief material for the victims. In the first phase, about Rs 30,000 was collected from the community in a span of one day.

On November 25, NSS volunteers visited Vangathangudi (near Mannargudi), a remote place which was worst-affected by the recent cyclone. With the help of local volunteers, the relief materials were distributed to 500 families in the village.

Further, exploring the needs of villagers, the team distributed mosquito nets, blankets, rice and biscuits to each of these families and baby food to those who had toddlers.

NSS volunteers prepared food on the site and distributed to affected people in the villages. ■



# Think positive

By Francis P. Barclay

Stating that a great deal of positivity is required to achieve growth, Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash asked, "In such a great nation and an emerging superpower, why are we so embarrassed to recognise our strengths and achievements?"

Prof. Dash was addressing the 73rd Independence Day celebrations that started at 9am in CUTN-Thiruvavur with the customary hoisting of the National Flag. Students, faculty members and staffers participated in the colourful celebrations. "Yes, all of us have personal agendas of progress in our careers and studies but let us do it without forgetting our responsibilities towards the nation. The world today is looking at this nation. The uniqueness of India's great story is that this nation is achieving respect of the world taking a democratic path. This is always a more difficult and painful way of achieving growth but it is definitely a more sustainable way where we do not silence the voices of concern while planning our growth agenda," Prof. Dash said.

## Be sincere!

"Performing job with sincerity and commitment is also a contribution to the nation. Together, we can conserve our forests and natural heritage. We can safeguard our monuments for future generations."

- Prof. A. P. Dash, Vice-Chancellor, CUTN

To march forward in this competitive world, a nation needs the power of science and technology to be counted among the best, the Vice-Chancellor said, adding that universities such as CUTN can contribute to the growth story.

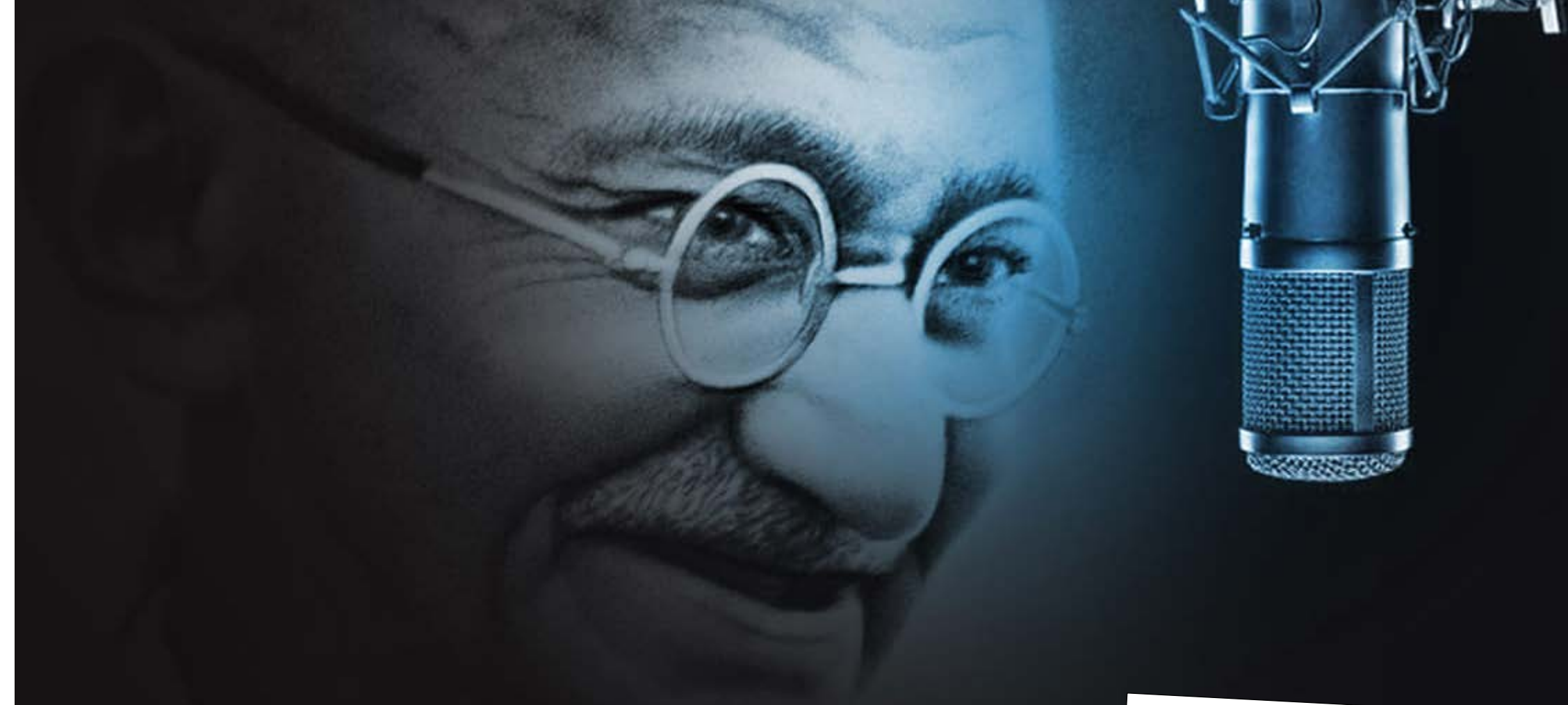
"Performing job with sincerity and commitment is also a contribution to the nation. Together, we can conserve our forests and natural heritage. We can safeguard our monuments for future generations. We can renew our rural and urban habitats. Together, we can eliminate poverty, illiteracy and inequality. We can and we must do this together. The government has a leading role but not the sole role. Let us use the government's programmes and projects to further our own

efforts. Let us make that sense of ownership our motivation," Prof. Dash offered inspiration to the young crowd.

"It is after a hard-earned endeavour that we are breathing here freely as the independent, respectable and law-abiding citizens of India. History is a good lesson. It indeed reminds us of our true value, prestige and power. The worth and value of independence can only be gauged when you are in shackles. We have got thousands of instances around the world. From one end of the world to the other, the world is still replete with slavery and injustice of every kind. We stand here to salute those leaders of us who gifted us this free land. India, as a state, stands with pride in the comity of nations. Thanks to the dictum of unity, discipline and faith we are here, standing gracefully after all," the Vice-Chancellor said.

CUTN Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvaneswari, Controller of Examinations Dr. A. Ragupathy, Deans of Schools, Finance Officer CMA V. Palani, among others, participated in the I-Day celebrations that was conducted with much fanfare, along with the faculty, staff members and students. ■





# The journalist in Mahatma

By Francis P. Barclay

Among other acclaimed avatars, Gandhiji was a journalist! Mahatma Gandhi edited four acclaimed journals: The Indian Opinion in South Africa; the Young India, Navajivan and the Harijan in India.

Journalism, for the Mahatma, meant just service. Gandhiji encouraged many to take up the profession of journalism in the service of the country and the people. Through his journals the Mahatma had not only propagated his views but laid down a unique standard in journalism.

Today, media may have taken fanciful forms and derived many meanings, but his views about journalism can't be more relevant and meaningful than they are today. For instance, take this: The true function of journalism is to educate the public mind, not to stock it with wanted and unwanted

impressions, the Mahatma said. It could hit the channel—that hypes and creates a flutter or two when a news is in “trend” before moving on to the next and forgetting it all-together—hard and be a source of reckoning. Or the casual newsreader that browses for the next juicy outbreak.

On the eve of the 150th Anniversary of the Mahatma, the Department of Media and Communication, CUTN, launches a series of podcasts titled ‘Gandhi Smaran’ to remember the Mahatma and learn about his life and contributions as a journalist, writer and freedom fighter. This series narrates the story of his ‘experiments with truth’, featuring meera bhajans at the end of each episode. Beyond helping the Media students in understanding the Mahatma and appreciate his contribution to mankind, this series will also help propagate a new form of journalism that serves. ■



# A life-long connection

**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.** CUTN recognises its alumni as important stakeholders in enhancing its excellent resources for high-quality education

By Rajendiran V.

Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) is taking strenuous efforts to create and maintain a life-long connection among the university fraternity and its enthusiastic community of alumni.

CUTN recognises the alumni as important stakeholders in enhancing CUTN's excellent resources for high-quality education. Also, it realises the enormous benefits that come from an engagement with and the support of its alumni who have considerable expertise in many areas that might help current students of CUTN.

Therefore, the university wants to have a body of dedicated and proactive voluntary members and to connect with alumni to promote the interest of the students and to provide for newer experience through diverse events, programmes and services.

Central University of Tamil Nadu Alumni Association (CUTNAA) started its pre-ground work initiated by faculty Dr. V. Rajendiran, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, as the coordinator. CUTNAA was inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of CUTN, Prof. A. P. Dash on March 1, 2016. CUTNAA conducted its first Annual Alumni meet on March 1, 2016. Following this, every year it conducts an annual alumni meet.

The mission of the association is to foster a strong bond between alumni, students, and the university, to keep the alumni informed and to build an alumni-powered global network and to mold the younger generation through value based education and make this world a better place to live. ■





# ONE FOR KERALA!

**SHOW OF SOLIDARITY.** From diverse regions and races, CUTN students come together to support flood-victims

By Sharon Shaji & Ashika Prasad

Whether we are from the far corners of the country, but we are all one here! Resounding this statement in yet another display of unanimity, the students of the Central University of Tamil Nadu came together to support the victims of flood-battered Kerala.

When the news of floods broke out in 2018 and the Keralites were in despair, CUTN showed some real brotherhood and re-invented the spirits of social engagement. Heavy rains and subsequent flooding had wreaked havoc in several parts of Kerala. Many were rendered homeless and had taken refuge in relief camps. Several people were marooned in their own houses without food, water, electricity and other basic supplies.

During this crisis, the CUTN students were seen going all out to support the victims, kickstarting a flood-relief cam-

## Odisha flood relief

Stress-busting is the latest buzzword and a routine challenge, thanks to the life-involving technologies—not to mention the smartphones that eats into a good part of our social lives—and the rapid pace with which the modern life moves. Stress is so alarming as it can lead to a string of further complications among victims who fail to manage their daily affairs and balance their lives. Understanding this, CUTN inaugurated the first-of-its-kind 'Centre for Happiness' on Dec 6, 2017.

On the show of solidarity, one of the students who led the relief campaign, said, "All of us contributed our shares to the relief from the small stock that we keep. We also managed

to collect a variety of basic necessities from the kind-hearted people of Thiruvavur, Nagore, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai and Thanjavur. We put in all our sincere efforts, took care in packing and sending them as well as making sure that they reached the destination. We managed to collect Rs1,54,749. A part of the amount was utilised to buy supplies to be sent. Rs1,27,829 was transferred to the Chief Minister's Distress Relief Fund. We pray that our small help will make a difference." Students and faculty members of CUTN, apart from administrative staff, collected relief material from the campus and sent it through the Army and government agencies. Three such consignments were sent to Kollam district of Kerala.

University students collected essentials such as medicine, sanitary napkins, bed-sheets, sanitisers, water cans, buckets and toiletries. In all, more than 160 boxes of useful things were transported to Kerala from CUTN. ■



**HEALTH CENTRE.** CUTN opens Health Centre to provide free treatment to the student fraternity and the immediate community outside the varsity

# Health care for students



Central University of Tamil Nadu in Thiruvavur, on June 13, 2018, inaugurated its Health Centre that will provide emergency treatment to students, faculty members and staffers of the university, besides the general public residing in and around Neelakudi and Nagakudi villages of Thiruvavur.

Equipment worth Rs25 lakh have been installed to provide treatment to people in case of emergency and for a health checkup. Equipment installed in the Health Centre include defibrillator, volumetric infusion pump, ECG and multipara monitors. These apart, the Health Centre of CUTN also houses a laboratory that can per-

form blood, liver and renal function tests.

Inaugurating the Health Centre, CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash called on the students and people residing near the university to make use of the free health services provided at the university.

CUTN Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvaneshwari also participated in the inaugural function of the Health Centre. CUTN's Health Centre has an ambulance, four trained doctors, three staffers and a nurse assistant to cater to all kinds of emergency situations round the clock. CUTN Finance Officer CMA V. Palani also participated in the event, along with a host of faculty members. ■



**FIRST OF ITS KIND.** CUTN has launched a Happiness Club for the university fraternity, with mission being busting work and study stress

# Tuning into happiness

By **Balaji S. Konar & Khadeeja Thasneem**

**M**usic can heal! Some may have been told, but for the students who participated in the inaugural programme of CUTN's Centre for Happiness on Tuesday (July 31, 2018), it was a first-hand experience.

As it could be anybody's guess, the Department of Music hosted the programme titled 'Appreciation of music', which was launched by Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash. Along with the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvanewari, Controller of Examinations Dr. A. Ragupathy and a host of Centre for Happiness, including Dr. S. Sigamani, members offered inspiring speeches on the novelty of this centre, its need, inception and activities. And, it turned out to be a colourful programme. It started at 3.30pm and went on for four hours.

Students and faculty members from several departments participated with a keen interest and passion for music. For the participants, it was a lesson on how music can heal every

## The Launch

Stress-busting is the latest buzzword and a routine challenge, thanks to the life-invading technologies—not to mention the smartphones that eats into a good part of our social lives—and the rapid pace with which the modern life moves. Stress is so alarming as it can lead to a string of further complications among victims who fail to manage their daily affairs and balance their lives. Understanding this, CUTN inaugurated the first-of-its-kind 'Centre for Happiness' on Dec 6, 2017.

problem in an individual's life, from depression to even cancer. It also reinstated the need to preserve the richness and heritage of Indian Classical music.

Students were offered materials on the topic and presentations, to aid the CUTN fraternity to use music to balance their life and reduce professional stress. "Music plays a part in everybody's life. Even I don't go to bed without a modest

dosage of music," the Vice-Chancellor explained the need for calm and importance of music.

Dr. S. Sigamani outlined the Centre's aim and the programmes lined up. To add fizz to the fine programme, Dr. S. Bhuvanewari recited her childhood ordeal with music and her masters, which amused the audience. Dr. Premalatha, Head of the Department of Music, offered a presentation on Classical music, explaining its artistic and aesthetic beauty in the first session and how it can be used tactically to cure depression and other such ailments, in the second one. She also shared some wisdom on Carnatic music, Hindustani music and instruments. These apart, the programme featured some soothing clips of musical videos, after which the participants were encouraged to sing some numbers. Faculty members from the Music Department also offered lessons on alapana and talas. What more? Couple music with meditation for the best of remedies and the participants were encouraged to make it a practice. Finally, the students were also given opportunities to narrate their experiences with music and the workshop. ■



**IN A FIRST!** Yet another milestone moment for the Central University of Tamil Nadu

# NCC marches into CUTN

By **Naveen V.**

**C**entral University of Tamil Nadu instituting NCC on its campus is a feat, and yet another feather in its celebrated cap! On December 3, 2018, CUTN launched Platoon No. 5 and 6 of 2(P) Independent COY under the NCC Karaikal jurisdiction on its campus. Commodore Vijesh K. Garg, VSM, Deputy Director General, NCC Directorate of Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Andaman Nicobar Islands, inaugurated the NCC unit with CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash, Col. K. Jayachandran, Group Commander of NCC Gp HQ Pondicherry, Col. C. S. Sharma, Commanding Officer of the 2(P) INDEP COY, NCC, Karaikal, CUTN Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvanewari, CUTN faculty members, students and staffers.

National Cadet Corps Central University of Tamil Nadu Unit of 2 (P) Independent Company was inaugurated on Dec 3, 2018, with a cadet strength of 100 students. The University officials informed that 34 cadets were recruited that year after a rigorous selection process and over a period of three years, the university will achieve its full cadet strength.

The Cadets will be given basic military training in small arms and parades. The officers and cadets have no liability for active military service once they complete their course but are given preference over normal candidates during selection based on the achievements in the corps, especially in military recruitments. NCC helps the cadets to improve the physical and mental fitness, team spirit and communication skills. Apart

## NSS: Service at its heart



CUTN's National Service Scheme (NSS) organises a plethora of events in which its volunteers participate and serve the immediate community. It organises blood-donation and eye-screening camps, several orientation and awareness programmes. It also engages in relief measures during calamities and organises special camps.

NSS volunteers from CUTN also pay regular visits to old age homes and serve the inmates. It also organises 15-day clean-up campaigns starting from August 1 every year.

from this, cadets are also trained to provide relief measures during the time of natural calamity. The university has already adopted five villages nearby and NCC Cadets will be rendering social services. ■



On 15 July, 2019, the NCC cadets of CUTN, visited the Karaikkal port and they witnessed a sea expedition, interiors of a warship and a fuel ship. The cadets interacted with Naval and coastguard officers.

# For the martyrs

By **Anusree T & Megha KP**

On July 26, 20 years ago, the Operation Vijay ended in India regaining control of its territory occupied by Pakistan. The 60-day Kargil war resulted in India's victory but not without bloodshed and the loss of lives. To mark that victory and remember the martyrs, Kargil Vijay Diwas is observed on July 26, every year. Central University of Tamil Nadu in Thiruvavur conducted special events to mark the ceremony this year (2019).

CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash flagged off a cycle rally that was taken out by the National Cadets Corps along with students from the different departments of the university. NCC Commanding Officer Col. Sudheep Roy from the Pondicherry (independent unit) and CUTN Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvanewari also participated in the rally.

As part of the programme, the NCC cadets from the varsity

conducted the cycle rally from the academic campus of CUTN to Thiruvavur town. Around 90 students participated in this event along with NSS volunteers.

"This programme captured the attention of both the university students and local people of Thiruvavur. We felt very proud to be a part of this event," averred NCC cadet Aswathi B., a student from the Department of Life Sciences, CUTN. Various songs and speeches were offered in the local language by the participants to Sensitise the Thiruvavur people on the importance of the Diwas during the rally.

Also, the film 'Ghaji' was screened at the Multipurpose Auditorium of the uni- versity to spread awareness on Kargil Vijay Diwas among the students of our university. More than 45 students par- ticipated in the screening. The Diwas programme was coordinat- ed by Dr. Lekha D. Bhat from the Depart- ment of Epidemiology and Public Health and Dr. J. Ashokkumar from the Depart- ment of Management. ■





**GOING GREEN.** CUTN generates organic manure from food and veg-waste for the farmers nearby

# Wealth out of food waste

**FOLIAGE FOR THE FUTURE!** Towards creating a green and clean campus, a campaign was launched to plant 10,800 saplings in one go

# CUTN goes green

By **Balaji S. & Anjali Ramesh**

Central University of Tamil Nadu set on a new mission to make the campus clean and green, by planting a whopping 10,800 saplings in one go! The mass planting campaign started on September 30, 2018.

Saplings, including Malai Vembu, Vembu, Puliam, Naagamaram, Naatu Thekku, Pungai, Vaadjaangai, Mayil Konnai and Vengai were planted and maintained in the Neelakudi campus. The initial process for the massive plantation was the baseline survey that the faculty members and the students conducted during the months of May and June 2018. The main objectives of the survey was collection of details regarding the basic living conditions like households, the land holdings of the villagers, the health and sanitary conditions, drinking water facilities, the discharge of wastewater, and the employment of people.

The massive plantation of saplings comes under Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme to ensure

## A massive drive



The plantation programme was implemented under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) scheme. The villages under this programme include Neelakkudi, Thyagarajapuram, Karunakaranallur, Chakkaramangalam and Adhamangalam which come under the Perumbagalore and Nagakkududi Panchayats in Kodancherry taluk.

that the people from the villages get employed on this basis. Hence, the main purpose of planting these saplings are not only to make the campus green but also to provide job opportunities to the village dwellers.

From the initial decision of planting around 300 saplings, after considering the opinions of the people involved, the coordinators decided to increase the number of saplings and ended up in a decision to plant 10,800 saplings. The University was granted Rs22 lakh for the plantation process. The factors to be considered are the availability of water and the maintenance of these saplings. Workers were expected to water the plants for 90 days in a year. In the initial stage 55 houses from Neelakkudi and Thyagarajapuram are involved.

The plantation continued for 100 days in the University. Through effective implementation of this initiative, the living conditions of the villagers can be improved and at the same time all the CUTNs will get a more green campus. As an extension to this programme, the University is also planning to plant more saplings from Kandalanchery to Vadakandam. ■



By **Sivakami N.**

At a time when the world is moving towards organic farming and produce, understanding the adverse effects of the use of chemicals in agriculture, the Central University of Tamil Nadu is taking efforts to help farmers nearby go green. CUTN organised a sensitisation programme on the production and use of organic manure, at the Srivanchiyam village on May 9, 2018. As part of the programme, 50 bags of organic manure produced from food waste generated in the university canteen was distributed to the farmers from the village by CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash and Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvaneshwari.

As part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan nationwide campaign, the CUTN team, with the help of the Marutham self-help group that runs a canteen in the

university, produced 100 bags of vermicompost. Dr. N. Sivakami spearheaded the project and produced organic manure from food waste. "It took two months, semi-decomposed cow dung and earthworms to produce organic manure with the help of the self-help group that is running the canteen in the university," said Dr. N. Sivakami. Producing such organic manure and distributing it to the farmers in nearby villages will be regularised and to encourage farmers to produce organic manure from the food and vegetable waste that they generate, the CUTN will offer expertise and help.

The programme was also used to sensitise the farmers about the use of organic manure and reduce the reliance on chemical fertilisers.

Following this success, efforts are on to produce organic manure from the vegetable and food waste generated in the university canteens and mess. ■





# TRANSFORMING LIVES

**TRANS ART SHOW!** Dept of Media and Communication organises exhibition of artworks by transgender-artists

By Anish Kumar Sahoo & Anju MU

For Kalki Subramaniam, art is not just a dignified-livelihood opportunity for transgenders but also a medium for them to vent out their untold emotions.

And, that's exactly why she encourages the members of her ilk to indulge in art and they do.

Kalki and her group of transexual-artists exhibited over 40 of their artworks at 'The Trans Art Show' organised by the Department of Media and Communication in association with the Committee Against Sexual Harassment - Gender Sensitisation and Counselling Unit (CASH-GSCU) of CUTN from July 28, 2017.

Perhaps, it was the first time an educational institution organised an exhibition of art works created by transgender-artists, challenging the stereotypes of viewing them as just sex-workers and those clapping on the streets seeking alms.

Kalki, with her Sahodari Foundation, is inventing measures to make her community people lead dignified lives. CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash launched the two-day event.

Speaking at the event, transgender activist-artist-actor-writer and founder of Sahodari Foundation Kalki outlined the hardships and discrimination faced by transgenders in the society. "We are witnessing a change. And, this art show is another proof that display the colours of change," she said.

"I don't look at art as a profession. It is our medium to express our fears, anguish, desire and struggles. Our artworks will live on forever to tell our stories," Kalki added. Kalki, on the stage, put forth a three-point demand of free education for transgender students, job opportunities in the university and a permanent art gallery for artists, all of which the Vice-Chancellor readily accepted.

The two-day programme attracted many intellectuals and enthusiasts from various fields and was appreciated by ev-

erone. Kalki reiterated the power of the universal language that every piece of artwork speaks. "An artist may die, but his or her art doesn't. The emotions and thoughts of the transgender-artists will live reverberate through their artworks that are put on display here," she averred.

Prof. A. P. Dash stressed on the importance of reforming the perception of the society towards transgender community, while delivering the inaugural address. "The reason for the plight of the transgender community is certainly not them, but the authoritarian societal norms."

The Vice-Chancellor further added that a nation grows only when all sections of the society grows, which makes equality and equity the basic factor of growth.

Prof T. Sengadir also appreciated the courage, efforts and the paintings of the transgender-artists. "What make the paintings in this exhibition different are the emotions associated with them," said Prof S. Nagarajan, Dean (Students



I don't look at art as a profession. It is our medium to express our fears, anguish, desire and struggles. Our artworks will live on forever to tell our stories."  
**Kalki Subramaniam**  
Transgender activist, artist, actor, writer and the founder of Sahodari Foundation



The reason for the plight of the transgender community is certainly not them, but the authoritarian societal norms. A nation grows only when all sections of the society grows, which makes equality and equity the basic factor of growth."  
**Prof. A. P. Dash**  
Vice-Chancellor, CUTN



**An outpour of emotions!**  
What make the paintings in this exhibition different are the emotions associated with them.  
- Prof S. Nagarajan  
Dean (Students Welfare)



As a community of students and academicians, our roles and responsibilities extend much beyond the four walls of the classroom. Education is also about learning social responsibility. I assure you, we as part of CUTN, are with you in your mission"  
**Dr. Francis P. Barclay**  
Asst. Prof., Department of Media and Communication

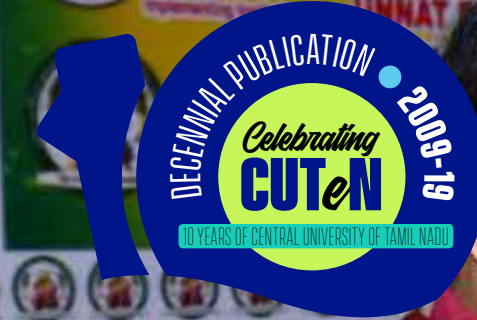
**Anti-Discrimination Officer**  
CUTN has appointed an Anti-Discrimination Officer, mandated to look into and address complaints and issues related to any form of discrimination on the basis of gender, caste, creed, religion and region. Accordingly, this office has been open to receive representations from all CUTN stakeholders. So far, there had been three written complaints from the CUTN fraternity and they were immediately resolved amicably to the satisfaction of all the parties concerned.

Welfare). "I hope this exhibition will be yet another chapter in the struggle of transgenders for dignity and equality," said Dr. Francis P. Barclay, Head (In-charge) of the Department of Media and Communication, CUTN.

"This is the first time an educational institution is taking such a bold initiative," Dr. Barclay said, adding that, "Do

you know that the transgender and intersex people are the most-neglected and stigmatised in our society? They are completely marginalised. Most of them end up begging on the streets or become sex workers. Just a small section of them lives a dignified life, thanks to education, awareness and family acceptance. Kalki is one among those privileged

ones who works for the upliftment of the not-so-privileged."  
"As a community of students and academicians, our roles and responsibilities extend much beyond the four walls of the classroom. Education is also about learning social responsibility. I assure you, we as part of CUTN, are with you in your mission," Dr. Barclay added. ■



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.** CUTN launches special training programme for rural women to produce coir products

# Livelihoods for women

By Francis P. Barclay

Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur, launched a 180-day training programme on January 24, 2018, for women from six villages adopted by the university for community development. Speaking at the launch of the function which is an initiative under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash noted that the training programme was aimed at enriching the local rural populace through knowledge transfer and bringing about transformational change in the rural development process. "Our UBA initiatives aim to create a vibrant relationship between the university and the immediate society. We provide knowledge and tech-support to improve livelihoods in rural areas and to upgrade the capabilities of both the public and private organisations in the society. Central University of Tamil Nadu has adopted six villages around the campus namely Neelakudi, Nagakudi, Adamangalam, Chakaramangalam, Thiagarajapuram and Karunagarannallur."

"Our faculty members and students who can understand rural realities, will spread their knowledge base to devise processes for effective implementation of various government programmes. Coir is used in products such as floor mats, door-mats, brushes and mattresses. This industry is particularly important all over the world," the Vice-Chancellor added.

"Need of coir products in today's world is immense. Due to climate change, the world is looking for eco-friendly products. Rural areas have semi-skilled and unskilled labourers. Hence, the rural women have good scope to start coir based self-employment and small enterprises. Such programmes will ultimately result in the holistic development of the adopted villages and development of entrepreneurship skills," Prof. Dash detailed the opportunities available in this industry.

Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvanewari also called on the women participants of the training programme to utilise the lessons learned from the programme to "stand on their own feet". Dr. Bhuvanewari also exhorted the women to utilise the funds provided by the government and the training offered

by CUTN to start household employment opportunities.

Detailing the event, CUTN Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Nodal Officer Dr. P. S. Velmurugan said training will be provided to three batches of women within 60 days each.

Mr. Patrik, District Manager of NABARD, also spoke at the event. "We are planning to launch a firm with women chosen from this training programme and support will be rendered."

Mr. Ezhilarasan, Chief Manager of IOB, Mr. Murugadas, Revenue Officer, RDO, Mr. Boopalan, Development Officer, Coir Board, and Mrs. Sridevi, Grow Rich Foundation, also spoke at the event, encouraging and enlightening the women participants from the adopted villages.

Speaking at the event, Prof. R.Karpaga Kumaravel, Dean of the School of Education and Training, CUTN, noted that education without social service and a society without education are both useless. "Such a training programme will increase social-responsibility and self-confidence and lead to skill development and economic empowerment of rural women," Prof. Karpaga Kumaravel said. ■



### MoU with MSE!

On March 7, 2011, the Central University of Tamil Nadu signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Madras School of Economics to offer an integrated five-year programmes, and renewed the memorandum of understanding in 2016



### MoU with CICT!

Central University of Tamil Nadu signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Central Institute of Classical Tamil to offer MA in Classical Tamil from the academic year 2012-13



### MoU with NLSIU

CUTN signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Law School of India University, Bangalore, in November 2012, to conduct a paralegal programme through the Community College of CUTN



### MoU with SVPISTM

CUTN has signed an MoU with the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International School of Textiles Management in Coimbatore to offer a three-year B.Sc. programme and two-year MBA programmes with specialisations in Textile, Apparel and Retail Management.

terdisciplinary research collaborations," the Vice-Chancellor added. CUTN Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvanewari said, "Such an agreement will help sharing of our facilities, including laboratories." ■

# CUTN, IIFPT sign pact

Central University of Tamil Nadu and the Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology - Thanjavur signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Monday (December 10, 2018) for collaboration.

CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash, Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvanewari, Controller of Examinations Dr. A. Ragupathy, Finance Officer CMA V. Palani, Dean (Academics) Prof. T. Sengadir, Dean (Students Welfare) Prof. S. Nagarajan, along with other Deans and Heads of the Departments participated in the MoU signing ceremony from the Central University of Tamil Nadu.

IIFPT Director Dr. C. Anandharamakrishnan, along with the Heads of the Departments, participated in the ceremony to represent the institute.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-Chancellor pointed out that this was the third such pact that the Central University of Tamil Nadu signed with other educational institutions. "This agreement will pave way for introduction of new courses and research collaboration."

"In the current phase of scholarly research, we are encouraging interdisciplinary research. This MoU will help us expand our research scope and find ways for in-



**ROCK SHOW.** At the Sankalp Se Siddhi event, a Pondy-based rock band churned out some patriotic numbers

# High on H<sub>2</sub>O!

**SANKALP SE SIDDHI!** CUTN chosen to organise special events to mark 70 years of Independence and 75th year of the Quit India Movement

# Yeh India ka time hai

By **Amrutha P. & Abhirami Vinod**

It was an awe-inspiring evening at the Multipurpose Auditorium of the CUTN-Thiruvavur, on August 31, 2017.

Accepting the clarion call of the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, the university went on to organise a sun-down show of spectacular events under the banner 'Sankalp Se Siddhi: Yeh India ka time hai' to mark 70 years of India's Independence and the 75th year of the Quit India Movement. It started about 4pm with an invocation song by the students and a welcome address by Dr. S. Bhuvanewari, Registrar, CUTN.

Dr. Bhuvanewari expressed her delight over CUTN being among the select few institutions of higher education in the country chosen by the MHRD to organise the event. She also stressed on the need to derive inspiration from our great visionary leaders of the past and strive towards achieving sustainable development for all sections.

In the inaugural address that followed, Hon'ble CUTN

Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash observed that the "new India is young India" and that the equitable development of the country is possible only if the benefits of skill-based education reach the rural pockets. He also highlighted the significance of the government's initiatives in the domains of digital technology and public health and sanitation. Prof. Dash observed that CUTN, located in a rural hotspot, has a greater role to play in the empowerment of the region, a task which is commendably performed through various organs of the university, including the NSS and the Departments of Social Work and Media and Communication. Thereafter, an oath was administered by Dr. A. Ragupathy, Controller of Examinations, CUTN, where both the students and teachers pledged to work towards building a new India, free of poverty, casteism, communalism, terrorism, corruption and pollution.

This was followed by an hour-long brainstorming session 'New India Manthan' on the topic 'Empowering the rural populace for a new India by 2022'. During the session, student representatives from various academic schools and depart-

ments of CUTN actively participated in debating the myriad challenges rural India faces in this time and age as well as deliberated upon possible solutions to address the economic, social, administrative and technological hurdles in the path to holistic national development. The discussion was moderated by Prof. T. Sengadir, Dean (Academics) and Dr. V. Madhurima, Head of the Department of Physics.

New India Manthan was an outpouring of fresh ideas from spirited students. Even while pointing out plethora of challenges faced by rural populace, they offered substantial solutions to issues flustering rural development. This intensive discussion was lightened by a lively and interactive session hosted by RJs from AIR, Trichy, who regaled the audience with light-hearted games and music. Capping the day's programme was a rock concert in which musicians from Pondicherry performed live to an enthralled audience. Finally, Prof. S. Nagarajan, Dean (Students' Welfare), CUTN, delivered the vote of thanks, thereby bringing to an end an invigorating evening of a nation-wide celebration that signalled the reinvention of India. ■

By **Abhirami Vinod & Swetha S.**

After the crepuscular glimmers of the far western skyline came to a dim and the day closed for the good, the Multipurpose Auditorium of the CUTN, on August 31, 2017, opened doors to rather a razzle-dazzle eventide of light and music.

Churning out some fine patriotic numbers, of course with the hint and taint of their own, Puducherry-based music band H2O Live made it a gala evening for the 1,000-odd audience, jampacked in the hall.

Starry-eyed and high on tang, the multitude of CUTN staffers and students went with the beats as the four-member band put forth some 'patriotic rock'. As the colourful display of spotlights dance to their tunes, the band churned out over 15 songs, starting with Vande Mataram. It was part of the 'Yeh India ka time hai!' idea of the Union Ministry of HRD to use rock as a medium to instil patriotism. Then came the 'Maa Tujhe Salaam' borrowed from AR Rahman. Later, it went on to Jailhouse Rock (Elvis), Smoke on the Water (Deep

Purple), Twist and Shout (Beatles), Hotel California (Eagles), Cocaine (Eric Clapton), Knocking On Heaven's Door (Bob Dylan), Black Magic Woman (Santana), Take it Easy (Eagles), Roadhouse Blues (Doors), Purple Haze (Jimi Hendrix), Bad Moon Rising (CCR) and ended with Born to be Wild (Steppenwolf).

Among the four musicians, two were guitarists and the others keyboard and drums players. It was the first-time experience for the students of CUTN who gracefully tapped their toes to the rhythm of H2O.

Started in 2015, the band's motto is to bring together youngsters, and conveniently, it matched with the idea of the New India drive. Selection of songs was all based on the theme and value. Interestingly, the band members came clad in white, signifying the need for peace. "We are aiming big and this feat in CUTN will pave a way. We are planning to release an album within six months," said Francis, the founder of the band.

Dylan's 'Knocking on Heaven's Door' and AR Rahman's 'Maa Tujhe Salaam' received overall applause. ■



# SBA: A CLEAN SWEEP

**ACTION PLAN!** SBA will help us achieve sustainable development goals, says CUTN V-C, launching the Action Report

By Francis P. Barclay

Pointing out that Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is directly or indirectly related to at least six of the 17 sustainable development goals laid out by the United Nations Development Programme, Central University of Tamil Nadu Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash said that the mission will also help India achieve sustainable development goals.

Taking the example of South Korea, Prof. Dash said, "This country, only by improving sanitation, has eliminated lymphatic filariasis (LF) without any medical intervention. LF is a disease which affects the marginalised community in many countries, including India."

"Launched on October 2, 2014, the Swachh Bharat Mission is aimed at accelerating the efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage in India. SBA, which has set 2019 as a target to make India clean, is a fitting tribute to the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. It is also a Mahatma dream that is now being realised, especially in the rural landscape.

We hope, India's target of complete sanitation in the next few years will bring about a clean behavioural change among the Indian populace. Bringing the spotlight on cleanliness and hygiene will also aid in the Incredible India campaign. In view of this, the CUTN has been taking part in the SBA every year and this year's programme was a massive one. Every citizen of India should take it upon himself or herself to make this campaign a success rather than waiting and depending on the government to do," Prof. Dash said, at the release function of the 2018 SBA Action Report of CUTN on October 9, 2018.

Releasing the Action Report and the university newsletter Lapwing at CUTN, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) Vice-Chancellor Prof. K. Ramasamy commended the efforts of the SBA team of CUTN and called on the students to sustain their practices of cleanliness. "Moving beyond clearing waste and cleanliness, we need to focus on recycling waste. That will be more meaningful," Prof. Ramasamy told the gathering of students and faculty members who participated in the release function. Apart from the release of the action report

and newsletter, student teams performed dance, folk songs and skits to reinstate the need for cleanliness and creating a open-defecation free India.

Speaking at the release function, CUTN Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvanewari appreciated the efforts of the SBA team of CUTN and the student participants from all departments for the month-long campaign that culminated with the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. "For a clean India and sustainable development, both individual and societal efforts are needed." Controller of Examinations Dr. A. Raghupathy, Finance Officer CMA V. Palani, Dean (Students Welfare) Prof. S. Nagarajan and Dean (School of Communication) Prof. S. Ravi also expressed their views on Mission Clean India and congratulated the coordinator of SBA of CUTN, faculty members, staffs and students for making the SBA of the university a great success.

Both the support and the direct involvement of the Vice-Chancellor and statutory officers in the cleanliness campaigns were highlighted and appreciated at the function. CUTN SBA Nodal Officer Dr. N. Sivakami listed out the department-wise



**A MAHATMA DREAM!**  
 It is also a Mahatma dream that is now being realised, especially in the rural landscape. We hope, India's target of complete sanitation in the next few years will bring about a clean behavioural change among the Indian populace.

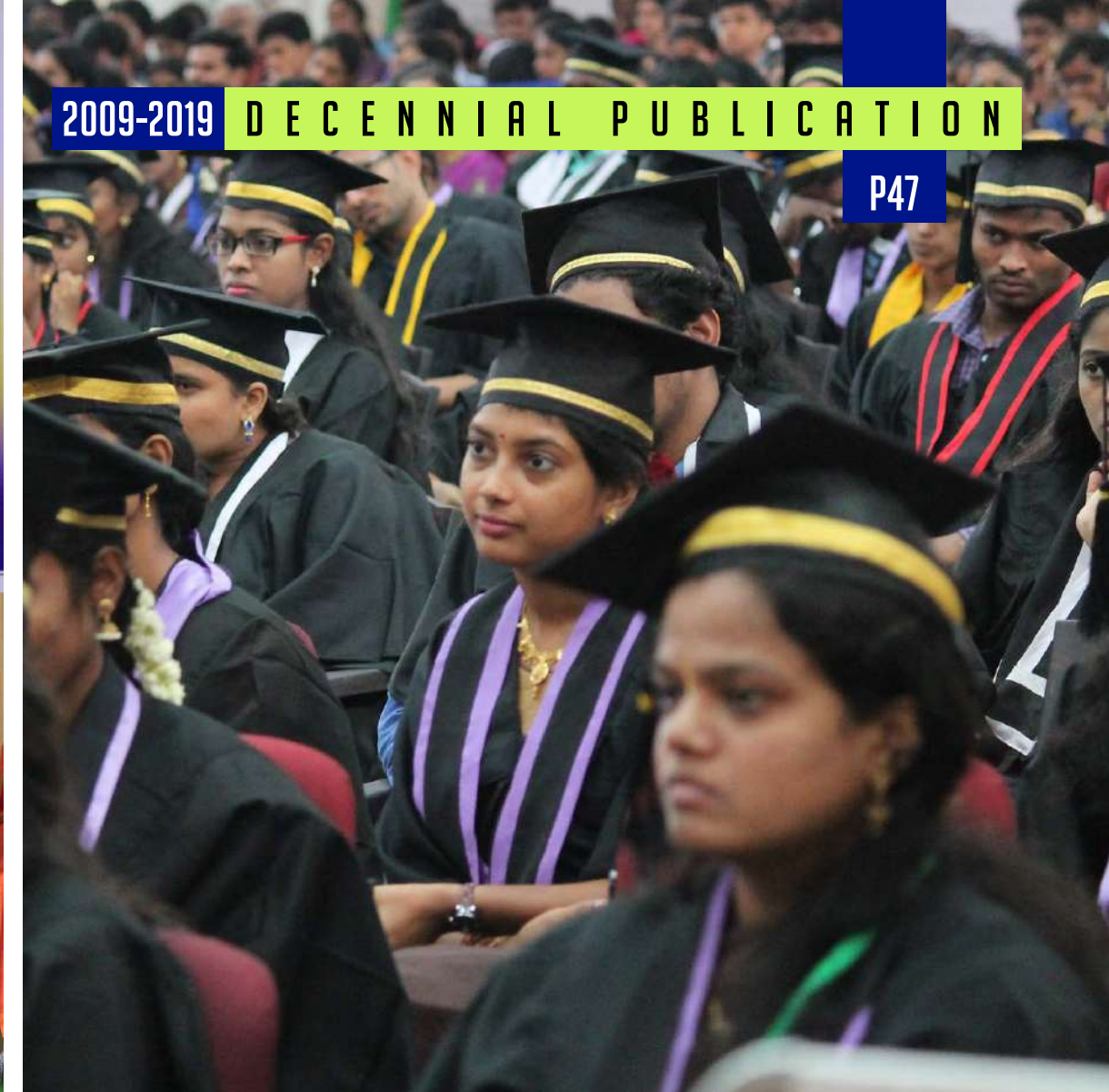
Prof. A. P. Dash CUTN Vice-Chancellor

activities undertaken during September 1 to October 2, 2018.

"From clean-up campaigns, folk songs and dances, skits, street plays, rallies, photography competitions, slogan contests and door-to-door campaigns to serious researches and simple selfies, the potpourri of Swachh Bharat activities that the CUTN fraternity indulged in this month was a remarkable experience. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has kindled the societal spirits of the youth and our students have applied diverse

strategies to promote cleanliness, well within the campus and in villages nearby. Public participation is crucial for the success of any programme. We did strive our best to achieve that for SBA! Through Swachhata Pakhwada and Swachhata-Hi-Seva, a student-teacher-public connect has been established to promote cleanliness as a value. We are sure that this value transformation will prevail and it is our collective responsibility to reassure it does," said Dr. Sivakami. ■

**Change is in!**  
 Be the change you want to see in the world, said Mahatma Gandhi. Reflecting this idea, the Swachh Bharat Springs that our university witnessed this September 2018 showcased student responsibility, commitment and joy through collective efforts in achieving value-orientated goals. From clean-up campaigns, folk songs and dances, skits, street plays, rallies, photography competitions, slogan contests and door-to-door campaigns to serious researches and simple selfies, the potpourri of Swachh Bharat activities that the CUTN fraternity indulged in this month was a remarkable experience. Under the able guidance of Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash and Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvanewari, each and every department of the university took up this programme to take the best of its meaning to the immediate society. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan kindled the societal spirits of the youth and our students applied diverse strategies to promote cleanliness, well within the campus and in villages nearby. Public participation is crucial for the success of any programme. We did strive our best to achieve that for SBA! Through Swachhata Pakhwada and Swachhata-Hi-Seva, a student-teacher-public connect has been established to promote cleanliness as a value. Since then, this value transformation has prevailed.



**FIFTH CONVOCATION.** Chief Guest Dr. Renu Swarup says CUTN can be a nodal institution for Tamil Nadu and spearhead development

# Spurring progress

By Francis P. Barclay

Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) - Thiruvavur conducted its Fifth Convocation at the Multipurpose Auditorium on its campus on September 27, 2019, 10am onwards. CUTN Chancellor Prof. G. Padmanaban presided over the event and conferred the degrees to 619 students, of which 367 were female students and 252 males. Apart from the degree recipients, medals and certificates were awarded to the rank holders. Congratulating the graduands and medal winners for successfully completing their education, lauding parents and guardians for their sacrifices and the faculty members for nurturing the graduands, CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash also expressed his sincere appreciation to the university faculty and staff for their contribution to make the university a place of excellence and fine achievements.

Prof. Dash pointed out that girl graduands numbering 367

outnumbered the boy graduands numbering 252, informing that the pass percentage of the students was around 95 percent and 32 graduands received medals.

Presenting a brief report about the performance of the university in the academic year 2018-19, the Vice-Chancellor noted that CUTN has blossomed as a premier university, renowned for its significant contributions in teaching, research and extension. "CUTN has played a noteworthy role in meeting the knowledge needs and research needs at the national and international levels. CUTN offers one undergraduate programme, six integrated programmes, 21 postgraduate programmes, 14 M.Phil. programmes, 21 Ph.D. programmes and one Postgraduate Diploma programme through the 26 departments of the university. Several other programmes are also offered through the Madras School of Economics and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International School of Textiles Management, with the MoUs signed with CUTN. CUTN has

also inked pacts with the Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFFPT) and Central Institute of Classical Tamil.

"It is encouraging that this nascent university received 82,570 applicants this year for the 474 seats that it offers. Of the students, 60 percent are female and 55 percent are from other states representing 23 states and Union Territories. CUTN represents a microcosm of this great country. The research publications of CUTN have achieved the h-index of 27, i-10 index of 684, total impact factor of 594, highest impact factor of 59.102 and average impact factor of 2.14. As many as 125 papers were published in UGC-listed journals and 15 papers were published in international journals along with four books in the last year. About Rs2.25 crore has been obtained as research grant for extramural funding."

Prof. Dash also informed that advanced lab facilities were established in the Department of Chemistry. Two students from the Department of Life Sciences have been selected to

Cultural values of our country form an integral part of our education system. While carrying forward the traditional values, the students need to integrate the newfound knowledge of science to induce progress."

**Dr. Renu Swarup**

Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India

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**Prof. A. P. Dash**

Vice-Chancellor, CUTN

receive the prestigious Italian Government Scholarships for pursuing their PhD in Life Sciences in Italy.

Speaking at the Fifth Convocation of CUTN on Friday, Chief Guest Dr. Renu Swarup, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, said that CUTN can be a nodal institution for Tamil Nadu and spearhead development for the Southern region, collaborating with the Department of Biotechnology. Lauding the Vice-Chancellor for the fast-paced development in the past

10 years, Dr. Swarup also offered ideas for the CUTN fraternity to take the latest developments in science and technology to the rural grassroots. Dr. Swarup appreciated the discipline practised in CUTN and also lauded the vision of CUTN to be a global destination for higher education which is ethically engaged and diverse, seeking transformation. "Education plays an important role in building a strong individual and creating a strong value system for the upliftment of the society. Education and science play a key role in transforming lives. Edu-

cation should shape the character and culture of the students and offer them an understanding about their roles in shaping the society. Cultural values of our country form an integral part of our education system. While carrying forward the traditional values, the students need to integrate the newfound knowledge of science to induce progress. Science, technology and innovation are the key drivers of socioeconomic development." Dr. Swarup also outlined the contributions and contributors from India to science and knowledge. "As India spirals for the fastest, sustainable and inclusive growth, linking of our recent advances and sharing of our innovative aptitude with the large demographic dividend of India will play an important role in fulfilling our national aspirations. India is proud of its demographic dividend and we need to find ways to get the best out of this. Recent innovations and advances have given us the confidence to become global leaders. We are poised to be among the top three nations in science and technology within the next decade. India has also become one of the preferred destinations for science and technology collaborations. Both the developed and developing nations are looking at India for research collaborations. We are no more just receivers of technology, but codevelopers."

CUTN Chancellor Prof. G. Padmanaban also offered an inspiring speech and congratulated the students. ■



**Success STORY**

# THE FLYING COLOURS OF CONVOCATIONS

**CEREMONY.** As CUTN organises fifth convocation on Sept 27 this year, its takes a look at the previous functions

## Fourth convocation: 381 get degree

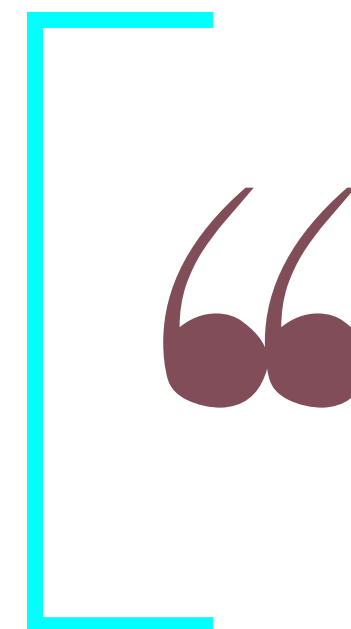
**M**oving beyond career growth and achievements, the students must think about valuable contributions to the betterment of our society, Dr. Justice Balbir Singh Chauhan, chairman of the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal and the Chairman of the 21st Law Commission of India, said at the Central University of Tamil Nadu, on Friday (September 28, 2018). Dr. Chauhan was addressing the Fourth Convocation of the university, in which 216 students received their degrees in person and 165 in absentia. Delivering the welcome address at the Convocation, Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash said, "The quality of education has to be the focus of our attention now. We cannot be world leaders in education, if only we discover the will and leadership to take us to that pinnacle." The event was also graced by Prof. G. Padmanaban, Chancellor of the University. Of the students who received their degrees, 151 were boys and 230, girls. These apart, the rank holders received university medals. ■

## Building knowledge along with skills

**P**ointing out that the world is changing in a fast pace and reiterating the need for fresh perspectives and attitudinal changes, Prof. D. C. Nath observed that a degree is no longer a passage to certain employment and that there is a need to add skills with indulgence in latest technologies to create career opportunities. Speaking at the Third Convocation of the Central University of Tamil Nadu in Thiruvavur on September 22, 2017, in which he participated as the Chief Guest and delivered the Convocation address, the Assam University Vice-Chancellor called on the students to dream big and act with determination and conviction. "You get it if you work without even thinking for that," said Prof. Nath, quoting from Bhagavad Gita. Prof. Nath also heaved praises on the university. As many as 281 candidates received their degrees and 15 rank-holders were honoured with medals and certificates at the Convocation that took place at the Multipurpose Auditorium on the CUTN campus in Thiruvavur. ■

## Second convocation: 554 get degree

**L**ook beyond personal gains and work for the greater cause of humanity, Prof. K.VijayRaghavan, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, told graduating students at the Second Convocation function of the Central University of Tamil Nadu. Padma Shri VijayRaghavan averred that, with enormous power in their hands, the youngsters of this generation are not only responsible for the safety of their own lives but also capable of reshaping the world. Speaking at the convocation function, in which as many as 554 students of the central university received their degrees, the Chief Guest observed that CUTN is reviving cultural integration through education in the era of popular-specialised education. Prof. VijayRaghavan delivered the convocation address along with Dr. R. Venkata Rao, Vice-Chancellor of the National Law School of India University, Bengaluru, who was invited as the Guest of Honour. The convocation started with Vice-Chancellor AP Dash's welcome address. ■



The world is changing at fast pace. Dream big and act with determination and conviction. You get it if you work without even thinking for that. Today, each of you have the opportunity to break from the status quo. Ask questions but do not be content with easy answers. Look out for opportunities and grab them. Train yourself to look at challenges as opportunities."

**Prof. D. C. Nath**  
 Vice-Chancellor, Assam University



Academic year 2016-17 has witnessed significant progress in teaching-learning, research and extension activities. Students' facilities are being augmented with infrastructural expansion. New hostels, laboratories, and upgraded facilities for healthcare were commissioned during the year. To encourage self-study by the students, a new and well-equipped building has been provided for the library."

**Prof. A. P. Dash**  
 Vice-Chancellor, CUTN



A new university confronts many challenges. With collaboration with reputed institutions, it can avert challenges. CUTN is executing it through collaboration with institutions like Madras School of Economics, National Law School of India University and so on."

**Prof. Padma Shri VijayRaghavan**  
 Secretary, Dept. of Biotechnology, Gol



Higher education is the key to making available a large pool of skilled manpower for our nation. Higher education not only decides a student's career prospects, but also shapes his or her personality, and acts as a stepping stone towards building a strong nation."

**Dr. Justice Balbir Singh Chauhan**  
 Chairman of the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal



**Success**  
**STORY**

**FESTS.** CUTN, exhibiting a cosmopolitan and cross-cultural outlook with students and faculty members from diverse religions, regions and races, celebrates all important festivals with equal fervour and frenzy

# Carnivals of culture

## A potpourri of Pongal celebrations

What cooks in January is Samatva (equanimity) Pongal: as CUTNians come together as a family to celebrate the festival of harvest, barriers like caste, culture, language and location evaporate like hot steam. It all starts with a procession of university students, faculty members and staffers, who rally for the farmers to highlight the challenges that they face. It isn't just a rally though but a colourful procession and an exhibition of tradition.

Saree-clad girls take the bullock-carts while the boys who come in dhotis dancing their way to the Multipurpose Auditorium where a whole lot of traditional events are awaiting them. To make the journey even more interesting, groups of artistes play folk music and perform traditional dances. At the venue of celebrations, earthen pots with decorations around are lined up for an interdepartmental contest. It is a

simple competition where the contestants vie with each other to cook the sweetest pongal. For some of them, it is an experiment as it is their first time. The decorated pots glitter in sunlight and participants go on clicking spree.

But as the pots boil and the aroma of jaggery tickle nostrils, they struggle to control cravings to taste the sweet dish. Traditional methods are used to cook pongal and all rejoice the moment the broth boils over. Shots are angelic and mythical shrouded in dense clouds of smoke.

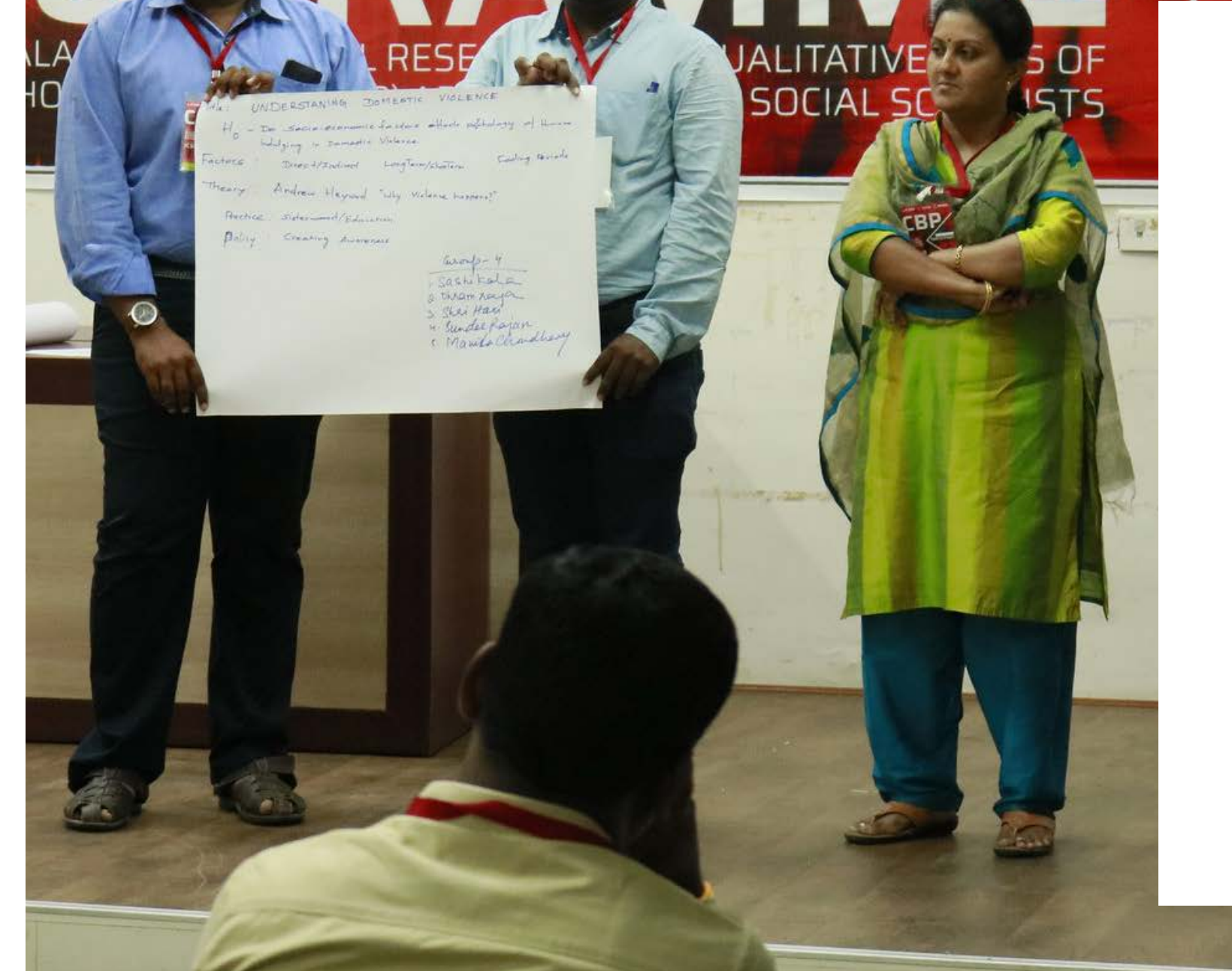
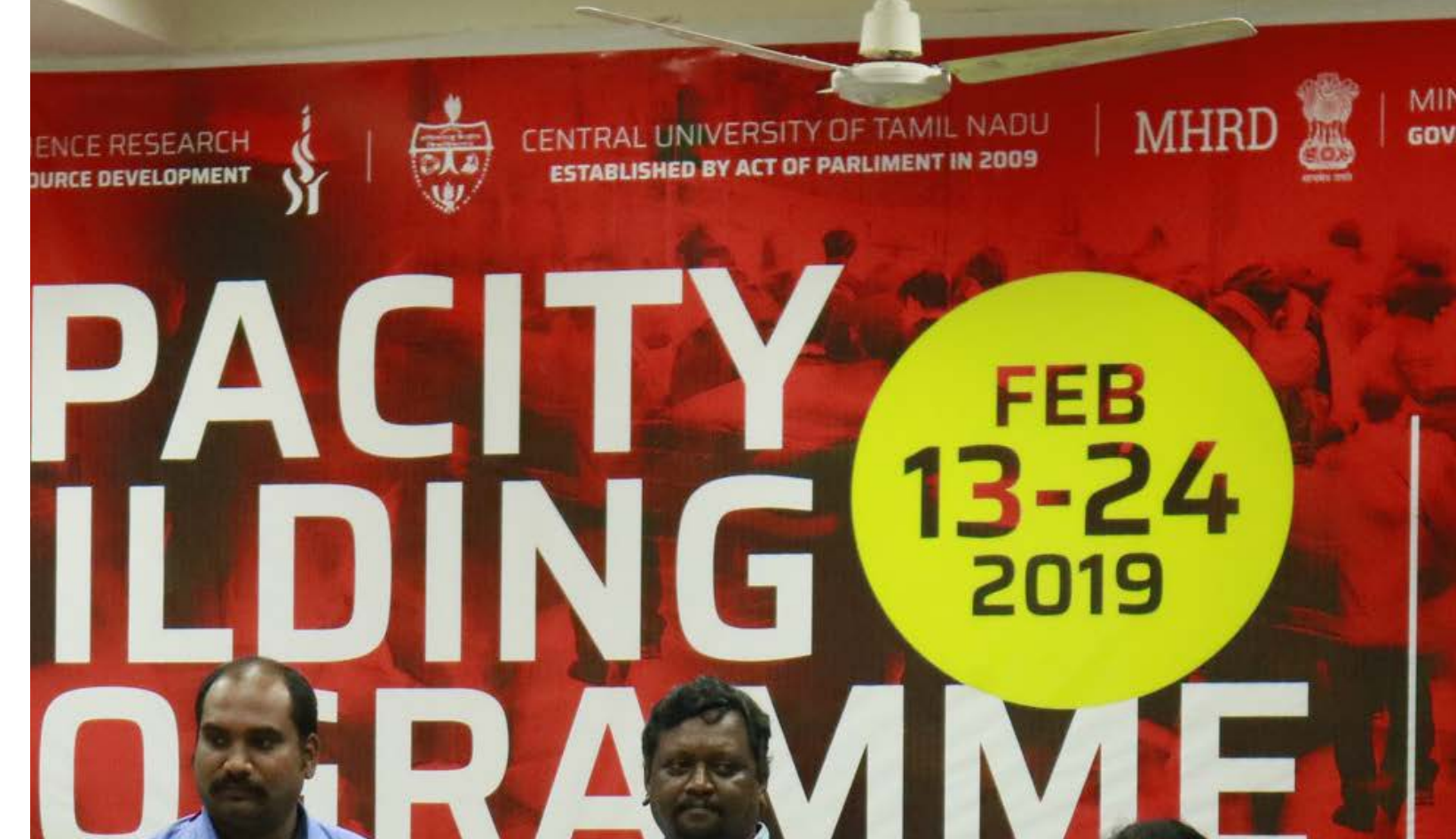
Ethnic costumes, their vivid colours and the colourful carpets of Rangoli make Pongal a kaleidoscopic event. Power-packed performance-s of Kavadiyattam, Karakattam, Poikkaal Kuthirai, Parayattam and folk songs energise the audience throughout the celebrations.

Several cultural events and games are part of the annual Pongal celebrations at CUTN.

## Oh, it's the Onam!

Onam is the most important festival for the Keralites that rekindles the ethnicity of Malayalees and CUTN is gearing for some new-kindled festivity. CUTN being the congregation of diverse people and cultures, here, each important festival is celebrated with fervour and joy. As it has been the case in the past, this year too, elaborate preparations were under way for Onam celebrations. In 2018, the festivities were organised by the students of the Department of Economics. Several programmes and sports competitions were launched.

On August 11, a competition titled 'vadamvali' was conducted, followed by 'Onasadhya' the next day, when a sumptuous spread of Onam delicious and meal was offered to the all of CUTN fraternity. Cultural programmes were scheduled for August 16, including Thiruvathira, a Kerala dance form, and 'Onapaatu', a song form. ■



**CAPACITY BUILDING.** With funds from external agencies, CUTN has managed to conduct several training programmes for faculty members from institutions across the country

# Training the mind for job

By Francis P. Barclay

Central University of Tamil Nadu has successfully conducted several research methodology workshops and capacity building programmes with external funding for faculty members, research scholars and students. CUTN's School of Commerce and Business Management conducted an ICSSR-sponsored 10-day Research Methodology Course for Research Scholars in Social Sciences during Dec. 2018.

School of Communication, Central University of Tamil Nadu, organised a 12-day Capacity Building Programme for social science faculty from across the country on the topic 'Balancing empirical research with qualitative ways of knowing: Mixed Methods Research (MMR) approaches for social scientists' from Feb. 13, 2019, at its Guest House auditorium. Funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), the programme drew participants from as far as Assam and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Going by the developing discourse surrounding social science research using mixed methodologies, it can be evenly accepted that combining qualitative and quantitative research methodologies can widen the breadth and depth of scientific understanding and add credence to scholarly inquiry. To bridge the qualitative-quantitative gap and offer an objective-methodical understructure for the unseasoned social scientist to build a research career upon, we bring together a collection of lectures from experts in mixed methods

research (MMR) in this Capacity Building Programme.

The Department of Social Work, Central University of Tamil Nadu organised a series of 'Awareness and Capacity Building Programmes on Drug abuse prevention' in the month of February and March 2018. These programmes are organised in collaboration with National Institute of Social Defence Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India and technical support is provided by District Child Protection Unit, Tiruvavur, Government of Tamil Nadu.

The resources persons with rich experience in the field of Drug abuse prevention were invited to train the participants with their expertise. These programmes are conducted in various Government schools and colleges in various districts of Tamil Nadu to create awareness about healthy youth behaviour and negative effects of drug abuse focusing on young Students, NSS Students, School teachers, Counsellors, Faculty members, Social work students in these programmes is of high importance as these efficient people are in direct touch with young population and they can play an important role in supporting the youth population who are vulnerable to Drug abuse and unhealthy life habits. Drug abuse puts many youngsters life at risk as it causes many psychological and physiological issues and it puts their future in great darkness.

Awareness programmes like these are the need of the hour which will benefit our country and youth population and country in a longer run. ■



**Success**  
**STORY**

**ANNUAL EVENT.** CUTN brings diplomats to lecture the students as part of public diplomacy initiative of External Affairs Ministry

# Days of the diplomats

By Francis P. Barclay

Tackling the immediate neighbours and maintaining cordial relationships with them are the most-challenging part of foreign diplomacy, said former diplomat VP Haran, while reasoning that a single and standalone mindless act can undo and undermine all the diplomatic efforts achieved over the decades.

Addressing a gathering of students, faculty members and media people at the Central University of Tamil Nadu-Thiruvavur on Jul 14, 2017, the retired Ambassador stressed that the democratic-stable and peace-loving nature of India distinguishes our country from a host of other hostile nations where diplomacy is more difficult. Mr. Haran was delivering a talk on 'Challenges in India's Neighbourhood Policies' as part of the Distinguished Lecture Series, an initiative of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, at the Central University of Tamil Nadu.

"The size of India is an important factor in the way our

neighbours view our country and its policies. We account for over 75 percent of the land area, population, economic activity and resources of South Asia. We need to be conscious of our neighbours' discomfort of having to deal with a big neighbour," said Mr. Haran, citing the importance of the country and the need of dextrous foreign policies. The ex-diplomat appreciated the stability of India's foreign policies despite our changing political trends.

Deliberating on India's relations with its neighbours, the retired diplomat outlined the contributions of India to its neighbouring economies, to foster development in their countries. This apart, the former ambassador, who had served India in several countries during dangerous situations, recounted his experiences as a diplomat, especially his stint in Syria.

#### Tactical foreign policies crucial

Stating that national interests should be the driving force behind formulation of foreign policy of a country, Mr PS Raghavan, former Ambassador of India and the present Conve-

nor of the National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) observed that, sometimes, a little compromise serves better than unwarranted confrontations. Delivering a lecture on 'India and the Great Powers: Challenges for India's Foreign Policy' at the Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur, organised as part of the public diplomacy initiative of the External Affairs Ministry, Government of India, on Feb 1, 2017, Mr. Raghavan extolled about the sundry challenges that India is facing in terms of diplomatic relationships with the global power centres such as the US, China and Russia.

"We [India] always try to ensure our interests while leveraging relations with great powers. Since the formation of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), we have been keeping the policy of securing our interests while taking our stand on various issues of international importance," asserted the former diplomat. On India's relationships with neighbouring countries, Mr Raghavan said that coordination between the Centre and state governments and accommodation of the latter's genuine concerns are important for a successful foreign policy. ■



**OFF-SHORE.** CUTN is emerging as an institutional hub for vector science down south: seven of the 16 species of mosquitoes identified are potential carriers of diseases

# Research in Lakshadweep

By Francis P. Barclay

In a first-of-its-kind research study, the Vector Biology Research Laboratory (VBRL) at the Department of Life Sciences, Central University of Tamil Nadu in Thiruvavur, undertook a comprehensive vector-surveillance project covering all the populated Lakshadweep Islands to record the available species of mosquitoes.

While this project has been funded by the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR), earlier, the World Health Organization identified the Central University of Tamil Nadu to host an international expert consultation on elimination of kala-azar, a disease affecting the poorest of the poor and that is targeted for elimination by 2020. On the project, Principal Investigator Dr. Jayalakshmi Krishnan said, "This is a systematic survey of biodiversity of mosquitoes in the ten populated islands of Lakshadweep that has been on from the last one-and-a-half years. So far, no such systematic mosquito biodiversity studies have been carried out in Lakshadweep. A research paper on this study is accepted for publication in a reputed journal."

"We have recorded 16 mosquito species in Lakshadweep, of which seven are capable of transmitting diseases such as malaria, dengue and chikungunya. Investigation is done in all the ten islands that are populated in Lakshadweep: Kavaratti, Agatti, Chetlat, Bitra, Amini, Kadmath, Kiltan, Andrott, Kalpeni and Minicoy. Malaria vectors An. stephensi and An. varuna, Japanese encephalitis vectors Cx. Tritaeniorhynchus and Ban-



croftian filariasis vector Cx. quinquefasciatus, Brugian filariasis vector Ma. uniformis, Dengue and Chikungunya vectors St. albopicta and St. (Stg.) aegypti have been recorded."

Appreciating this research, Dr. Koya, Health Education Officer in Lakshadweep, noted that the study results will be useful for strategizing their vector-control programmes. CUTN's Vector Biology Research Laboratory (VBRL) is also engaged in cutting-edge research on vectors such as mosquitoes with its in-house breeding and feeding facilities.

Similarly, after the expert consultation on kala-azar (black fever) vector-control, recommendations were submitted for elimination of this poor man's disease, which is a major public health concern in Bangladesh, India and Nepal, in the Indian subcontinent. ■





**Success**  
**STORY**

**BLACK FEVER.** CUTN organises expert consultation on the killer kala-azar for WHO

# Meet to eliminate Kala-azar

By **Aleena Joseph**

As the World Health Organisation (WHO) embarked on its mission to eliminate kala-azar (black fever) as a public health problem by 2018, the Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) organised a two-day expert consultation from August 19, 2016, in Chennai, to draw an action plan on kala-azar vector-control to help wipe out this "poor man's disease" from the Indian subcontinent.

The South East Asia Region of the World Health Organisation (WHO) identified the CUTN to organise this important meeting considering the expertise available at the university. A host of international experts attended this WHO-sponsored event and submitted recommendations for implementation.

A parasitic disease, kala azar (black fever) is a major public health concern in Bangladesh, India and Nepal, in the Indian subcontinent. Kala-azar also known as visceral leishmaniasis is caused by the parasite *Leishmania donovani* that is transmitted through the vector, sandfly. Perhaps, this disease is



the second-largest parasitic killer in the world after malaria. Annually, an estimated two to five lakh cases of kala-azar and over 20,000 deaths occur worldwide. India accounts for about half of these figures.

It is a neglected disease affecting the marginalised community, with poor housing conditions aiding its spread. Sev-

eral factors, including air temperature, rainfall, wind speed, relative humidity, soil moisture, pH value and organic carbon, influence breeding and survival of sandflies.

In the Chennai event, experts from India, Bangladesh, Nepal, WHO headquarters, Geneva, SEARO, New Delhi and the London School of Tropical Medicine participated. ■



By **Naveen V.**

From Feb 27 to March 1, 2017, the three-day 13th Conference on Vectors and Vector-Borne Diseases (CVVBD), jointly organised by the National Academy of Vector Borne Diseases and the Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN), turned out to be an extraordinary scientific and educational event that was fulfilling in all respects.

Calling on the involvement of all citizens, especially the schoolchildren, to keep vector-borne diseases such as malaria and dengue under control in India, Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Director-General of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Secretary of the Department of Health Research, Government of India, said that their involvement is crucial to sustainable control of these diseases, which are growing threats to public health in both urban and rural areas of India.

Speaking to the reporters at the conference, Dr. Swaminathan explained the efforts taken by the government and by ICMR in controlling vector-borne diseases in India, that include not only mosquito borne but also mite and tick borne diseases.

She said it was possible to achieve elimination of kala-azar, filariasis and malaria within the timelines set by the government, but that research was essential to develop new tools, including vaccines, new prevention and treatment strategies and improved vector-control methods. ICMR is working in partnership with the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVB-DCP) focusing on translational research and ensuring uptake of research evidence into policy. Dr. Swaminathan also reiterated the importance of vaccination in disease control in India, reiterating the important role



that vaccines play in reducing childhood mortality.

Dr. Henk Bekedam, WHO Representative to India outlined the achievements of several disease-control programmes in India, while also stating the challenges that government departments are facing in terms of disease control. Speaking at the event, Prof. A. P. Dash, Vice-Chancellor of Central University of Tamil Nadu, said vector-borne diseases is a crucial subject that demands discussion and that the conference, that had about 300 experts and participants from several countries, will provide the much-needed platform for knowledge-sharing. The scientific and education event featured a sundry of expert paper presentations, poster presentations, scientific sessions, oral presentations, cultural programmes, among a few other enlightening events. ■



**Success STORY**

**AYARCHI.** Inaugural event of Heritage Club reinvents the almost-lost tradition of Indian gaming and its vibrant culture

# Rewind and replay

By **Neethu Joseph**

**Games played**  
 Pandattam, kite-flying, blindfold, 5 kal, goli, nondi, chess, gilli-dhanda, 7 kal, pallanghuzhi, aadu-pulli aatam, snake and ladder, bambaram, dhayam and skipping. But the highlight was the tug-of-war.

Well, I couldn't firmly recollect the time when the now-all-too-common mobile phones and far-too-widespread internet were not part of our daily lives. When long-distance communication was yelling at our neighbour. Our most sophisticated toys were made of wood or mud. But I did at least reinvent part of that long-lost tradition on February 11, thanks to the inaugural traditional game event of the Heritage Club of CUTN.

Ayarchi was a reawakening: I travelled back in space and time to revive the past—the good-old times of hide-and-seek and kite-flying. In those traditional games, I felt the pull of gravity, push of the air, the charm of luck and the power of social interaction that are a bit lacking in those simulated environments of video games.

I doubt the toddlers of this time and age, who well are adept in unlocking their iPads and browsing through the YouTube videos, even know the names of our traditional games.

Ayarchi—which itself is a forgotten Classical Tamil word for games—had a plethora of them from gilli dhanda, goli and nondi to pallanghuzhi, aadu-pulli aatam and bambaram.

While for the newer generation they were all new, for the elder lot they were simply reliving their past.

Even at this age when the Internet seeps in everywhere, the children welcomed the traditional games with vigour. Indeed, the Internet is good in many a way, but it steals some of the fun which we enjoyed in our childhood, playing by the tradition. I mean, playing with a computer is certainly different from playing with your pal. Can anything replace the brush of the breeze while flying a kite? Playing Mini Militia or Clash of the Clans on your smartphone from the comfort of your room cannot come anywhere close. Ayarchi brought us out of the virtual world to reality. It was an extraordinary event.

Organised by the Heritage Club, it was a fun-filled day for the student-participants, faculty member and their families and children. Hundreds of them participated in the games and made it a success story. ■



When we thought how to inaugurate the Heritage Club that aims to revive our traditions, this idea hit us. It is the traditional food and games that get lost inconspicuously. Events like these help us to document these traditions."

**Dr. V. Madhurima**, Head, Department of Physics



**NUMBERS DON'T LIE!** Yet another indication the CUTN is making fast strides in research

# Overwhelming NET result

By **Rahna V. N.**

In July 2019, results were out for the National Eligibility Test (NET) that's for determining the eligibility of Indian nationals for Assistant Professorship and Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) and the Central University of Tamil Nadu students have shown some prominent performance.

As many as 44 students from the CUTN cleared the NET, which is a great feat for a new university. CUTN is among the top of the newly-founded Central Universities across India, with regard to research output. Such huge numbers of CUTN students clearing the NET is yet another indication that the university is making fast strides in research. In 2018-19, 35 students passed the test and are now eligible for Assistant Professorship in universities and colleges across India.

Of the 35, at least four of them have also been announced eligible for JRF: they can now avail scholarship to conduct research as part of their M.Phil. and Ph.D. programmes. CUTN, in the past academic years, constituted a NET Cell to offer free coaching to students who wish to appear for the NET. And, to align with this research lead and roaring success, several CUTN departments have launched research programmes and intensified research activities, this year.

Sharing this success story, Binesh CJ, a scholar in the Department of Social Work and who cleared NET, said,

"Scoring good marks and being selected for a fellowship is a dream for every graduate student. It's not the span of time that we spend here in CUTN that counts but how we consume matters. When you really get into studies and research, it will become your world and you will go far to win your world."

After several attempts, Jithin Joseph was able to crack the NET this time and he credits it to his determination and hard work. For Adhiswaran S, a postgraduate student from the Department of Tamil, it was his first attempt and he emerged victorious. It was the same case for Shalini R, from the Department of Media and Communication.

Hashim Puthiyakath, who acquired JR Fellowship this time, shares his happiness, "I enjoyed my days in CUTN. After I completed my post-graduation in 2017 from the Department of Media and Communication, I needed a reason to come back to CUTN. Now, this JRF will help me gain admission in the Ph.D. programme. During the second-year of my studies, we were engaged in quality research and that's what inspired me. We went on to present our research in conferences and publish our papers in journals." CUTN's latest feat in NET has also inspired the student fraternity.

During 2017-18, as many as 22 students cleared NET. In toto, over 100 students have passed the exam in the past few years. With intensified NET coaching, this 100 is only waiting to be surpassed in the next turn. ■

**JOURNAL OF MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION.** Peer-reviewed and open-access journal publishes original research articles

# CUTN journal in UGC list

CUTN Journal of Media and Communication is a brand-new scholarly initiative to promote communication research in India. Perhaps, India is the largest democracy—accounting for about one sixth of the world population. It is the second most populous country in the world with over a billion-and-a-quarter people and the seventh largest by area. India is socially and culturally diverse. Traditionally, India had been seen as an agrarian society and predominantly rural. Its sheer size, dense and distinguished population, binding values, cross-cultures and other contradictions differentiate it from the rest of the world.

Development, technological advancement and media exposure had brought about a remarkable change over the past few decades in the country, altering the lifestyle and thinking of an average Indian. Today, Indians are getting wealthier and spending more on media. Media options are aplenty with everything from television, mobiles, films, music, publishing, Internet and radio. India is home to the world's largest English-language newspaper readership. Now, India has the most number of Facebook users in the world.

Though India presents surplus opportunities for communication research, it remains mostly untapped. As traditional communication media are witnessing a positive climate in India, bucking the global trend of decline, the country becomes an ideal ground to test Western communication theories.

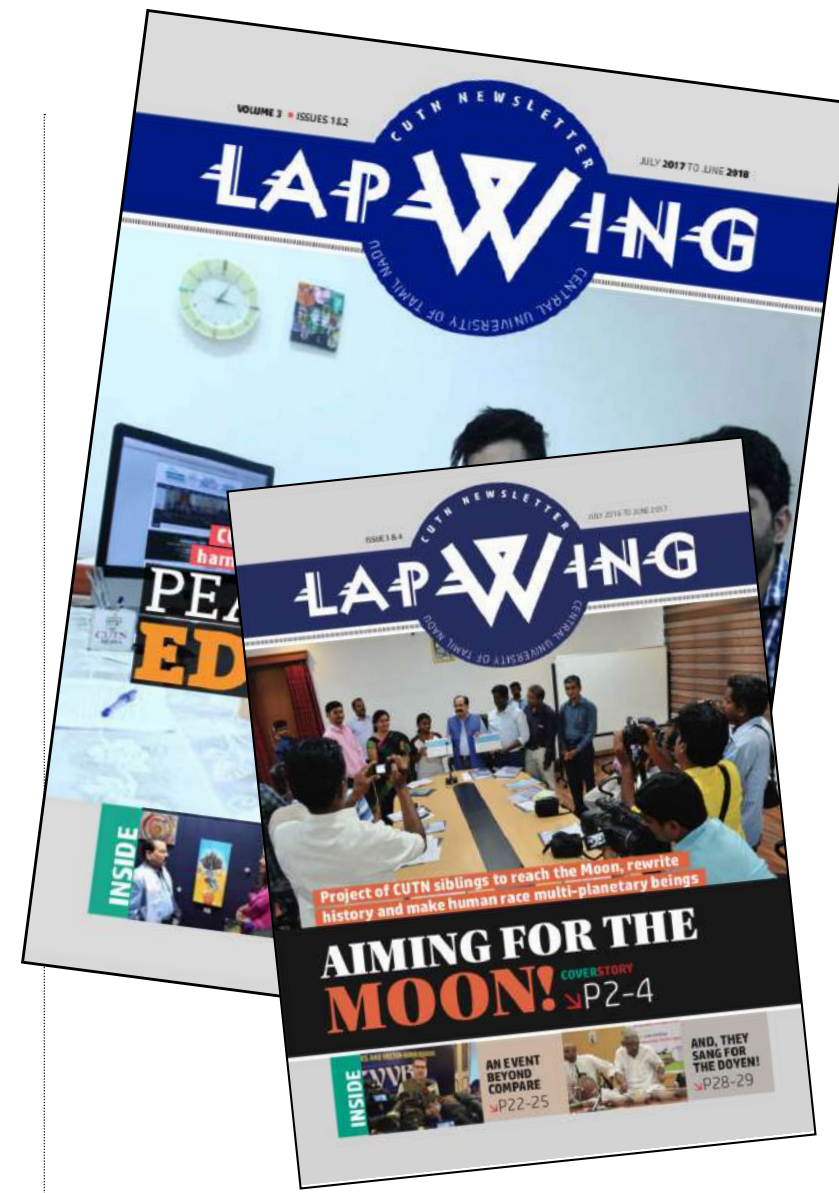
Launched in 2017, this journal is a peer-reviewed and open-access journal that publishes original research articles and shorter commentaries. It aims to promote peer-reviewed media research in India. An open-access model of online publishing is adopted to maximize reach, access, readership and impact. Both theoretical papers and empirical studies are accepted. Frequency of the journal is twice a year.

Months of distribution: June and December



The journal provides an opportunity to Indian scholars to share academic knowledge and more importantly broaden the scope of communication research in India. CUTN's Journal of Media and Communication has been placed in the UGC-CARE list of accepted journals. ■

Submissions to the Journal of Media and Communication should be sent as mail attachments (MS Word format)—accompanied by a cover letter—to [hodmedia@cutn.ac.in](mailto:hodmedia@cutn.ac.in).



## Official newsletter

Lapwing is the annual official newsletter brought out by the Central University of Tamil Nadu, featuring university news, features about achievements, development and events and future plans of the institution.

It also publishes special features on the research accomplishments of CUTN fraternity, apart from publication details. Launched in 2016, CUTN has rolled out three editions of Lapwing. With news features contributed by students and Department-wise Editors, the newsletter offers a delectable spread of articles laid out in a nimble design. ■

# Centre for atomic materials



By Prof. Ravindran P.

Launched in October 2016 with eight research scholars, the Simulation Centre for Atomic and Nanoscale MATerials (SCANMAT) offers research programmes through master research projects, Ph.D. post-doctoral fellowships and internships.

It is to promote interdisciplinary research to develop atomic and nanoscale materials that are useful for energy, environment and emerging technologies. SCANMAT explores properties of scientifically and technologically important materials using state-of-the-art computational modelling. Its first principles calculations are supplementary and complementary to the experimental activities on with collaborative partners both from India and abroad.

The Centre has produced three doctoral fellows and one post-doctoral fellow. Currently, it hosts three post-doctoral fellows, seven doctoral fellows, one junior research fellow, eight masters and two guest researchers. The Centre has produced more than 15 research articles in high impact journals and published 15 conference proceedings. It has completed one national and one international project and conducting one national and two international projects.

In 2017, its innovative project titled 'Lab2Moon' fetched the Google Lunar X Prize. It organises scientific meetings such as conferences, seminars, workshops and training programmes periodically.

The unique strength of the Centre is the Indo-Norway Collaborative Programme (INCP), under which, every year two Masters and two PhD students are sent to

### Workshop on Functional Materials

Simulation Center for Atomic and Nanoscale MATerials (SCANMAT) and the Department of Physics, Central University of Tamil Nadu in collaboration with the University of Oslo, Norway organised a two-day Indo-Norway Workshop on Functional Materials for Energy Technology at Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur from September 23, 2019. ■

the University of Oslo, Norway, for research experience. The INCP programme is not only a research exchange programme but also it includes teaching sessions with two eminent professors, Prof. Helmer Fjellvåg and Prof. Anja Olafsen Sjøstad from the Norwegian side, who visit CUTN and Prof. P. Ravindran and Dr. R. Vidya from the Indian side who visit Norway to teach. SCANMAT has national collaborators, including Prof. M. Eswaramoorthy and Prof. Umesh Waghmare from JNCASR, Bangalore, and Prof. O. N. Srivastava from the Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. The young alumni researchers of the SCANMAT centre are currently pursuing their Ph.D. and post-doctoral research work in reputed institutions all over the world. SCANMAT houses thousands of research articles and hundreds of books and thesis on advanced functional materials. ■



**KALAM.** CUTN brings out student magazine every year to bring out student creativity and channelise their energy in a constructive way

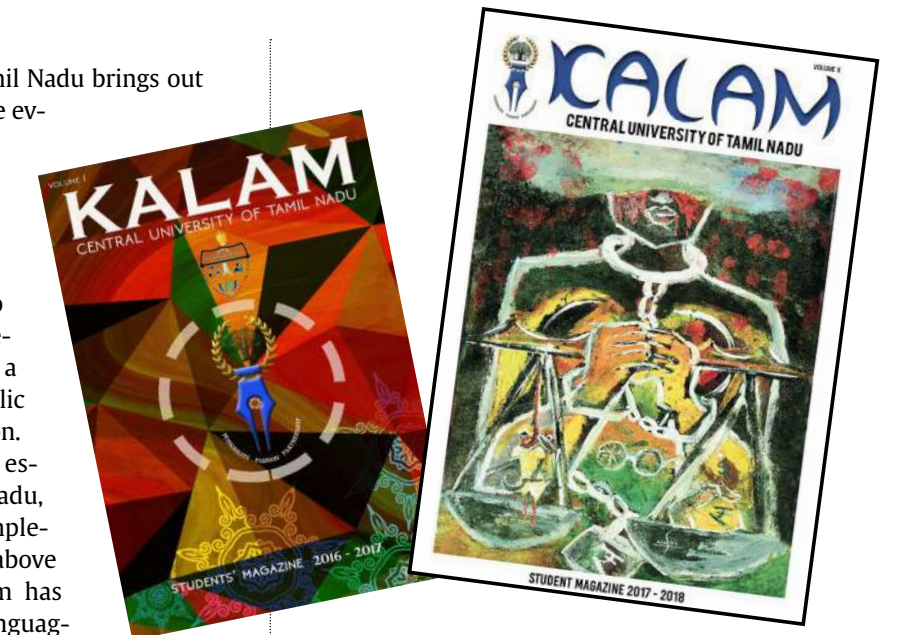
# Student mag

By Nikhil K. Gouda

The Central University of Tamil Nadu brings out Kalam—its student magazine every year with the triple objectives of being an outlet for the collective expression of creativity and analytical skills of the students of CUTN by channelising their energy in a constructive way; to work as a bridge among different departments of CUTN; and to work as a house-journal of CUTN serving public relations activities of the organisation.

The name Kalam captures the essence of this great land of Tamil Nadu, the people, and their culture; complement our basic objectives stated above and of course is appealing! Kalam has different meanings in different languages. In Hindi, the name represents the pen. In Tamil, it represents an open field, wider platform. A 'pen' or a 'platform'; Kalam gives students a solid platform to pen various write-ups to express their creativity and analytical skills.

One of the flagship publications of the varsity; it is trilingual (Tamil, Hindi and English) in content. An all colored magazine with sections like Messages, Editorial, Features and articles, Interviews, Photo feature, Staff corner, Creative corner, Wishes, Feedback among others. The magazine in its second issue consists of a total



of 140 colour pages, divided into three sections of English, Tamil and Hindi containing 85 write-ups along with other sections of interest. This has been edited by students of various departments under the supervision of teachers: Dr. Nikhil Kumar Gouda, Dept. of Media and Communication; Dr. P. Velmurugan, Dept. of Tamil; Dr. E.M. Shankar, Dept. of Life Sciences; Dr. Sardindu Bhattacharya, Dept. of English Studies; Dr. Madhulika Ben Patel, Dept. of Hindi and Dr. Francis P. Barclay, Dept. of Media and Communication. The magazine is popular among students. ■



INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL (IQAC)

**Success  
STORY**

# Ensuring quality

By **Prof. Sulochana Shekhar**

To create and maintain the quality of education in higher-education institutions is one of the major challenges. To institutionalise the process of quality enhancement, the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) was established on June 30, 2014, with the main objective of ensuring quality in all aspects concerning the university in addition to the routine quality-assurance activities. The IQAC is a nodal agency for monitoring the working of the institution and is committed to overall quality enhancement in the institution.

IQAC ensures improvement in the institution with the active cooperation of all the stakeholders and is expected to create healthy and meaningful academic practices. Not only does it plan and implement good academic practices but also measures the extent of its implementation. Its primary objectives are: To develop a system for conscious, consistent and catalytic action to improve the academic and administrative performance of the institution; To promote measures for institutional functioning towards quality enhancement through internalisation of quality culture and institutionalisation of best practices; To take steps for periodic internal academic audit of the teaching, learning and research activities of all departments and faculty members; and to collaborate with other academic institutions and global agencies for improvement of quality and brand image of the university.

**Student skill development**

Working on its missions, the IQAC organised a skill-development programme for the students on April 7, 2016. Major S. Lakshmanan from SALKA Groups, Chennai, presented a ses-



sion on the importance of honing student skills and the role of IQAC. It also organised a one-day workshop on 'Research and Development for Social Science Faculty and Scholars' on April 11, 2016, at CUTN. Faculty members and students participated and benefited from the workshop.

**Demystifying the PBAs**

IQAC performs several quality assessments and augmentation activities such as feedback collection, design and implementation of PBAS and CAS forms and preparations for accreditations. IQAC organised a talk on 'Demystifying the PBAS' on August 8, 2017, and faculty members attended. Prof. M. G. Sethuraman, Director, IQAC, Gandhigram University, Dindugul, was the resource person.

**Quality assurance**

IQAC organised a two-day national workshop on 'Quality Assurance and Sustainance: Need for Strategic Planning' sponsored by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bangalore, and the Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) from January 5, 2018. The workshop was well received

by IQAC directors, members and faculty members involved in NIRF document preparation and from across the nation.

**One day with IQAC**

IQAC organised a faculty programme on 'One day with IQAC', a faculty meet on NAAC accreditation on May 1, 2018, and 49 faculty members attended. Prof. M. G. Sethuraman, Director, IQAC, Gandhigram University, Dindugul, was the resource person. Prof. Sethuraman lectured on seven key indicators and how the documents should be prepared for the NAAC.

**Contest on law related to women**

A nation-wide competition for students on law related to women, sponsored by the National Commission for Women, New Delhi, and the Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) was organised by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), CUTN, on October 30, 2018. Mr. T. Jayaraman, trained student participants and offered two lectures on 'Law related to women' on October 15 & 16, 2018. About 100 students participated in the nation-wide competition. Valedictory function of the event was held on October 31, 2018. CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash, Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvaneshwari, Controller of Examinations Prof. A. Ragupathy, and Finance Officer CMA. V. Palani, attended the valedictory function and gave away the certificates to the participants and cash awards to the prize winners.

**Orientation for staff**

IQAC organised a one-day Orientation Programme for the Non-teaching Staff on October 10, 2018, and 50 members attended. Prof. Sulochana Shekhar, Director, Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Central University of Tamil Nadu, briefed about the preparation of NAAC documents. ■



# A high-tech library

By **R. Parameswaran**

Central library of the Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) has a collection of about 40358 books. Of these, more than 4,500 books are reference books and the rest are textbooks and general books. Besides these, the library also has CDs/DVDs and subscribes to 150 print journals. The library has been actively interacting with teaching departments and faculty and a proactive approach to building an essential collection of resources for new programmes being introduced by the various departments has been adopted.

CUTN's Library facilitates access to more than 10,000 online electronic journals through UGC-e-ShodhSindhu, J-Gate, SciFinder, EBSCO, SCOPUS, IOP Publishing, ScienceDirect, IEEE-CSDL, Royal Society of Chemistry, IndiaStat.com and others for the benefit of faculty, researchers and students in social sciences. The library is fully automated with the software Koha, a software package which is an integrated library management system that supports all housekeeping operations of the library. Recently, RFID and CCTV security systems have been implemented.

The Library houses a separate Digital Resource Center with 30 computers running on high speed internet. Urkund & iThenticate anti-plagiarism software access are added by Central Library to check plagiarism of theses and other publications for the benefit of faculty and students. The library provides comfortable, user-friendly environment for learning and dissemination of knowledge and information. To commemorate the 140th Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) organised a week-long Book Fair with special focus on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel from October, 28, 2015. To commemorate the Birth Anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, the Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) organised a three-day Book Fair from September 7, 2016. Booksellers and publishers from across the

country took part in the Book Fair to showcase their publications. More than 15,000 titles were displayed. At several occasions, Central Library, CUTN, had conducted book fairs to cater to the academic community.

**RFID technology and kiosk**

It has implemented RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) Technology and has also installed CCTV as part of its efforts to improve library service and security. Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash inaugurated these facilities on April 26, 2017. Now, the library professionals can update their information sources and services through LAN established inside the library and campus. It provides details about the library and its services. A touch-screen kiosk lets users interact and find books.

**Book drop station**

A drop-box offers 24/7 access to students to return books. This can be utilised even when the library is closed. Students can drop the books from outside the library and it gets collected and stored in the book bin. Receipt, email and SMS are provided on return of the book. This apart, biometric systems are in place at the library for student and faculty identification. CUTN Library has established a Digital Resource Centre and Book Bank facility. Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash inaugurated these facilities on September 15, 2017. Central Library of CUTN, in collaboration with the INFLIBNET centre, organised a one-day User Awareness Programme on Access to E-Resources on July 20, 2018.

National Librarians' Day is observed on August 12 every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Padma Shri Dr. S. R. Ranganathan (1892-1972), who is considered as Father of Library Science in India. On his 126th birth anniversary, the Central Library organised a grand event and awarded avid readers. Central Library organised a two-day National Conference on Innovative Librarianship: A Foresight on Technology, Practice & Services from August 1, 2019. ■



# Nostalgia

CUTN 2009-19

REWIND ● REPLAY ● REMEMBER

## GENESIS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BLOCK!

CUTN started in 2009 with a Master's programme offered in English Studies with eight students. Today, the university boasts of 73 programmes and 2,132 students, recording stupendous growth in a span of 10 years CUTN started in 2009 with a Master's programme offered in English Studies with eight students. Today, the university boasts of 73 programmes and 2,132 students, recording stupendous growth in a span of 10 years



## Development of Neelakudi campus!

CUTN started in 2009 with a Master's programme offered in English Studies with eight students. Today, the university boasts of 73 programmes and 2,132 students, recording stupendous growth in a span of 10 years CUTN started in 2009 with a Master's programme offered in English Studies with eight students. Today, the university boasts of 73 programmes and 2,132 students, recording stupendous growth in a span of 10 years

- 1 2 3 Neelakudi campus
- 1 Hostel buildings
- 5 Chemistry block
- 6 CLC 2 block

# Nostalgia

CUTN 2009-19

REWIND ● REPLAY ● REMEMBER



1



1



2



3



4



5



6

# Nostalgia

CUTN • 2009-19

REWIND • REPLAY • REMEMBER

## Roads and ridges!

Roads and a concrete bridge connecting the two campuses of CUTN in Neelakudi and Nagakudi villages in Thiruvavur were constructed and are operative.

- 1 2 3 Laying of roads
- 4 Bridge connecting the campuses
- 5 Bridge under construction
- 6 A wall of CUTN under construction



3



5



2

## Guest House and KV School

Kendriya Vidyalaya was launched on July 15, 2013. It serves the wards of the faculty members and staffers of CUTN. CUTN also has a well-equipped Guest House within the residential campus of CUTN in Nagakudi. Staff Quarters of CUTN was completed on February 18, 2016.

- 1 2 Construction of the Guest House
- 3 Staff Quarters
- 4 Guest House
- 5 Inauguration of the KV building

# Nostalgia

CUTN • 2009-19

REWIND • REPLAY • REMEMBER



1



1



2



3

# Nostalgia

CUTN 2009-19

REWIND ● REPLAY ● REMEMBER

**VC, PRO-VC BUNGALOWS**  
 Constructions of the Vice-Chancellor's and the Pro Vice-Chancellor's bungalows were completed on April 25, 2015, within the Nagakudi residential campus of CUTN.

1 3 5 V-C's bungalow  
 2 4 Pro V-C's bungalow



4



5



3



2



4

## Library building, MP Auditorium

An arc-shaped iconic Library building was constructed for CUTN on February 18, 2016, at an outlay of Rs17.85 crore. A Multipurpose Auditorium was completed in 2015. Several annual events, including the convocation functions, are conducted within this structure.

1 3 4 Library  
 2 MP Auditorium



1

# Nostalgia

CUTN 2009-19

REWIND ● REPLAY ● REMEMBER



# Nostalgia

CUTN • 2009-19

REWIND • REPLAY • REMEMBER

## First fest!

CUTN conducted its first gala event in March 2013, inviting a part of Thiruvavur. Several cultural events, including traditional music and dances, were a part of the programme. Pottery and fire dance added attractions to the event.



## Events of the yesteryears

Titled CUTN Fest, the event featured a plethora of side-events, including weaving and exhibitions of traditional arts and crafts. Schoolchildren and dignitaries of Thiruvavur participated to make it an extraordinary event.



# Nostalgia

CUTN • 2009-19

REWIND • REPLAY • REMEMBER





1

**CUTN gets a facelift**

Central University of Tamil Nadu in Thiruvavur got a new face on June 24, 2019, as Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash opened the new grand entrance in a jubilant ceremony. Constructed in a short span of 10 months, the Main Gate of CUTN which will be the face of the Central University was constructed using materials procured from abroad to give it a novel design and texture. Architect Space Matrix used a curved arch with pergola beams and granite measuring 85 metre in length and 14 metre in width. The entrance architecture also includes a security basin for guards, a dressing room and toilet. Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvanawari, Controller of Examinations Dr. A. Raghupathy, Finance Officer CMA V. Palani and the Deans of Schools participated in the inauguration ceremony along with faculty members, staffers and students. ■



5



**The game is afoot!**

CUTN has developed infrastructure and promotes capacity building for achieving excellence in national-level competitive events. Keeping in view the growing demands for advanced infrastructure, equipment and support, the Sports Coordinator and the Physical Instructors have taken several initiatives to improve sports facilities in the university with the support from the administration. Students are trained in both outdoor and indoor sports and are encouraged to participate in major sports events. The students have participated in football, cricket and marathon races, and won laurels. A Multi-Sports Complex comprising volleyball, basketball, tennikoit and lawn tennis courts; athletic-standard tracks; a cricket ground; and an indoor sports complex with badminton courts and table-tennis facilities is under construction. Physical fitness centres are operational throughout the week. Gymnasium facilities are also functional on the residential campus for the staff and their family members. Separate gymnasiums with modern equipment are available for boys and girls in their respective hostels. ■



6

**Hostels and houses!**

CUTN has several hostels and residential complexes to accommodate students, scholars and faculty members. Student infrastructure include separate hostels for boys, girls, married and unmarried research scholars. On the residential campus, residential blocks are built separately for assistant professors, associate professors, professors and non-teaching staff of the university. These apart, a residential bungalow has been allocated for the Vice-Chancellor. A Health Centre has been built among the hostels to offer timely medical care to the students. ■



**A grand start**

CUTN organises a three-day orientation programme 'Genesis' for the freshers at the start of the academic year. It turns out to be a grand start for the freshers and informs the fresh batch of students about the functioning of the university, available resources, rules and regulations. This year, addressing the mass of young minds and parents, Prof. A. P. Dash explained the significance of the day as students embarked on a new academic journey that will define their careers in the years ahead. "I am here together with my colleagues to officially welcome and inspire you to approach your chosen careers with confidence. You are a unique and talented mix of students who have come to join us from the far corners of the country." Genesis provides the students the opportunity to get themselves introduced to the officers, Deans, Heads of the Departments and faculty members, apart from the various cells that make the functioning of the university holistic and efficient. ■

7

2



**KV for CUTN wards**

To offer quality education to the wards of the CUTN faculty members and staffers, Kendriya Vidyalaya has been instituted within the residential campus of CUTN. It offers education from the primary to higher-secondary level. To take care of the toddlers on CUTN campus, a play-school 'Ants 'n' Bees' has been started. ■

**Royal recalls!**

Dr. E. M. Shankar, Dean of the School of Life Science and the Head of the Department of Life Sciences, Central University of Tamil Nadu, was honoured with the FRSB (UK) by the Royal Society of Biology for his contributions to the field of Immunology and Infectious Diseases. The Royal College of Pathologists is a professional organisation committed to promoting excellence in the practice of pathology based in London, United Kingdom. The Royal College of Pathologists has conferred Dr. Shankar with an FRCPath for his contributions to medical sciences, in the specialist areas of pathology (Immunology and Medical Microbiology). ■



**Well-equipped Guest House**

A Guest House functions from the residential campus of CUTN in Nagakudi and accommodates official guests, including experts, visiting faculty members and participants of CUTN events, and parents and guardians of the students. It provides diverse types of accommodations from air-conditioned suite rooms to shared accommodation. It also houses a conference hall for events and canteen with catering services to the guests. CUTN Guest House offers exemplary facilities including free Wi-Fi, television, wardrobe, hot water, cold storage and secure locker facilities. ■

4

**Free Wi-Fi for all!**

Through devices installed across the campus, students access free and high-speed internet. Students, scholars and faculty members are provided individual Campus Connect Wi-Fi login and passwords which can be accessed through their digital devices. ■



8



9

**Calm campuses**

Looking beyond the four walls of the classroom, the Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) in Thiruvavur is aiming to provide holistic education with a balanced emphasis on teaching, research and extension. CUTN offers a serene and calm atmosphere far from the nagging noise of the urban traffic. It has undertaken several mass seedling plantation campaign to develop a green cover for the university. Situated in the rural environs of Thiruvavur, it offers a respite from the metropolitan buzz and offers a calm environment suited for reading, research and development. CUTN also provides a safe and secure green environment that creates the ideal climate for education. ■

**Cosmopolitan character**

With students from diverse regional and socio-cultural backgrounds, CUTN has created a campus culture and climate that respect differences, encourage inclusiveness and reflect diversity as a core value of the university. It is also building and strengthening partnerships with diverse communities, community-centric organisations as well as government entities to advance diversity and multiculturalism in the university and the region. Now, one among the reputed Indian universities, CUTN is already exhibiting a national character with students from 23 states. ■



10

## TOP 10 MILESTONES



1

### 2000 and counting

In 2019, CUTN crossed the 2,000-student milestone, registering steep rises in student count in the past few years. It also crossed the 100-faculty milestone during the academic year 2017-18. In 2016-17, 33 regular faculty members were appointed through a transparent recruitment drive, taking the total to 62. It was the second largest recruitment then, after 18 regulars were appointed in 2013-14. It also catalysed the creation of new departments and the introduction of new programmes to draw the best of minds from across the country to the university. Perhaps, the largest recruitment drive was conducted during 2017-18, appointing as many as 36 new faculty members. ■



5



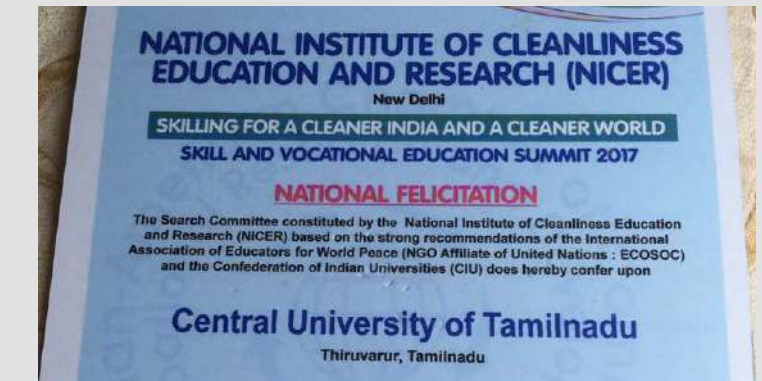
### Fellowships come calling

Dr. M. Sterlin Leo Hudson visited the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Washington D.C., USA, for a period of 18 months (Aug 2015-Feb 2017). His Fulbright project at NIST was to develop a potential light-weight and low-cost hydrogen storage material, which satisfies the required US Department of Energy (US-DOE) target for on-board storage of hydrogen in zero-emission vehicles. Dr. Sigamani P., Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Social Work, went as a Visiting Research Professor to the Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, USA. Dr. Sigamani had week-long visits in March 2018 and April 2017 and a two-week visit in August 2016 for academic and research collaborations. ■



### Online repository of MOOCs-ICT

On October 21, 2019, CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash launched the online repository of videos produced by the MOOCs-ICT team of CUTN. MOOCs-ICT's videos launched on the day included a series of educational and instructional videos that will benefit both the CUTN fraternity and the outside student communities. It included a series of video lectures by Prof. A. P. Dash on 'Mentoring Research' and a bilingual lecture on 'Basic Mathematics' by Prof. T. Sengadir to help students with Tamil learning background experience a smooth transition to English while they pursue the integrated programmes offered by CUTN. Other introductory videos launched in the online repository included the ones by the Registrar, Controller of Examinations and the Finance Officer. ■



### Clean campus award

The National Institute of Cleanliness Education and Research (NICER), New Delhi, presented the national Clean Campus Award for the Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur, at the Skill and Vocational Education Summit 2017. Based on recommendations from the International Association of Educators for World Peace, an NGO Affiliate to United Nations: ECOSOC, and the Confederation of Indian Universities, CUTN was chosen for the award. The award has been instituted to be conferred upon universities and other educational institutions for maintaining cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation within their premises. CUTN Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. A. P. Dash received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Institute of Cleanliness Education and Research (NICER), New Delhi, presented at the Skill and Vocational Education Summit 2017. Based on recommendations from the International Association of Educators for World Peace, an NGO Affiliate to United Nations: ECOSOC, the award was conferred. ■

2



### CUTN crosses 60-project mark!

CUTN has crossed the 60-project mark, securing external project funding to the tune of over Rs11.2 crore, so far. ■

### Weekly Movie Club screenings

Department of Media and Communication spearheads the Movie Club of CUTN students. Screening of movies, short-films and documentaries for group discussions has been a weekly affair. Movies are screened in the Media Theatre of the department, with the participation of students from all CUTN departments, who also choose, analyse and deliberate on the movies. ■

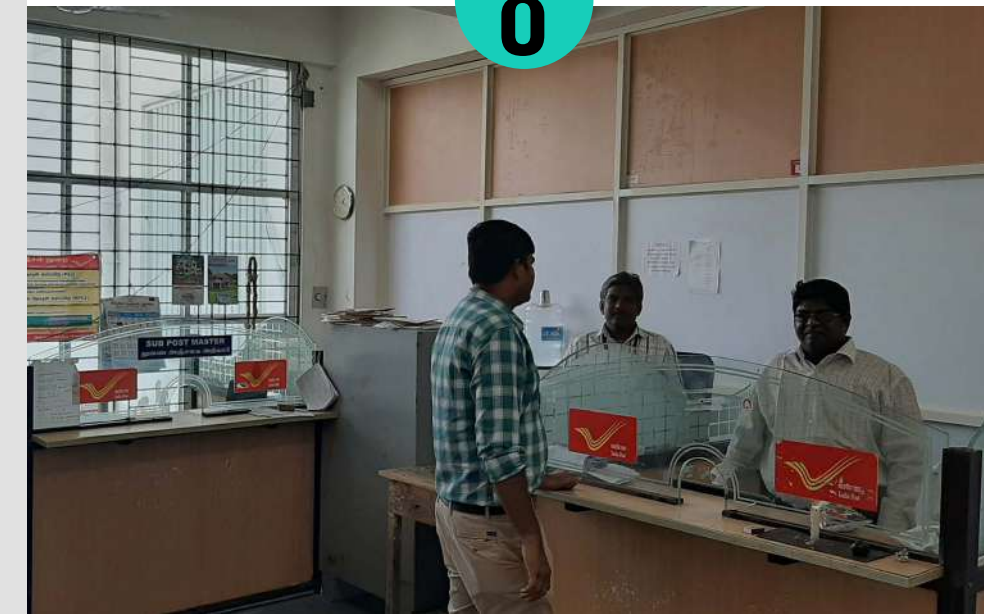


### SBI at home!

On July 18, 2016, CUTN added another feather to its decorated cap: SBI inaugurated its new branch on the university campus. Speaking at the launch function, SBI General manager G Ravindranath promised all support to the staff and students of the varsity. An SBI branch within the campus means saving time and energy in travel to nearby banks for financial needs of the students, faculty members and staff of the university. SBI has its branch functioning within the Academic Block of CUTN for their convenience. Fee payment and other online financial services are rendered to the students. ■

### Post office and ATMs

Both the academic and residential campuses have an ATM kiosk, each. This apart, a Post Office functions within the Administrative Block of CUTN facilitating easy access to postal facilities. The post office that functions within the campus was also launched along with the SBI in 2016. ■



### International Yoga Day celebrations

CUTN has been marking the International Yoga Day, every year, with elaborate performances and celebrations. Pursuant to the direction from the MHRD and UGC, the International Day of Yoga was celebrated in CUTN in 2019 from 7am in the Sports Amenities Centre (Football Ground) with a Mass Yoga Practise on June 21. Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash addressed and participated in the mass engagement. Nearly 400 members, including faculty, officers, staff, students, research scholars and the general public, participated in the mass yoga practice. ■

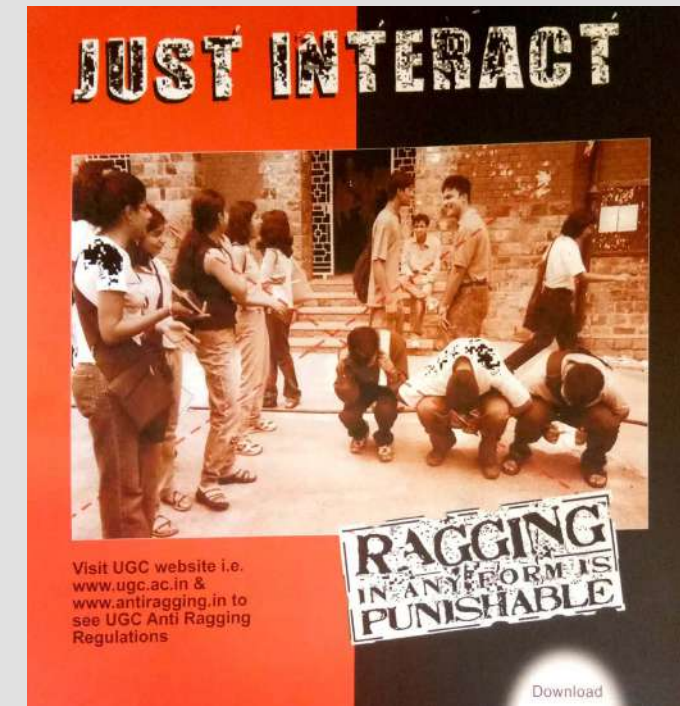
### International award

Tamil Bharathan, a student from the Department of Tamil, CUTN, won an award in the international 'Pesu Tamizha Pesu' elocution contest in 2017. Organised by Malaysian media organisations Vanakkam Malaysia and Astro Vaanavi, 'Pesu Tamizha Pesu' was an international contest for students that took place in Colombo in Sri Lanka. Students from several countries, including India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Myanmar, participated in the event. Tamil Bharathan was among the three who were chosen to represent India in the international contest. In the tough competition, Tamil Bharathan emerged successful winning a runner-up prize and bringing laurel to India. He was awarded a cash prize of 2,000 Malaysian ringgit, amounting to over Rs30,000. Several Sri Lankan ministers participated in the event to felicitate the award winners. ■



**ANTI-RAGGING SQUAD**

## For a campus sans ragging!



CUTN constituted the Anti-Ragging Squad in 2015, based on the UGC regulations to maintain a ragging-free campus by adopting several measures and strictly followed the guidelines. The squad makes surprise visits to hostels and other places on campus to ensure the safety of the students. It has taken proactive measures in the last few years to make the campus ragging-free. During the orientation programme offered to the freshers, the Chairperson of the squad offers instructions and sensitises the freshers rules and regulations of anti-ragging each year. Apart from sharing telephone numbers and email addresses of the members of the squad, it has taken initiatives to create awareness on campus by way of posters in all the departments and buildings. First-year students are accommodated in separate hostels and security guards (both male and female) placed in front of the hostels for 24 hours. Besides this, hostels caretakers and residential wardens also stay in the hostel. Ninety CCTV cameras have been installed in the main corridors of the hostels in addition to the cameras in the hostel premises to maintain a tight vigil. ■

**STUDENTS' WELFARE**

## Honing student skills!

Established in the academic year 2016-17, the Office of the Students' Welfare facilitates the students to exhibit their talents and provide opportunities to enhance their potential in both curricular and extracurricular activities. The function of the Office is in accordance with the policies of the University by taking into account the overall welfare of the students. This office is run by a Dean (Prof. S. Nagarajan) and Deputy Dean (Dr. G. Sudha). As a part of its mission, it organises several events such as Aarambh (annual cultural fest), Pongal, Onam, Telugu New Year, and Holi celebrations. These celebrations offer an opportunity to understand and respect the diverse cultures of the CUTN fraternity and inculcate national integration. These apart, this office organises Science Day celebrations, observes birth anniversaries of important personalities and conducts contests for the benefit of the students. ■



**STUDENTS' COUNCIL**

## Students as decision-makers!



The first Student Council was formed in the Central University of Tamil Nadu in the academic year 2018-19 under the leadership of the Dean (Students' Welfare). The Council represents students and research scholars from all the departments of CUTN. The main objective of the Council is to encourage the students to participate in decision-making and involve them in various student activities. The Council provides a forum for the students to represent their issues and take appropriate steps in resolving it with the help of the authorities. The Council meets once a month. ■

**COUNSELLING AND GUIDANCE CELL**

## For a smooth transition!



CUTN attracts students from across India, abroad and a wide range of socio-cultural strata. With a majority of the students on campus belonging to the late adolescent and young adult groups, the campus life becomes a unique bundle of excitement, adjustments and academic challenges. In addition, they go through transitions across significant psychological and emotional phases. In this backdrop, the Counselling and Guidance Cell works to enable students make these significant transitions smooth. It is to help students address personal and emotional problems that get in the way of realising their full academic and personal potential. Counsellors offer support to the students to deal with a wide range of issues—be it academic, personal, emotional, family or peer-related—through counselling. It induces growth and positive wellbeing, and empowers students with enhanced abilities to solve problems, make apt decisions and deal more effectively with their personal situations. Apart from offering counselling to students, it conducts group activities and workshops to raise awareness and sensitise students to help them become sensitive and responsible individuals. ■

**INTERNAL COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE**

## To keep sexual harassment at bay

CUTN set up the Internal Complaints Committee to address issues under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. It provides protection against sexual harassment of women at workplace and works for redressal of complaints of sexual harassment. CUTN also formed the Committee Against Sexual Harassment-Gender Sensitisation and Counselling Unit (CASH-GSCU) to organise several awareness workshops, safety training programmes and celebrations for gender sensitisation and prevention of sexual harassment at workplace. ■



**INCUBATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTRE**

## Breeding the biz buzz



Established in April 2018, the Incubation and Entrepreneurship Centre has organised six programmes, ranging from institutional activities to participation in events organised by reputed institutions, to provide opportunities for the students to learn and enhance their entrepreneurial skills. Further, these events were aimed to motivate students to become entrepreneurs. Apart from the Entrepreneurs Day celebrations, a workshop on Art from Waste was organised to encourage students to make useful crafts out of the scrap materials. Students participated in the International Business Summit, VISTA 2018, organised by IIM-Bangalore, through which students enhanced their knowledge and skills and gained core management competence. DELVE, an intercollegiate management meet was organised to help students inculcate and enhance management skills. A life skills workshop was also organised to enhance their basic skills to face the challenging world. ■

**INSTITUTIONAL HUMAN ETHICS**

**REVIEW BOARD**

## Respect for people, safety

CUTN's Institutional Human Ethics Review Board (IHERB) reviews project proposals that involve human subjects in research. It meets periodically to review ethical aspects of research by the investigators of CUTN and ensure that ethical standards are met. The board also ensures that the proposed research designs are scientifically sound and appropriate for addressing research questions and will not unnecessarily expose research participants to risks. It has organised several seminars and discussions on research ethics. A special seminar on 'Ethical Guidelines for Biomedical Research on Human Participants' was conducted in May 2018 in which Dr. Roli Mathur, Scientist E, National Centre for Disease Informatics and Research (NCDIR), Bangalore, was the key speaker. Similarly, a 'One-on-One discussion with an Expert of Human Ethics in Research' was conducted in August 2018 in which Dr. K. Gunasekaran, Scientist G, (Director Grade), Vector Control Research Centre (VCRC), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India, Puducherry, was the expert. ■



REMEDIAL COACHING CELL

## Courses on request



Launched in 2015, the Remedial Coaching Cell of CUTN, with financial assistance from the UGC under the coaching schemes for SC/ST/OBC(NCL) and minority students, protects and fosters the interests and needs of these groups of students. Several remedial courses are offered to slow-learners at the department level. Through this Cell, students can request lectures on a particular course or topic. Even if the request comes from only one student of the university, special coaching is arranged as per the convenience of the student during free time. So far, the Cell has offered over 535 remedial courses to the students upon request. ■

UGC-NET COACHING CELL

## 100 and counting!

CUTN, through its NET Coaching Cell, conducts coaching classes both at the university and department levels to those aspiring to ace the National Eligibility Test (NET) which determines eligibility for college and university-level lectureship and used to award the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) for Indian nationals. CUTN organises these coaching classes mainly to help the students belonging to the SC/ST/OBC and minority categories and prepare them for national-level exams. This apart, coaching classes are organised for other competitive examinations such as Gate and NBHM. In addition to this, study materials are provided to the students. Over 100 CUTN students have cleared the NET in the past two years alone. ■



MOOCS-ICT CELL

## Online education: It's clicking!



MOOCS-ICT Cell of CUTN works for the MOOCs, ICT and SWAYAM (except Swayamprabha) components. The core idea of MOOCs-SWAYAM is the provision of higher education courses to anyone with internet access and the personal motivation to participate in learning activities that are delivered through video segments supplemented with online tutorials, and then assessed using automated online self-evaluation exercises and summative quizzes and tests. In CUTN, the Cell was launched in 2017. CUTN's MOOCs-ICT Cell aims to become a South Zone Nodal Center for MOOCs-ICT course design and development, training and dissemination. It also aims to develop online courses in vernacular languages (with emphasis on Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, Kannada and Hindi) for the benefit of students. In 2018-19, as many as 45 online courses were offered to benefit 555 CUTN students. Its achievements include establishing an online feedback system, conducting online examination and implementation of the Moodle software. The Cell has facilitated the submission of EOI for SWAYAM by the faculty members and is undertaking the task of creating a digital repository for CUTN. ■

RASHTRIYA AVISHKAR ABHIYAN

## Science+ Maths = Enjoyment



Under the Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan scheme, CUTN takes institution-acquired knowledge for implementation outside the campus and makes learning of Science and Mathematics a joyful and meaningful experience for children. It also brings focus on innovation and use of technology, as per the intent of the Ministry of Human Resource Development that introduced the scheme, and establishes a convergent framework to nurture a spirit of inquiry and creativity among children and rekindle the love for Science and Mathematics and encourage them to show an inclination and talent for these subjects. In CUTN, several workshops have been organised for Science Mathematics teachers and students of schools from the 10 blocks around CUTN comprising Thiruvavur, Thiruthurai, Muthupetta, Kottur, Mannargudi, Needamangalam, Koradacheri, Valangaiman, Kudavasal, Nannilam. Under this initiative, CUTN has taken measures to stimulate the school students to think and discover scientific results; demonstrate pedagogical strategies and guidelines for school teachers; facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experience among teachers; demonstrate the use of technology in Science and Mathematics teaching and sharing of best practices in assessment. It has organised several pedagogical training programmes for teachers, awareness and orientation programmes, and Science camps for girls and boys. ■

UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN

## For rural development

Under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) scheme, CUTN envisions to bring about positive change by leveraging knowledge institutions in rural pockets near the university. CUTN has adopted five villages: Aadhamangalam in Nagakudi Gram Panchayat; Chakkaramangalam in Nagakudi Gram Panchayat; Karunakaranallur in Perumpukalur Gram Panchayat; Neelagudi in Perumpukalur Gram Panchayat and Thiyagarajapuram in Perumpukalur Gram Panchayat. In 2018, a baseline survey was conducted in these villages to identify their major problems and take remedial measures. An awareness programme was conducted to encourage the use of vermicompost manure in the adopted villages and free compost generated from the vegetable waste of CUTN was distributed to the farmers. Free medical camps were organised in association with the Health Centre of CUTN for the benefit of the people in the adopted villages. In 2018, a massive tree plantation campaign was taken up on the university campus and about 10,800 seedlings were planted at a cost of Rs22 lakh. People from Neelakudi and Karunakaranallur villages were employed for this purpose. Several other development initiatives were undertaken in these adopted villages: quality check of drinking water and provision of drinking water; construction of toilets for houses; training in coir products production for women; job fair for rural youth; awareness programme on CUCET; and distribution of free caps to women daily wage workers. ■



COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## Now, anyone can learn!



Education plays an important role in the holistic development of human beings as well as the nation. There is a worldwide shift in focus from conventional educational systems to competence-based qualification systems. To harness the untapped demographic dividend of India, India needs an educational system which is of high quality, affordable, flexible and relevant to the individuals, the economy and to the society as a whole. To offer skill-based training and career-oriented education, CUTN launched the Community College and offers certificate courses and diploma programmes to CUTN students and the general public during weekends. In 2015, the Community College received the UGC approval to start a six-month Certificate Course in Paralegal Studies in collaboration with the National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bangalore. Three batches of students completed their courses successfully. For the academic year 2018-19, the Community College of CUTN submitted applications to the UGC to start eight new certificate programmes. All the eight programmes were approved by the UGC. As many as 216 people from across the state benefited from the nine programmes offered by the Community College in 2018-19. In 2019-20, as many as 18 programmes are offered through the Community College of CUTN. ■

ENTRY INTO SERVICE CELL

## Coaching for the minorities

In the Twelfth Five Year Plan, the University Grants Commission (UGC) made special allocations for promoting higher education among minorities and provided separate assistance to the universities to help students enter the services. It provides free coaching classes for SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer) and minority community students to help them gain employment under the Group A, B and C categories in Central services, State services, banks and equivalent positions in the private sector. Applications received from colleges and universities from across Tamil Nadu and the students from CUTN were scrutinised and selected for free coaching classes during weekends and semester holidays. Experts are invited as resource persons for the classes. Separate courses are conducted for civil service and bank examinations. Apart from regular courses, the students are also trained on personality development and interview skills. Study materials are given to students and tests are conducted periodically. ■



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS CELL

## Promoting IPR culture



CUTN's Intellectual Property Rights Cell strives to educate the research community and have a shared understanding of what Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) is and the legal, ethical benefits behind protecting the ideas. It also aims to identify, create and maintain the IP portfolio of CUTN, create an environment to conduct academia-industry collaborative research and teaching activities and promote IPR culture in CUTN. It also propagates collaboration with other IPR units of government organisations and updates and shares the best practices in this domain. In a bid to promote academic integrity, the IPR Cell initiated a common research methodology course at the institute-level creating a consortium of scholars for better understanding of IPR and also promoting innovative research topics. It has put a plagiarism check in place and all the thesis and dissertations of CUTN pass through quality checks to be compliant on the academic integrity. It plans to create an in-house end-to-end process for patent filing, prosecution and technology transfer. ■

IT INFRASTRUCTURE

## For high-speed internet

Equipped with over 100 devices installed across the CUTN campuses, the Data Centre is designed using optical fibre to offer ultra high-speed internet to the academic and administrative blocks, libraries and hostels. CUTN's Data Centre maintains and hosts the main website of the university, along with individual websites of the departments and faculty profile web-pages. It also runs servers to provide online services with regard to administration, admissions, examination, library, e-resources, institutional email and research using campus agreements with state-of-the-art software providers. Apart from free internet connectivity enabled through the Campus Wi-Fi facility, a LAN network infrastructure has been constructed to offer secure and scalable internet connectivity for the CUTN staff, faculty and computer laboratories with gigabit ethernet speed. Smart classrooms have been established in the departments of CUTN creating a digital classroom atmosphere with Wi-Fi and equipped with interactive boards, projectors, computers and multimedia equipment for e-learning. ■



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY CELL

## Maintaining the balance



CUTN's Equal Opportunity Cell (EoC) was constituted as per the UGC guidelines to maintain equality of opportunities to all the stakeholders of the university. That the cell is chaired and headed by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor himself is an indication of the pivotal role the EoC carries out in the scheme of things of the institution. It has been functional since 2016-17. A series of lectures on equal opportunity has been organised by the Cell to discuss positive discrimination, hierarchical social order and democracy. This year, the EoC organised a self-defence programme for female students. ■

HINDI CLUB

## Enhancing expressions!



CUTN's Hindi Club was established in 2012 to train students in performing arts and promote expressions in Hindi. It organises regular cultural and literary events to create awareness about Hindi among the students and staff and improve overall expression in Hindi using different methodologies such as drama, screenings, discussion forums and several interesting events. In August 2018, the movie 'Buddha in a Traffic Jam' (written and directed by Vivek Agnihotri) was screened at the Department of Hindi. In October 2018, a guest lecture was organised on 'Phonetics and Sound Change' with the joint collaboration of the Hindi Department and Hindi Club. In August 2018, a Poetry Recitation event was organised with the Chief Guest of the programme being Dr. Vijay Shankar who read many poems from his published poetry collection 'Aaj maine bahut sa ujala dekha'. In September 2018, 'Aakrosh' directed by Govind Nihalani and written by Vijay Tendulkar was screened. In September 2018, a guest lecture was organised on 'Employment Avenues in Hindi' and Dr. Sanjay Prasad Srivastava, JRP/Lecturer (Hindi), National Testing Service, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, was the resource person. Similarly, in October 2018, a guest lecture was organised on 'Journalism and Public Relations'. ■

SCIENCE CLUB

## Seeding the science spirit

CUTN's Science Club has organised several extraordinary events for the club members and CUTN fraternity in the past decade. During this period, the club strengthened its network by increasing the number of active volunteers and continues to attract Science and Arts students and engage them in energetic participation. It provides a space to discuss ideas related to various branches of sciences and organises scientific events and seminars to cultivate interests in both basic and applied sciences. Through this club, students experience and explore science in creative ways. It also screens movies and documentaries based on scientists, science concepts and science fiction, apart from seminars, debate, quiz and group discussions. Through annual Science Fairs and Workshops, it offers students a pleasurable way of learning science outside their conventional academic arrangement. ■



STUDENT PLACEMENT CELL

## Creating career opportunities



CUTN has taken a plethora of initiatives to help students in their placements in various reputed organisations. A Workshop on Big Data Analytics by industry experts Nationstar Mortgage was organised in Nov 2017. In the same year, experts from the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Pune, offered a talk on various services and products that are being handled at CDAC and also explained the potential career opportunities for CUTN students. Panel discussions on 'A global and sustainable interface between academia and industry' and 'Scientists and Engineers role on building India' were also organised by the Placement Cell. It has set up a video conferencing facility for the students to take up off-campus interviews online. This has encouraged companies to conduct interviews without visiting the campus. It has also created an online platform with the help of HireMee to connect CUTN students with various employers across India. HireMee is a CSR initiative by a group of companies. ■

HERITAGE CLUB

## Preserving our practices

Situated in the heart of the Cauvery Delta, CUTN is not only rural in character harmonising with the vision of the Central universities newly started in 2009, but is also rich in cultural heritage and the university is well aware of this fact. Being a Central university, it has students and faculty members from different states of the country. Therefore, it has taken special efforts to introduce the heritage of this place to its pluralistic campus population. One such is its Heritage Club dedicated to the nurturing of indigenous traditions and local cultures through extraordinary events. To revive the traditional games, the Club organised a games event Ayarchi, an old Tamil word meaning play. It also organised a brand-new initiative 'Kadhai Kelu!' to encourage students to share short-stories from hearsay and come up with their own that reflects on culture and traditions. This ethnically and religiously diverse country is replete with regional cultures and the indigenous wisdom of oral literature is rich. With the onus on the younger generation to help it survive in new-fashioned forms, the Club offered a platform to share traditional knowledge. These apart, the Club organised the 'Sangamam' cultural contest featuring several competitions for students on cultural and heritage themes. With the help of SPIC MACAY, it also organises music concerts and takes students to participate in national-level cultural exchanges. ■



# Among the frontrunners!

## DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

CUTN's Department of Chemistry is well-known for its academic excellence, through its postgraduate and doctoral programmes. The department was established in 2010 and was operational from a temporary campus at the Collectorate Annex building, Thiruvavur. Later in 2013, it started to function in the common Science block until it occupied a new building in the academic campus of CUTN in Neelakudi.

The department began to operate with an initial strength of 13 integrated M.Sc. students, two guest faculty members and two Visiting Professors. The first Board of Studies was conducted in 2012 to frame the curriculum and syllabi for the integrated M.Sc. programme. During the same year, one Professor and five Assistant Professors were recruited on contract basis. Towards the end of 2012, Dr. S. Nagarajan joined the department as its first regular faculty member as an Associate Professor and in 2016 was promoted as Professor.

In 2013, Dr. S. G. Ramkumar, Dr. V. Rajendiran, Dr. Vittal Babu Gudimetla and Dr. Shiva Prasad joined as Assistant Professors and Dr. T. Mohan Das joined the department as an Associate Professor. Dr. Mohan Das was promoted as a Professor in 2017 under CAS. In 2018, Dr. V. Prabha and Dr. John Prakash were appointed as Assistant Professors on a regular basis. In addition to the regular faculty members, the department has engaged five assistant professors on contractual basis. Besides, Mr. Chandru joined as a technical assistant in 2012 and was promoted as a Senior Technical Assistant in 2017. Mr. Arul Prasath joined as a Lab Assistant and Mr. Sembulingam as a Lab Attender in 2017. With the combined efforts of all the faculty members and support staff, the department had introduced new programmes. Besides the five-year Integrated M.Sc. programme, the department is currently offering two-year M.Sc. M.Phil., PGDCLT, and Ph.D. programmes.

The department has been active in research and the thrust areas include Organic Electronics, Carbohydrate Chemistry, Polymers, Bio-inorganic Chemistry, Organometallics, and

ESTABLISHED  
**2010**

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **05** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **08**

PROJECTS **15** | Rs**3.15** CRORE

Phosphorous Chemistry, Asymmetric Catalysis, Computational Inorganic Chemistry and Spectroscopy. Faculty members of the Department are handling various research projects funded by UGC, CSIR, and DST.

The department has witnessed an increase in the strength of research scholars. Department of Chemistry is equipped with world-class laboratory, infrastructure, classrooms, conference halls and smart classrooms. The advanced laboratory facilities were inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash in March 2019 in the presence of Registrar, Controller of Examinations, Finance Officer, Deans, Heads and faculty members from other departments.

The Department is equipped with basic and advanced instrumentation facilities such as FT-IR, UV-VIS Spectrophotometer, Fluorescence Spectrophotometer, Cyclic Voltammeter, Gas Chromatograph, Semiconductor Parameter Analyser, simultaneous DSC-TGA-DTA, DSC, Gel Documentation System HPLC, LC-MS, and NMR. The instruments are accessible to Ph.D. scholars, final-year integrated M.Sc. and M.Sc. students to carry out their research project works successfully.

The Department of Chemistry thrives to provide ample opportunity for the students to acquire basic knowledge in Chemistry. In addition to the theory courses conducted regularly, the laboratory courses also provide hands-on experience to the students at all levels. The main focus of the department is to enable students to have a glimpse of contemporary research, both in terms of academia and industry, therefore, the final semester students in Chemistry are dedi-

## Success STORIES



### Fellowships

Our students are well recognized in all leading institutions for their academic excellence.

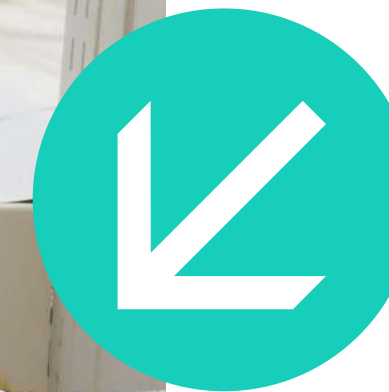
Students are regularly visiting various institutes like IITs, IISERs, and other Universities as summer/winter interns during their vacation to advance their knowledge and research skills. In the academic year 2017-2018, several students qualified national level competitive exams (CSIR, GATE) to pursue their Ph.D. with fellowships and more importantly, eight of our students have been placed in jobs through campus interviews.

### Numbers don't lie!

As many as 10 students from the department have cleared CSIR-NET or SET, while 18 have passed the GATE. Five students have cleared IELTS/GRE/TOEFL.

catedly engaged in project work.

The department also plans to include a placement cell, which will facilitate students to join the industry, in case they do not want to pursue higher education. As many as four students from the department have secured CSIR-JRF. ■



### Sophisticated instrumentation

Chemistry department is equipped with sophisticated instrumentation facilities such as 400 MHz NMR, LC-HRMS, DSC-TGA, FT-IR, UV with DAD, GC-FID, HPLC with DAD, DSC, Cyclic voltammetry, Gel documentation system and UV-NIR. The procurement of GPC and Ultra-fast-fluorescence lifetime measurement instruments are under progress. ■

### World-class labs

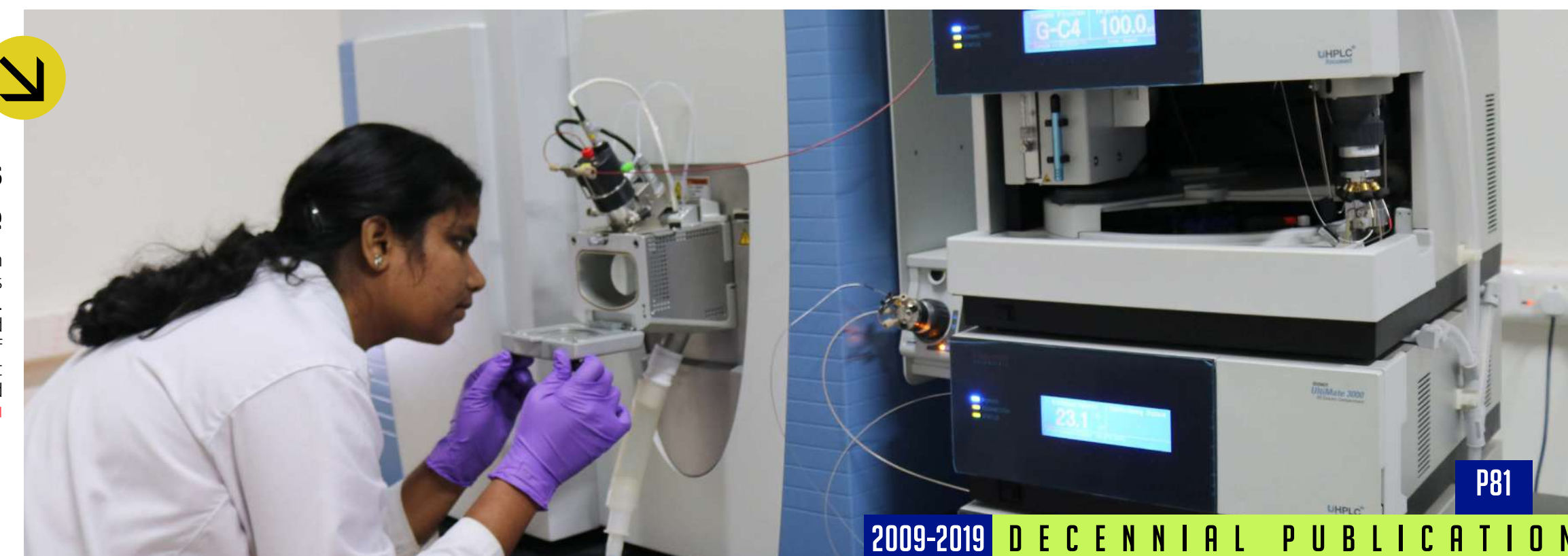
Its advanced laboratory facilities were inaugurated by our Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor on 22nd March 2019 in the presence of respected Registrar, Controller of Examination, Finance Officer, Deans, Heads and Faculties from other departments. ■



### Systems in place

Advanced lab facilities for both teaching and research students are available at the department.

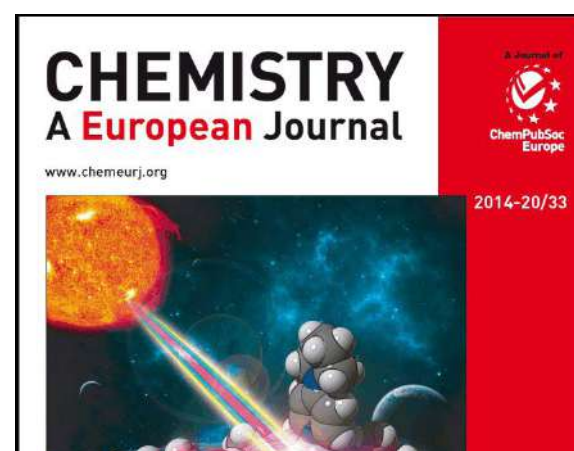
All the labs are equipped with sufficient number of working tables with spot extractors and exhaust systems. ■





2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

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**Top publications**

The department faculty members have published in leading Chemistry journals including the RSC Advances, Macromolecules, Journal of Materials Chemistry C, NJC, Coordination Chemistry Reviews, ChemistrySelect and the Journal of Carbohydrate Chemistry. ■

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**Royal fellowship**

Prof. S. Nagarajan, Department of Chemistry, CUTN, was honoured with the Fellowship of the Royal Society of Chemistry (FRSC), London, in recognition of his outstanding research contributions to Chemical Sciences in 2014. ■



4



**Raman PDF**

Assistant Professor Dr. V. Rajendran was awarded the Raman Post-doctoral fellowship by the UGC to carry out post-doctoral research at the Department of Biomedical Engineering, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York, USA, for 12 months in 2016. ■

**Internships**

Department of Chemistry students are encouraged to visit top institutes such as IIT and ISER for internships. Students receive exposures in their relevant areas of interest, learn nuances of research and also have hands on training advanced research equipments. ■



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**Transition**

'Transition' is an outreach programme of the Department of Chemistry, Central University of Tamil Nadu, organised every year. The main thrust of the programme is to bring in enthusiasm and to fascinate the students about the various realms of Chemistry. It is with this resolve that the programme 'Transition' provides a platform for the students, young research scholars, and faculty members to share their scientific experiences and create an environment conducive for research and teaching activities. Apart from this, the department regularly organises theme-based workshops. ■



2016 2017 2018 2019

**Sports Champ**

Students from the Department of Chemistry bagged the overall sports championship of the year 2018-19. ■

8



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**Brainstorming**

Every year, the department celebrates the Science Day to create awareness of science and its importance in day-to-day life among the student community. Experiments are exhibited to school students and various competitions are conducted at the intra-departmental level. ■

**Industrial visit**

To enrich the knowledge of the students with practical visualisation, the department organises industrial visits. In addition to this, educational tours are arranged to visit sophisticated labs and industries. ■



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**Out of the class**

To build interpersonal relationships and to improve the physical and mental strength of the students and faculty members, the department organises sports and cultural activities. Since 2018, the department has been organising Elixir, an intra-departmental cultural programme. It is organised by the students. All the students in the department are encouraged to participate in various cultural events. It gives a platform for amalgamation between seniors and juniors. It also increases the leadership and team-building qualities. ■



**Understanding molecular properties**

Department of Chemistry organised a talk on Modeling of Molecular Properties-Fundamental Principles and Success Stories & Bispidine Coordination by Prof. Peter Combo, University of Heidelberg, Germany. Students got an opportunity to discuss with the professor and had an excellent sharing of knowledge during his stay at CUTN. ■



7

**Success STORIES**



Inspirers

In the Department of Chemistry, six have secured the DST-INSPIRE fellowships, while one has secured the UGC Maulana Azad fellowship and two have secured the DST-NPDF. As many as 16 have secured fellowships from CUTN and five have secured post or merit scholarships. ■

**DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY FACULTY**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <br><b>Prof. T. Mohandas</b><br>Professor and Head          | <br><b>Prof. S. Nagarajan</b><br>Professor            |
| <br><b>Dr. S. G. Ramkumar</b><br>Assistant Professor        | <br><b>Dr. V. Rajendran</b><br>Assistant Professor    |
| <br><b>Dr. Vittal Babu Gudimetla</b><br>Assistant Professor | <br><b>Dr. M. Shiva Prasad</b><br>Assistant Professor |
| <br><b>Dr. Prabha Vadivelu</b><br>Assistant Professor      | <br><b>Dr. John Prakash</b><br>Assistant Professor   |

# Laboratories: A class apart!

## DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

The Department of Physics is among those established during the initial phases of CUTN, in 2010, under the School of Basic and Applied Sciences. Its modest beginning saw the department bloom in a temporary campus within the Thiruvavur Collectorate enclosure and offer an Integrated Master's programme (iM.Sc.) in Physics.

It started its academic journey with the first iM.Sc. batch of 17 students from across the country. In 2012, Prof. P. Ravindran was appointed as the Head of the Department, while Dr. V. Madhurima and Dr. M. Ponnuragan were also appointed as regular faculty in the department.

By the end of 2013, the department moved to Neelakudi. Subsequently, Dr. L. Kavitha, Dr. R. Arun and Dr. Venkata Saravanan K. were appointed as regular faculty in the same year.

Apart from the regular faculty, Dr. Sterlin Leo Hudson and Dr. I. Panneer Muthuselvam joined as DST Inspire faculty in 2013 and 2018, respectively, and Dr. K. Chandra Sekhar joined in 2015 as a UGC Assistant professor. Meanwhile, Dr. V. Madhurima became the Head of the Department in June 2015.

Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash inaugurated an exclusive two-storey building with 62,000 sq.ft. floor space for the department in January 2016.

Now, the Department of Physics is well-equipped on a par with international standards with the following facilities: 10 teaching laboratories, 14 independent research laboratories, six seminar rooms, two conference halls, two discussion rooms and also one visiting faculty room. Further, it also has well-equipped material synthesis and characterisation laboratories. All the classrooms are highly equipped with state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment to enhance the quality of learning, and smart classrooms are also used for specialised teaching courses on MOOCS and Swayam.

Prof. L. Kavitha was appointed as the Head of the Depart-

ESTABLISHED  
**2010**

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **02** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **08**

PROJECTS **15** | Rs**2.95** CRORE

ment in January 2018. The faculty of Physics department have been actively pursuing research in the emerging fields both in theoretical and experimental Physics, ranging from Materials Science, Experimental Soft Condensed Matter Physics, Nonlinear Dynamics, Biomaterials, Statistical Mechanics, Computational Materials Science and Quantum Optics. The department laboratories have advanced research equipment such as XRD, Confocal Microscope, FTIR, Spin Coating Unit, Impedance Analyzer and High Precision Furnace.

As well as being concerned with deep fundamental questions, physics forms the basis of most present and future technology like computers, cell phones, lasers and the internet. The Integrated M.Sc. Physics programme offered by the department aims to train the students in high-level theoretical knowledge enabling them to tackle practical complex problems in industrial fields as well as to pursue further academic achievements through research. Since Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Life Sciences are fundamental courses in the sciences, students will be taught a mix of all these four subjects during the first two years.

All these four departments in CUTN are well-equipped to offer hands-on training in state-of-the-art experiments. After successful completion of fundamental courses, a student will take up core courses in Physics. In addition to the core Physics subjects, the students can acquire additional expertise in special area of Physics in the final year. During this period, all possible opportunities will be created for close interaction with research institutes and industries so as to pro-

## Success STORIES



### Applications galore

The number of applications received for the Integrated Master's programme is exponentially increasing every year: which was a few hundred in 2011 has risen to over 5,000 in 2019.

### 10 states

Today, the department comprises six core faculty members, two DST-Inspire faculty along with one UGC faculty, enrolling 140 iM.Sc. students, 29 Ph.D. research scholars and five post-doctoral students from more than 10 states of India.

vide high-level training. Thus the main objective of this programme is to prepare the younger generation to cope with the emerging scenario in the top level industries, academic and research institutions. ■



### Facilities for advanced research

Now, the Department of Physics is well-equipped on a par with international standards with the following facilities: 10 teaching laboratories, 14 independent research laboratories, six seminar rooms, two conference halls, two discussion rooms and also one visiting faculty room. ■

### Global reach

Students from the Department of Physics have time and again proved their mettle and their academic and co-curricular prowess by achieving scholarships, prestigious internships, securing ranks in national-level exams and participating in zonal-level sports tournaments which are but a few of many more conquests. Several Physics students are now pursuing higher studies abroad, including Murali Krishna and Syam Kumar in Germany and Ireland, respectively. Students Sarath, Aswani, Lekshmi, Gopika and Arjun are recipients of the DST Inspire scholarship, and Ruchi Mishra of the NRST scholarship. ■

### Expo for kids

When Cutn observed the National Science Day on February 28, 2017, the Department of Physics organised an exhibition for schoolchildren in and around the district. Department students became tutors and the teachers took a backseat and supported them. This science exhibition provided a great opportunity for the school students to nurture their interests in sciences and for the university students to test their understanding of basic concepts while trying to explain them to the tiny tots. It was a highly-enriching experience for all. ■



### An individual block

All the classrooms are highly equipped with state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment to enhance the quality of learning, and smart classrooms are also used for specialised teaching courses on MOOCS and Swayam. ■





2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

2



### Crash course

Aiming to introduce and revive the fundamental aspects of Quantum Mechanics, Statistical Physics, Thermodynamics and Astrophysics at a level necessary for a good understanding and to review the applications and latest developments in detail, a crash course on 'Lecture Series in Physics II (LSP-2018)' was organised during March 10-14, 2018. Over 100 students participated. A talk on Fundamentals of Astrophysics was delivered by Prof. M. S. Sriram, University of Madras. ■

### Patents filed

Prof. L. Kavitha, Head of the Department, holds two patents for Synthesis of hydroxyapatite using lactic acid as green template, Indian patent (Patent No. 1229/DEL/2014); Synthesis of hydroxyapatite using lactic acid as green template, US patent (Patent No. US2015/0052028IN); and has filed an Indian patent for Pulsed electrodeposition of minerals substituted hydroxyapatite coating on borate passivated Ti-6Al-4V alloy for implant applications. ■

3



### Experiments

It organised a two-day workshop on Advance Experimental Technique (AET-2018) from March 15, 2018. Dr. S. Damodharan from the Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetam, Kerala, lecture focussing on ion-beam (FIB) with very interesting area of 2D and 3D structured materials. ■

4



### Prevega is out!

Pravega, which means acceleration in Sanskrit, is an e-newsletter brought out by the Department of Physics since 2015. It reflects the dynamism of thoughts, ideas and emotions, and features articles from students and faculty members. ■



5

1

### To ignite minds

Department of Physics launched a novel initiative titled Spark which stands for the Science Park of CUTN, on September 11, 2017. Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash inaugurated this first-of-its-kind formal long-term outreach programme that aims at spreading specifics of science among schoolchildren to create interest in these subjects. It is modelled on the lines of the Homi Bhabha Science Center. Under this initiative, the first batch to receive hands-on learning was from the Kendriya Vidyalaya. Spark covered all major subjects such as Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry and Life Sciences to create interest among them. Students from the Department of Physics showed enormous interest in teaching the children by organising experiments. ■



### Lecture series

Department of Physics' colloquium and seminar series has been a huge success right from its initial days. It has seen a significant rise in interest from the students and research scholars as a series of lectures are delivered by faculty members, research scholars and subject experts from various prestigious institutions from across the country. It has always been a source of inspiration and motivation for the students. ■

6



### Quiz draws crowd

Physics Club of the Department of Physics has always played an active role to feed into the enthusiasm of the students. During 2017-18, the club saw new enrolment from the first year students apart from the regular discussions and meetings. It organised a Physics Quiz contest but saw students participating from several departments of the university ranging from science to business management. In all, over 60 students participated in the quiz contest. ■

7

2016 2017 2018 2019

### GATE crossed

As many as 10 students from the department have qualified GATE/NET/JRF/JAM/JEST examinations. At least seven students have cleared GATE, five of them in 2019. ■

8



9

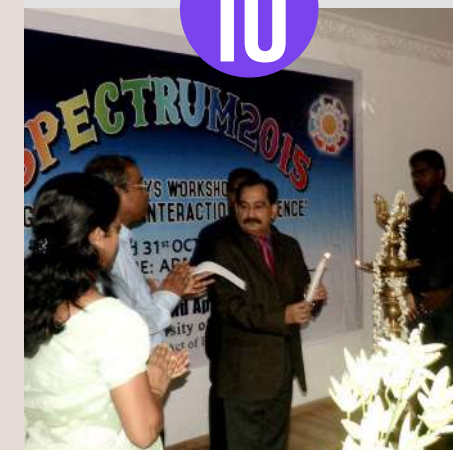
### Conferences

Department of Physics has organised several research conferences: National conference on 'Advances in Computational Physics' during February 14-16, 2013; National Conferences on 'Current Trends in Soft Matter' during March 19-20 and 'Advances in Computational Materials Science' during April 23-25, 2015; Advance Experimental Technique (AET) conference during March 15-16, 2018. ■

### Spectrum

Department of Physics organised a two-day workshop on Spectrum 2015 for discussions on light matter interaction in science from October 30, 2015. Faculty members and students from several university departments participated in the workshop. ■

10



## Success Stories



### 153 papers

Physics faculty have published 153 papers in journals of high international repute. ■

### Perturbation Club

Department of Physics has instituted a Perturbations Physics Club that aims to develop a 'Physics Creative Community' with a wider knowledge and deep understanding of physics through innovative practices. Perturbation Physics Club organises several competitions such as quiz, debate, oral and poster presentation. Each year, the department celebrates the National Science Day in a grand manner under the banner of the club. ■

## DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS FACULTY



Prof. L. Kavitha  
Professor and Head



Prof. P. Ravindran  
Professor



Prof. V. Madhurima  
Professor



Dr. M. Ponmurugan  
Assistant Professor



Dr. R. Arun  
Assistant Professor



Dr. K. Venkata Saravanan  
Assistant Professor



Dr. K. Chandra Shekar  
UGC-Assistant Professor



Dr. I. Paneer Muthuselvam  
DST-Inspire Faculty

# Championing the mind game!

## DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY

Application of psychological principles to solve human problems has acquired new dimensions with the changing nature of the challenges that the world faces today. It is in this context that the Department of Applied Psychology of CUTN has been established. The department envisions to become a leader in psychological research, development and teaching. The guiding philosophy of the department has been to promote human development, learning, health and well-being through unparalleled education, research and allied services.

Launched in 2017, the department offers a programme with three specialisations: Clinical Psychology, Counselling Psychology and Organizational Psychology. The department's unique postgraduate programme in Applied Psychology is designed to foster student knowledge on psychological theory, research and practice through a variety of coursework and fieldwork.

The department focuses on imparting knowledge directed towards practical applications of theoretical cognizance. M.Phil. and Ph.D. programmes are also offered in Applied Psychology. Though a new department in the university, the department has been highly active and organised a plethora of programmes for the development of its students.

### Suicide Prevention Week

Department of Applied Psychology observed Suicide Prevention Week with the theme 'Take a minute, change a life' from Sept 10, 2017. Dr. Mamman Joseph C, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Applied Psychology organised a three-day 'Suicide Prevention Training Programme' in which 24 students from 12 departments participated. A week-long awareness programme was concluded with a marathon, organised by the department on Sep 15, 2017.

Dr. S. Bhuvanewari, Registrar, emphasised the need for suicide prevention and flagged off the event.

Department of Applied Psychology organised a series of

ESTABLISHED  
**2017**

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **03** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **03**

PROJECTS **02** | **Rs13.29 LAKH**



**INAUGURATION ON AUGUST 30, 2017**

events in support of the World Suicide Prevention Day 2017. Training was offered in suicide prevention to students from several departments. Over 50 students participated. As part of its community extension programme, the department students, along with faculty members, paid regular visits to an old-age home at the Sri Rama Krishna Seva Sangam, Subramanya Kovil Street, Ammayappan, Thiruvavur.

The department fraternity took yet another step ahead by observing World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10, 2018 on the title 'Every Life Matters'. Various programmes were organised including awareness talk on the theme 'Work-

## Success STORIES



### Placements

The first batch students of the Department of Applied Psychology passed this year and have obtained admission to higher studies and employment in reputed institutions. Several students have been inducted as guest faculty members and as research assistants for funded projects secured by the department.

### 9 pass NET

So far, nine students from the Department of Applied Psychology have cleared the National Eligibility Test for Assistant Professorship.

ing Together to Prevent Suicide' and competitions of extempore, poster making, skit, photography and slogan writing. There was a screening of a documentary on suicide prevention by Dr. Boobalakrishnan, Assistant Professor, Department of Media and Communication, which was thought provoking. It was followed by an awareness talk by Dr. Mamman Joseph C, on 'Working Together to Prevent Suicide'. ■



### Psynova: Sharing knowledge, growth

This e-newsletter from the Department of Applied Psychology is a novel platform that records the precious moments of the Department. Psynova is an inter-section of challenge and opportunity to review the efforts and analyse achievements in academics, research and development. This newsletter is also a platform that exhibits the literary skills and innovative ideas of teachers, students and scholars of the department. It is the Department's obligation to share the knowledge, concerns and insights with the university academia. ■

### Health and Wellbeing

Health and well-being are pivotal for growth, development and productivity of a society. Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being at all ages is essential in building prosperous societies. Dept. of Applied Psychology organised a National seminar on 'Health and Wellbeing in a Multi Sectoral Perspective: Recent Trends, Challenges and Opportunities' on Feb 27, 2018. Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash inaugurated the seminar in which several experts participated. 108 registered participants and 51 paper presentations from 12 different universities across the country.



### First Brochure

The Brochure of the Department was released by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Dr. A.P. Dash in the presence of Dean (Academics), Coordinator of the Dept. and Faculty members. This department offers a programme with three specialisations: Clinical Psychology, Counselling Psychology and Organizational Psychology. The department's unique postgraduate programme in Applied Psychology is designed to foster student knowledge on psychological theory, research and practice through a variety of coursework and fieldwork. ■

### General Psychology Lab

Various psychological assessments are performed in the General Psychology Lab of the department. ■



### Psycho Physics Lab

Students are conducting Psychological experiments in the laboratory to enrich their theoretical knowledge. ■



2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015



### Workshop on CBT

A National Workshop was conducted by the Department of Applied Psychology on Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) on October 1, 2018. CBT is a therapeutic approach which enables an individual to recognize how one's thoughts can affect their feelings and behaviour. ■

### Mental Health Day

The Department of Applied Psychology observed the World Mental Health Day in October 2018. A two-day exhibition and various competitions were also conducted as a part of it. ■



### Special lecture

A special lecture on 'Applications of Psychology in a Changing World' was organised on October 31, 2018. The ceremony was graced by Prof. R Karpaga Kumaravel, Dean, School of Behavioural Sciences. The resource person, Prof. N. Seshadri was the Former Principal of National College, Trichy. ■

### Book launch

As a sequel to the National Seminar conducted under the aegis of Department of Applied Psychology on February 27, 2018, a book was published by the department on 'Health and Well-Being in a Multi Sectoral Perspective: Recent Trends, Challenges and Opportunities'. Event was organised on April 9, 2019. ■



1

### For the flood-hit

When flood struck Kerala and Gaja swept through Thiruvavur, the department students served the community in several ways. In the context of flood and landslide in Kerala and its disastrous aftermath, 10 student volunteers from the Department of Applied Psychology, CUTN, took up the responsibility of providing psychological care for the flood-affected from August 24 to September 5, 2018. The students took part in a project on 'Psychosocial Care for Flood Affected' by the Department of Women and Child Development, Department of Health and Family Welfare, District Mental Health Programme, Government of Kerala, which was technically supported by the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru. ■



2016 2017 2018 2019

### Psy-diagnostics

Department of Applied Psychology conducted a two-day National Workshop on Psychodiagnostics from September 29, 2018. The resource person was Mr. Baijesh A. R., Clinical Psychologist. The focus of the workshop was to impart knowledge on Rorschach Inkblot Technique. ■



### FDP

A Faculty Development Programme was organised on September 20, 2017, and was headed by Emeritus Professor Dr. Vimala Veeraraghavan under the aegis of the Department of Applied Psychology. Several sessions were conducted on topics such as 'Grant Proposal Preparation' and 'Manuscript Preparation and Peer Review'. ■



### Sensitisation

The Department of Applied Psychology organised a sensitisation programme on Health and Hygiene in Kendriya Vidyalaya, CUTN, on September 25, 2018, which was inaugurated by the Principal Vijay Anand and was presided over by Dr. Mamman Joseph. ■



### Psychological Society

'Psychological Society' was launched on October 9, 2018. The entire psychology fraternity of CUTN are members of the Psychological Society. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. A. P. Dash, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Tamil Nadu in the presence of Dr. S. Bhuvaneswari, Registrar, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Nagarajan, Dean of Students Welfare, Dr. Mamman Joseph C., Head (i/c), Department of Applied Psychology, and Dr. V. Vithya, Assistant Professor, Department of Applied Psychology. ■



### Personal efficiency

A special lecture on 'Personal Effectiveness' was organised by the Department of Applied Psychology on July 16, 2019. The resource person, Dr. M. S. Razeena Padmam is a Professor and a Former Director of the School of Behavioural Sciences in Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam. She is an academician with around 30 years of experience in teaching. She discussed efficiency and its significance in the current competitive world. Her insights on how well one can be equipped during turbulent periods was enlightening. ■



## Success STORIES



### Quite IMPRESSIVE

Two faculty members of the Department of Applied Psychology have been awarded projects under the IMPRESS scheme of the Ministry of Human Resource Development. Dr. Mamman Joseph C. secured a project for his proposal on 'Gatekeeper's Attitude: Skill and knowledge about psychosocial care for the disaster-affected' and Dr. Vithya V. won the project for her proposal on 'Impact of Natural Disaster on Mental Health of RescueWorkers'. ■

### Young Scientist Award

Dr. Vithya V. received the Young Scientist Award from the Governing Council of Indian School Psychology Association that is instituted by Prof. Erika Vogit, School Psychologist, Germany, 2018. Dr. Vithya had also received the Prof. Durganand Sinha Dissertation Award from the National Academy of Psychology (NAOP), 2018. ■



Dr. Mamman Joseph C Assistant Professor and Head (in-charge)



Dr. V. Vithya Assistant Professor



Dr. Ruth Angiel Assistant Professor

# With wide and varied expertise

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Launched in 2017, the Department of Commerce offers a two-year M.Com. programme under the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) with an annual intake of 40 seats. Though challenging, a plethora of opportunities are available in the business sector and this programme equips the students by training their young mind to grab these opportunities. The curriculum for this programme is carefully designed in accordance with the changing needs of the society. The students are provided exposure through different types of academic and extracurricular activities.

The department also offers full-time M.Phil. and Ph.D. programmes. The real strength of the department is its faculty members whose experience, expertise and research capabilities motivate the students to become innovative thinkers, problem solvers and inspired leaders in the corporate world. The vision of this department is to develop the department into a world-class centre of excellence and vibrant hub of higher education & research in the field of Commerce. It offers state-of-the-art academic infrastructure to impart quality Commerce education. The department sends the students for internships and encourages them to indulge in projects leading to high quality learning and research, enhancing training and development opportunities so as to develop a team of competent and qualified professionals.

It continuously evaluates performance against academic benchmarks, develops new programmes and initiates global tie-ups to meet the stakeholders' requirements. It also strives to produce both competent and ethically and morally elevated human resource to serve the mankind. The department is run by five permanent and two contractual faculty members.

**Rising student numbers**  
 During the academic year 2017-18, there were 19 students (of

ESTABLISHED  
**2017**

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **03** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **05**

PROJECTS **02** | **Rs5.80 LAKH**

the sanctioned intake of 20) admitted for the M.Com. programme. Due to the overwhelming response for the course, then it was decided to increase the student intake to 40 in 2018-19. The popularity of the faculty, curricular and co-curricular activities seem to have attracted the students. In the academic year 2018-19, two new programmes, M.Phil. and Ph.D., were introduced.

### Seminars and conferences

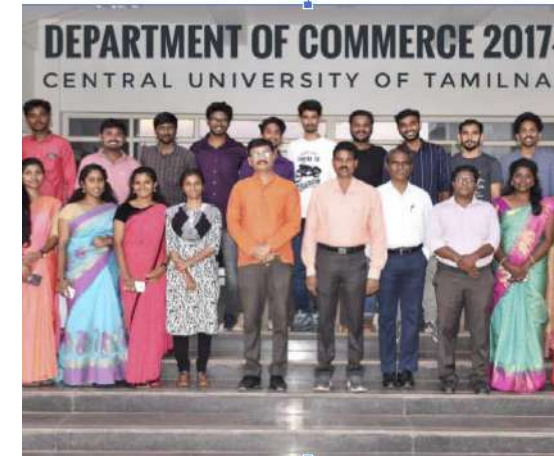
With the active contribution of its faculty and students, the department took efforts to conduct several seminars, conferences and workshops.

Commerce education is an attractive degree programme, thanks to the placement opportunities, avenues for career growth, attractive salary packages and entrepreneurship. Companies prefer Commerce graduates because of their strong conceptual knowledge and skills in accounting, taxation, marketing and finance, useful in the organisational activities and recruitment of such candidates reduces the cost of training. Due to this, the enrolment to the M.Com. programme has doubled in just one year.

### Non-Net to JRF's

With the continuous motivation and guidance of the faculty, 3 M.Phil and Ph.D research scholars had cleared the JRF examination during 2019. Besides, several PG students also

## Success STORIES



### Placements

Within a short span, with the initiatives taken by the faculty of the department, its M.Com. programme has reached many companies and they have volunteered to recruit suitable students from the department. It is a grand success that almost all the students of the outgoing batch (2017-19) are placed through the campus placement drive.

### 5 Certificate Courses

The UGC has accepted the proposals sent by the department faculty members for five certificate courses (Goods and Services Taxes, Investment Management, Financial Literacy, Rural Marketing and Stock & Commodity market) under the CUTN Community College with a total sanctioned amount of around Rs30 lakhs.

cleared NET exam, qualifying themselves to be lecturers.

### Non-Net to JRF's

With the continuous motivation and guidance of the faculty, 3 M.Phil and Ph.D research scholars had cleared the JRF examination during 2019. Besides, several PG students also cleared NET exam, qualifying themselves to be lecturers. ■



### Conferences

The department has organised the 4th and 5th edition of the conference of 'International Taxation and Transfer Pricing' during March 2018 and March 2019. Experts from big four auditing and accounting firm such as Deloitte, PWC, Ernst and Young, KPMG participated and delivered special address. Research papers contributed by subject experts and Chartered Accounts were published in two edited volumes. ■

### Derivatives workshop

Within a short span of less than two years, the department has organised several programmes on Commodity Derivatives Market, particularly Agri-Commodity Derivatives. A Faculty Development Programme and awareness programme for farmers were fully funded by the Multi Commodity Exchange of India, Mumbai and Goodwill Wealth Management (P) Ltd. ■



### Visit to MCX, NISM

To give practical exposure to the M.Com students, every year a study tour is conducted in which students guided by faculty members visit important financial institutions. The 2017-19 batch students visited National Institute of Securities Markets and Multicommodity Exchange, Mumbai. They were provided training by the NISM & MCX executives. ■

### BlockChain Accounting

The Department of Commerce organised a seminar on Paradigm Shifts in Commerce and Management 2018 in Congruent with Block Chain Accounting funded by the ICSSR during 29, 30 October 2018. The seminar created exposure on how bankers can easily verify the ledgers through block chain without intervention of a third party. ■



2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

2



### Raising awareness

Department of Commerce organised a "Career Awareness Programme on Company Secretaryship" on November 30, 2017. It was the very first event of the department and had Mr. K. R. Jagannathan ACS and Mr. P. Krishnakumar as the resource persons. Being experts in the industry, the resource persons shared their practical knowledge to both inform and inspire the students. ■

### Student Clubs

To nurture the students into various academic and extra curricular activities, the following six clubs were inaugurated. Research club, Finance club, Marketing club, Social outreach club, cultural club, sports club and Entrepreneurship club. through these clubs, students organise various activities for their own benefit and for the benefit of the society. ■

3



### Parivartan

The dynamic marketing battleground has caused the death of many reputed brands. It becomes relevant to all future managers to deliberate upon the above mentioned development and propose appropriate marketing strategies for revival of weak/dead brands. "PARIVARTAN" (Marketing Club), Department of Commerce organised a competition on Revival Weak/Dead Brands on March 12, 2018. ■



### Research Writing

A workshop on Research Writing and Publication was organised to strengthen the Research Writing skills for scholars working in the field of Business Studies, Economics, Commerce and Management. The experts were from IIM, NIT and other reputed institutes. ■



### Int'l Tax conference

Department of Commerce organised a two-day conference on "International Taxation and GST" from Feb. 22, 2018. In the three technical sessions that spanned across two days, the event featured 12 presentations that discussed several current and relevant topics, including India-Mauritius Tax Treaty, transfer pricing, base erosion, profit sharing and taxation issues related to royalty and fees for technical services. ■



### Commerce Fest

The department has launched a unique three day student centric event named 'Commerce Fest' comprising of industry-institute interface, invited special address, management related competition and cultural competitions. Around 300 students from several colleges and Universities participated and won prize. The event was fully sponsored by ONGC, Karaikal. ■



### Workshop

The department has organised Ten days ICSSR sponsored research methodology for M.Phil and PhD scholars in Social Sciences and Humanities from across the country during October 2018. Such as research process, research design, hypothesis formulation, sampling, data collection tools, quantitative and qualitative research methods, parametric and non-parametric tests, SPSS were covered in the workshop. ■

### Flash mob

The spacework for the inter-collegiate commerce festival organised by the students of Commerce department started with awareness program such as flash-mob, food-stalls, sports meet etc within the campus during the months of January and February 2019. The events were opted named as 'Tyaga', reflecting Thiruvavur's own diety Lord Thiagarajar and its famous car festival. ■



### GST dissected

The Department of Commerce organised a Workshop on 'Goods & Services Tax (GST)' on December 21, 2017. Its technical sessions discussed the practical tenets and aspects of the GST at a time when the GST was a hot topic, to keep the students abreast of important financial decisions of the country. Mr. Srinivasan, CTO, Mahe, participated in the event as one of the resource persons. ■



### Nel Jayaraman's visit

One name quite famous among the Paddy Cultivation and farmers of the cauvery delta region is (Late) Shri. Nel Jayaraman. He is the one who advocated organic farming and conserved more than 150 varieties of traditional, ethnic paddy varieties. Such a great personality, who passed away recently, was the chief guest on one of the awareness programme organised by the department on agricultural commodity derivatives, sponsored by MCX and supported by NABARD. ■



### 85% placement

85% of the first batch of M.Com., students (2017-19) were placed through campus interview institutions like ESAF bank, Goodwill Wealth Management Services, Ambalal Commodities Pvt. Ltd., etc. with average yearly package of Rs. 3 Lakhs ■

### 10 in 2 years

The department has organised more than 10 programmes from June 2017 to March 2019. All these programmes are sponsored by reputed institutions such as MCX, ICSSR, ONGC, GAIL, SEBI. ■



### Success STORIES

### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FACULTY



Dr. Velmurugan PS  
Associate Professor and Head



Dr. K. Kanakaraju  
Assistant Professor



Dr. S. Rameshkumar  
Assistant Professor



Dr. Anand Thakur  
Assistant Professor



Dr. S. Mahalakshmi  
Assistant Professor

# Building some business assets

## DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT

The Department of Management, a hub for grooming future management graduates was established during the academic year 2017-18 offering Master of Business Administration (MBA) initially with three permanent faculties Dr. G. Sudha as Associate Professor and Head, Dr. J. Ashokkumar and Dr. Preeti R Gotmare as Assistant Professors. The department gradually introduced Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy programmes in the subsequent years.

With an aim to cater to the growing domestic and international market needs, we provide world class infrastructure to create innovative and transformative minds in Learning, Research and Creation of knowledge with Professional Excellence. In order to make a social impact at the grass root level that comprise the rural and agricultural sectors, the department introduced Rural Development specialisation in addition to other basic specializations.

The course pedagogy is framed so as to mould the managerial skills of the students and create business leaders for tomorrow. Skill enhancement programmes to complement Competency skill, Professional Skill and Employability Skill of students are conducted regularly.

In addition, Entrepreneur's day, Management Business League, Workshop and Conference are conducted. To devel-



ESTABLISHED  
**2017**  
NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **03** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **03**

op the competency skills of the first year students, Interdepartmental Contest, Best Internship Contest, Expert's Forum, and Orientation about higher education to school students, Social Awareness Club, CEO's Conclave, IT Exposure, Research Group, NET Classes, Industry Analysis, Current Business News Analysis, and Case study Analysis were conducted.

To make the second year students industry ready, employability skills training such as Placement Training, Resume Writing and Motivational Programmes are conducted.

We motivate and empower students to pursue entrepreneurship and our programs are structured with a mission to generate business millennial, managers and entrepreneurs with a blend of theory and practical expertise. We are on an exhilarating trajectory of growth and expansion. Our graduates are placed in well reputed companies in Banking, Marketing, Telecom and Finance sectors.

The Department offers various clubs for the students namely HR Club, Consumer Club, Investors Club, Marketing Club and Social Awareness Club.

Yearly flagship Management events of the department are "Srijan" a national level management meet for post graduates and "Delve" a national level management meet for undergraduate students is successfully organised and hosted from the year 2017 onwards. An International Industrial Visit to Malaysia was organised for the first time by the department.

### Success STORIES



#### Student of the Year

Vinu Ramdas received an "Outstanding Student of the Year" award for his excellent effort and performance in both academic and Co-curricular activities for the academic year 2017-2018.

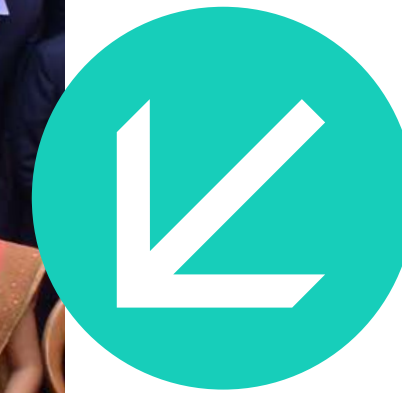
#### NET/UGC qualifiers

Two students from the Department, Vinu Ramdas and Rohit Raj have cleared UGC-NET in the academic year 2017-'18. Ms. Jensolin Abitha Kumari got Maulana Asad National Fellowship in 2018.

#### 95% placement

Campus interviews were conducted and all the students of 2017-18 batch registered for the placement were successfully placed in reputed companies across the country.

Also, employability skill training was designed and conducted successfully for the first time. In addition to other labs the department established behavioural science lab for the benefit of the students. For the very first time in the university, department of management came out with the placement brochure named Flamboyant in the year 2018-19 which was circulated among the recruiters. ■



#### Delve

Undergraduate level Management Meet were organised by the Department of Management. Delve, an intercollegiate Management team has been inaugurated by the Department of Management for the first time. Events focussed in Delve were Business Quiz, Ad zap, Corporate Show, Best Manager, Treasure Hunt. Students' over 160 participated in various events from more than 10 colleges. ■



#### Placement training

Placement training is offered to the students in order to strengthen them to achieve their career goals. Placement Drive has been conducted by the Department from the end of January till March and more than 95% of students got recruited by the top MNC's and corporates. ■

#### Canopus

The Department of Management released their first issue of Newsletter-"Canopus" Steps to Pinnacle, recording all the activities and achievements of Department. ■



#### MBA Comp. Lab

Department of Management has well furnished computer lab with modern equipped terminals and loaded with high-end softwares with power backup facility and professionally set. The campus is Wi-Fi enabled. We have the latest configured networked with high speed internet access of 1 Gbps provided optical line connectivity. Our computer lab is the best of its kind in the state. ■





2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

2



**CEO Conclave**

Department of Management organised a CEO Conclave. Eminent personalities and CEO's from different organisations interacted with the students and shared their views on entrepreneurship. Discussion with CEO inspires student community to think next level. ■

3

**Design your Destiny**

Design Your Destiny, the career guidance program was conducted for nearby colleges for UG students, the main aim of this program was to equip the students to pursue their studies and to opt for the right course in their post-graduation programme and it also covered the vast opportunities that are available across the globe. ■



4



**Workshop on HR**

Department of Management arranged a guest lecture on Recent Trends in Human Resource Development. The industry expert gave an overview of various HRD activities that takes place in the industrial world. It was very thought provoking and informative. ■

**IIM & Top B schools**

Students are encouraged to attend workshops and conferences in other institutes. Most of our students participated in various events held at Indian Institute of Management's and other leading B schools. Couple of our first year students bagged First prize in Business Quiz and Business Plan conducted at Annamalai University. Our students also participated in various management meets held across the country. ■



5

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**SRIJAN**

Post Graduate level Management Meet were organised by the Department of Management. SRIJAN, an intercollegiate Management team has been inaugurated by the Department of Management for the first time. Events focussed in Srijan were Business Quiz, Ad zap, Corporate Show, Best Manager, Treasure Hunt. ■



2016 2017 2018 2019

**Art from waste**

Department of Management organised a inter departmental competition on 'Art from waste'. This competition enhances students' creativity to the higher level. ■



8



**Discussion with doyen**

On January 25, 2018, the Department of Management of Central University of Tamil Nadu organised an event on 'Discussion with doyen' to benefit the students of the department, initiating discussions with experts in management. ■

9

**NLC visit**

A two-day industrial visit fully sponsored by NLC India Ltd, Neyveli was arranged in the department. The program gave an exposure to students on the applicability of management concepts in a real business scenario. Interaction with the top level executives of the company was thought provoking. ■



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**Synergy**

The Department of Management organised a Workshop on team building was conducted for the students of CUTN. The main motto of the workshop was to make the students to understand the importance of coordination. This workshop was very useful to students and their involvement towards the talk make the house on discussion and energetic. ■



**Social awareness**

Department of Management organised a awareness programme to prevent road accidents, this awareness program on sticking black stickers on the head lights of vehicles to reduce light intensity for vehicles in the university campus and within Thiruvavur district. ■



7

**Success STORIES**



**Int'l Industrial Visit**

As another feather to the hat, the Department of Management organised an International Industrial Visit to Malaysia from November 25 - 28, 2018, for a global perspective, a competitive edge and to learn various management activities in different factories. Students visited Malaysian Palm Oil Board Factory (MPOB) and learned how Palm oil boosts economy in Malaysia. In Pewter Factory-Royal Selangnor, the students observed the process of making Pewter which is an alloy of Tin, Copper and Antimony. In Yakult Factory of Malaysia, the students learned about how the Probiotic strain is extracted from Shiro strain, originally discovered in Japan by Dr. Shirota. ■



**Dr. G. Sudha**  
Associate Professor and Head



**Dr. J. Ashokkumar**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. Preeti R. Gotmare**  
Assistant Professor

# In the varsity's good books!

## DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

Department of Library and Information Science, CUTN, was established in 2017 to produce highly-skilled professional manpower in the field. The Department has full-fledged and well-experienced faculty members with world-class curriculum and state-of-the-art facilities.

The students are imparted with professional competencies and provided potential job opportunities in a wide spectrum of libraries at educational institutes, research and development centers, corporate sectors, archives, publishing industry and firms associated with information products and services.

### Inauguration

Inauguration of the Department of Library and Information Science was held on October 25, 2017. Prof. A. P. Dash, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Tamil Nadu, delivered the inaugural address, Dr. S. Bhuvanewari, Registrar, delivered the presidential address, Dr. A. Ragupathy, Contoller of Examinations, Prof. T. Sengadir, Dean Academics and Prof. S. Nagarajan, Dean, Students Welfare, offered felicitations.

### Programmes offered

- Master of Library and Information Science (M.Lib.I.Sc)
- M Phil in Library and Information Science
- Ph.D. in Library and Information Science

### Infrastructural Facilities

The department is equipped with all infrastructural requirements such as computer lab with LAN network, classrooms with LCD projector and tools for classification, cataloging and all the faculty members are provided with desktop computers and laser printers.

### Capacity Building Programme

In a first for the university, the School of Communication or-

ESTABLISHED  
2017

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES 03 | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS 06

PROJECTS 01 | Rs17 LAKH

ganised a ICSSR-sponsored Capacity Building Programme for Social Science faculty for 12 days from February 13, 2019. As many as 26 Assistant Professors from different disciplines in Social Science and from across the country participated in the programme on 'Balancing Empirical Research with Qualitative Ways of Knowing: Mixed Method Research (MMR) Approaches for Social Scientists'. Topics that were covered in this Capacity Building Programme included an elaboration on the plethora of qualitative and quantitative methods, and their possibilities and limitations as standalone research methodologies.

It covered the paradigms (positivist, interpretive and critical), research approaches (inductive and deductive), ethical guidelines in planning the design of qualitative and quantitative methods, implications and generalisations of qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods. It also detailed the emergence of mixed-method research, providing context for its current and historical landscape. The National Librarian's Day was celebrated in the department on August 14, 2018. Prof. A. P. Dash, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of CUTN, unveiled the portrait of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, Father of Library and Information Science, and paid floral tributes. The department also observed the Teacher's Day on Sept. 5, 2018.

As a part of the nation-wide Swachhata Pakhwada cam-

## Success STORIES



Ms. **Ammaji Rajitha**, second-year student of Master of Library and Information Science passed the NET Examination held in July 2018.

Ms. Ammaji also won the Best Paper award for her paper titled 'Web based search engines and its developments' presented in the National Seminar on Innovative Librarianship (NSIL-2018) organised by the Department of Library and Information Science and Central Library, CUTN, on March 26-27, 2018.

ampaign to promote cleanliness, faculty members, research scholars and students of the Department of Library and Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN), Thiruvavur, took out a rally at the Senthamangalam village of Thiruvavur on Sept. 12, 2018. Prof. A. P. Dash, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, CUTN, flagged off the rally, along with Dr. S. Bhuvanewari, Registrar, in the presence of Prof. S. Ravi, Head of the Department of Library and Information Science. Equipped with handmade placards and a sense of social responsibility, all the faculty members, research scholars, and students took out the rally, raising awareness on cleanliness. The participants also took a pledge on anti-littering, segregation and safe disposal of plastic waste. ■



### Best teacher awards

Prof. S. Ravi received the Dr Harish Chandra Sushila Chandra National Best Teacher in Library and Information Science Award from the Society for the Advancement of Library and Information Science (SALIS) on July 7, 2017, at the Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai. Prof. Ravi also won the Prof. Dr. Manorama Srinath National Best Library and Information Science Teacher Award from the Madras Library Association (MALA) on August 12, 2017, at the Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai. ■

### CBP for faculty

School of Communication organised an ICSSR sponsored twelve days' capacity building programme for the social science faculty during the month of Feb, 2019. Program aimed at reinforcing the research skills of young social science faculty across the country by imparting training on mixed method research. Participants were also exposed to group activities for framing hypotheses and designing of studies for research. A total of 36 sessions on the above mentioned areas were conducted in these twelve days. The sessions were handled by 23 Resource Persons who are eminent scholars in respective area of research methodology. 26 assistant professors from different disciplines in social science participated in this programme e. ■



### Talks on skill development

Prof. Jayantha Lal Ratnasekera, Vice-chancellor, University of Peradeniya, delivered a presentation on 'Skills required for the 21st Century'. Shri. M. F. Hibathul Careem, Registrar, University of Peradeniya, also delivered a presentation on 'Managerial Skills' on Dec. 13, 2018. The programme was presided by Dr. S. Bhuvanewari, Registrar, CUTN. Dr. T. Sengadir, Dean (Academics) and Prof. S. Nagarajan, Dean (Students' Welfare) offered felicitations. Students, research scholars and faculty members from several departments attended and interacted with them. Mr. R. Maheswaran, Librarian, University of Peradeniya, and Dr. T. Pratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian, UVA Wellasa University from Sri Lanka, also delivered lectures on 'Contemporary Librarianship'. ■



### Lifetime achievement

Prof. S. Ravi, Dean, School of Communication, received a LifeTime Achievement Award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Library and Information Science Profession from Madras Library Association (MALA), Chennai on the occasion of 125th Birth Anniversary Celebration of Padmashree Dr. S. R. Ranganathan. ■



### Full-fledged lab

The department has set up a well equipped computer and multimedia lab for the benefit of the students and the professionals. KOHA- the integrated library management software, digital library software like DSpace, Eprints are installed for the practice and developing Institutional Repositories. ■





2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

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### NSTMIS-DST Project

Dr. K. G. Sudhier, Assistant Professor, received grant for an externally funded project from the National Science & Technology Management Information System, Dept. of Science & Technology (NSTMIS-DST), Govt. of India for a project titled 'Mapping of Bioinformatics research in India: A Scientometric profile of Research output during 1999-2018'.

### State-level winner

Ms. **Tamil Bharathi T. K.**, student from the department, won the first prize in an Essay Writing competition organised by Ramalingar Pani Mandram, Chennai. She received a cash prize of Rs10,000 for the state-level and Rs5,000 for the regional-level contests during a function held at Chennai on Oct. 3, 2018.



4



### Bhajans of Gandhi

During the commemoration of the 150th birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, singing of bhajans of Mahatma Gandhi was organized by the Department of Library and Information Science. On September 26, 2018. All the Students, Research Scholars, Faculty Members and Library staff participated in the bhajans.

### Librarianship

Mr. R. Maheswaran, Librarian, University of Peradeniya and Dr. T. Prathapan, Senior Assistant Librarian, UVA Wellasa University, from Srilanka delivered lectures on 'Contemporary Librarianship' in the Department.



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### Rally for cleanliness

As part of the nationwide Swachhata Pakhwada campaign to promote cleanliness, faculty members, research scholars and students of the Department of Library and Information Science, CUTN took out a rally at the Senthamangalam village of Thiruvarur on Wednesday 12th September 2018. Prof. A. P. Dash Vice-Chancellor, CUTN flagged off the rally, along with Dr. S. Bhuvaneshwari, Registrar in the presence of Prof. S. Ravi, Head of the Department of Library and Information Science. Equipped with handmade placards and a sense of social responsibility, all the Faculty members, Research Scholars and Students took out the rally, speaking to the locals to raise awareness on cleanliness, took pledge on anti-littering, segregation and safe disposal of plastic waste.



6

### Tribute to Dr. SRR

Prof. A.P. Dash, Vice-Chancellor unveiled the portrait of Dr. S.R. Ranganathan, father of Library and Information Science in the department and paid floral tribute. 127th Birth anniversary of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan's was celebrated by cutting the cake by the Vice Chancellor. National Librarian's Day was also celebrated in the Dept. of Library and Information Science on 14th August 2018. DLIS pays tribute to Dr. SRR on his birth anniversary that falls on 12th August 2018.



### Librarian's Day

National Librarian's Day was celebrated in the Dept. of Library and Information Science on August 9, 2019. The programme started by paying floral tribute to the portrait of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan by the guests and the participants. Prof. S. Ravi, Head, DLIS delivered the keynote address and gave the Librarian's day message. Dr. S. Parameswaran, University Librarian, CUTN was the guest of honour and talked about the life and contributions of the father of Library and Information Science.



2016 2017 2018 2019

### NSIL 2018

National Seminar on Innovative Librarianship by the DLIS and Central Library on March 26 & 27, 2018 in collaboration with the Central Library. 212 participants from different states all over the country attended and 160 papers were presented in the Seminar. Funded by CUTN, ICSSR and Raja Ram Mohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata.



8



### Lecture series

The DLIS Colloquium Series is a platform for students, faculty and researchers to discuss on various topics. The goal of the colloquium series is to foster a culture of collaboration and sharing of knowledge among the students and faculty. This is a platform for DLIS to stay connected with the research going around the world.



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### Teachers' Day

Teachers Day celebration was organized in the DLIS on 5th September 2018 by the LIS Student's Activity Club (LIS-SAC). All the Students have shared the motivation, guidance and inspiration they received from their teachers. The teachers were honoured by the students.



Ms. **Divya, V** got Best Paper award for her paper titled "Use of Social Media in Libraries and Higher Education" presented in the National Conference on Innovative Librarianship: A Foresight on Technology, Practice & Services organized by the Central Library, CUTN on 1-2 August 2019.



Ms. **Tamil Bharathi, T K** received Best Paper award for her paper titled "Reinventing Librarianship: New And Emerging Roles Of Information Professionals" presented in the National Conference on Innovative Librarianship: A Foresight on Technology, Practice & Services organised by the Central Library, CUTN on 1-2 August 2019.



Ms. **Divya, V** got Best Paper award for her paper titled "Use of Social Media in Libraries and Higher Education" presented in the National Conference on Innovative Librarianship: A Foresight on Technology, Practice & Services organized by the Central Library, CUTN on 1-2 August 2019.

## DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE FACULTY



Prof. S. Ravi  
Head



Dr. Aakhandanand shukla  
Associate Professor



Dr. K. G. Sudhier  
Assistant Professor



Dr. Anila Sulochana  
Assistant Professor



Dr. Taddi Murali  
Assistant Professor



Dr. V. K. Dhanyasree  
Assistant Professor

# Pioneering media research!

## DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

Launched in 2012, the Department of Media and Communication rolled out its first course in the academic year 2013-14: MA in Mass Communication. Four permanent faculty members joined the department in June 2016 and the department has been witnessing fast-paced growth since its inception, playing a pivotal role for the development of the university.

In the academic year 2018-19, MPhil and PhD programmes in Mass Communication were introduced. The placement record of the department has been outstanding with placements in reputed media organisations and education institutions. One of the strong points of the department is its indulgence in research, inspiring the postgraduate students and research scholars to perform cutting-edge studies. Our students have published their papers in reputed journals and presented them in research conferences. Our department brings out the Lapwing newsletter and Kalam students magazine through the university. This apart, the department students bring out a students' magazine OPUS. In 2017, the department launched its own peer-reviewed research journal 'Journal of Media and Communication', one of the very few media research journals published from South Indian institutions.

The department has conducted several extraordinary talks and workshops, drawing experts from all over the country and from foreign universities as well. Our department faculty members, too, have an outstanding research and publication record. Its primary areas of tutelage being journalism and mass communication, this department has drawn from the best of industry with academic indulgence to pump itself with some professional nourishment.

A joint project was completed by the faculty members of the department on 'Towards effective implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin): Evaluation of Awareness, Access, Adoption, Usage and Barriers using the Health Belief

ESTABLISHED  
**2012**

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **03** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **05**

PROJECTS **07** | **Rs32.9 LAKH**

Model' in the Anaikuppam village of Thiruvavur with funding from the National Council of Rural Institutes (NCRI). Another project on ICT and education was successfully completed by Dr. Boobalal Krishnan N. during this academic year. A project titled 'Rural Household Vulnerability and Unhygienic Practices, Its Impact on Health and Effective Interventions through Swachh Bharat Mission: An Empirical Study in Tiruvavur District of Tamil Nadu' with Rs8 lakh funding from the ICSSR was secured by Dr. Nikhil Kumar Gouda, Assistant Professor in the Department of Mass Communication, along with Dr. Prasanth Kumar Panda, Associate Professor, Department of Economics.

### Two IMPRESS projects in one go!

In its latest feat, the DM&C bagged two IMPRESS projects in one go! A proposal from Dr. Francis P. Barclay and Dr. N. Boobalal Krishnan on 'Ethics, Autonomy, Privacy and Regulation: Balancing the Social Media Spheres of Political Influence' has been granted Rs8 lakh. Dr. Shamala R., along with Dr. N. Sivakami from the Department of Social Work bagged an IMPRESS project worth Rs5lakh with their proposal on 'Community-based Participatory Research on the Psycho-social Impact, Problems and Reality Responses to Disasters: Study on the Experiences of Women in Gaja-hit Areas'.

## Success STORIES



### 7 and counting!

Research was the primary focus for the Department of Media and Communication (DM&C) in the academic year 2018-19, and as it has turned out to be, the sweat in its brow has paid some rich dividends! Research programmes [MPhil and PhD] were introduced in the department and the faculty members—through their proposals—have managed to secure external funding for seven projects and programmes to the tune of Rs32.9 lakh.

Meanwhile, an ICSSR-SRC project by Dr. N. Sivakami, Dr. Francis P. Barclay and Dr. Shamala R. on 'Menstruation and Myths: Communication Strategies to Promote Healthy Practices among Rural Women' is nearing completion.

"If these numbers are any indication, then our department is making fast strides in the area of research.

Our scholars and postgraduate students are indulging in quality research, with publications in peer-reviewed journals, book chapters, paper presentations at research conferences across the country and active participation in research projects of our department," Dr. Francis P. Barclay, Head (in-charge) of the Department, said. ■

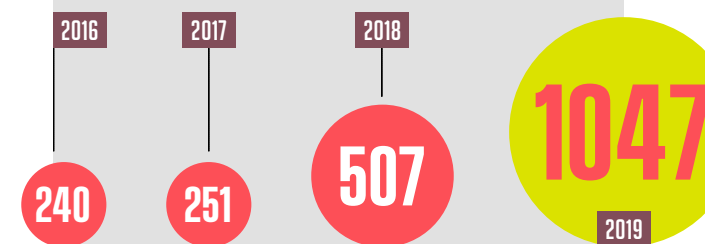
### Shoot 'em up!

Department of Media and Communication houses a full-fledged Media Studio with a standard production floor, production control room with video-editing equipment, sound-recording room and a green room for make-up. Media students produce short-films and documentaries as a part of the curriculum. Several such films made by the students have fetched awards and appreciations. ■



### Applications are up!

Numbers don't lie! If the rising numbers of applicants and students admitted each year are any indication, then the Department of Media and Communication has been witnessing a steep rise in popularity across the nation. As the demand for the postgraduate programme has increased, the maximum intake was increased from 20 to 30 in 2018. In 2016, the department received 240 applications for the MA programme alone. In 2017, it rose to 251 and doubled the next year: 507. Again in 2019, the number of applications for this programme alone almost doubled to 1047. ■



### Media Theatre for a cinematic sound experience

A full-fledged Media Theatre has been established with state-of-the-art facilities for weekly film screening-discussions and to conduct film festivals. As many as 120 viewers can watch the shows. A Multimedia Studio for graphics and animation is on the anvil. ■



### First CBP of CUTN!

School of Communication conducted the first Capacity Building Programme in CUTN for Social Science faculty from across the country during February 13-24, 2019. At Rs8 lakh, funded by the ICSSR, the programme was on 'Balancing Empirical Research with Qualitative Ways of Knowing: Mixed Method Research (MMR) Approaches for Social Scientists' and intended to bridge the qualitative-quantitative gap. It offered an objective-methodical understructure for the unseasoned social scientists to build a research career upon, through a collection of lectures from experts in Mixed Methods Research. ■



2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

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### CRS on the anvil!

Department of Media and Communication is establishing a Community Radio Station and in the process of obtaining the approval. A full-fledged audio recording studio is also being constructed. ■

3



### Writing scripts!

Department of Media and Communication organised a workshop on Scriptwriting and Cinematography in December 2017 inviting resource person Mr. Bala Senthil Kumar, an expert in the area. Live demonstrations and training in scriptwriting and cinematography was provided to the students from several departments of the university. ■

4



### Day with doyen!

World renowned American Professor Dr. Srinivas Melkote delivered a special lecture on Genealogy of Health Communication and Way Forward jointly organised by the Department of Media And Communication on March 24, 2018. ■

### TTS visits!

Department of Media and Communication organised a two-day workshop on 'Writing for Research Journals' from Nov 27, 2017, where eminent scholar Dr. T. T. Sreekumar delivered talks on evolution of social science research, referencing, software, Hermeneutics and Phenomenology, research databases, and also interacted with the students and faculty members on research. ■



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### Playing with colours!

Valedictory function for the two-day Watercolour Workshop that was organised by the Central University of Tamil Nadu's Department of Media and Communication from October 7 was held on October 11. The felicitation function featured a video presentation, art work exhibition and prize distribution. Inaugurated by Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash, this first-of-its-kind workshop on the campus provided training in basic techniques, perspectives and other nuances of watercolour painting. The Vice-Chancellor inaugurated the workshop by painting a landscape. About 60 participants of all ages, including kids, students, faculty members and staff, participated in the workshop. ■



8



### MoU with IIMC!

An MOU was signed between the Indian Institute of Mass Communication and the Department of Media and Communication for collaboration for an ICSSR-sponsored project on 'Women in News and Entertainment Media in India.' ■



9

### NET results

In August 2018, five students from the Department of Media and Communication aced the NET examinations for eligibility to become Assistant Professors. In July 2019, five more students passed the NET examinations, including two candidates securing the JRF, apart from the one that secured JRF in 2018. ■



### OPUS 15 out

Department of Media and Communication brings out a weekly news magazine titled OPUS. It is a magazine by the students for the students. With a delectable spread of inspiring and interesting stories, the magazine aims to help keep students abreast with the latest developments. ■

10



6

### Docu workshop!

Department of Media and Communication organised a week-long 'Workshop on Documentary Production' from August 28, 2017, to shape up the talents of students and to prepare them for some non-fictional filming. Student-participants were encouraged to transform their ideas into fresh and groundbreaking documentaries at the workshop. A media production expert and film-maker Prof. Vasuki Belavadi from the University of Hyderabad was the resource person for the documentary workshop. ■



7

### Tryst with Wideangle!

Renowned cinematographer 'Wideangle' Ravishankaran, who is famous for his movie 'Pisasu' was invited for a two-day workshop on 'Cinematographer as Co-author of Cinema', organised by the Department on Sept. 1 and 2, 2016. During the two-day workshop, presentations and interactive sessions on photography, cinematography and the nuances of cinema were conducted. Students were taught how to analyse and interpret the techniques and ideologies used in the movies. ■



### Lapwing for CUTN!

Department of Media and Communication (DM&C) brings out the Lapwing newsletter for the university. It is an annual journal that publishes the events and news of the university and exhibits the academic and other achievements to inspire the academic fraternity. ■

### Kalam for students!

The Department also oversees the production of the annual students magazine: Kalam. It publishes contributions from both students and faculty members in many languages. ■

### 100% placements

The department has been recording outstanding placements since its inceptions. ■

### Social responsibility

When the Gaja cyclone struck this region, the department faculty members played active role in extending relief measures. ■

## DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION FACULTY



Dr. Manash Pratim Goswami  
Associate Professor and Head



Dr. Francis P. Barclay  
Assistant Professor



Dr. Nikhil K. Gouda  
Assistant Professor



Dr. Shamala R.  
Assistant Professor



Dr. Boobalakashnan N.  
Assistant Professor

# Solving real world problems

## DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

The Department of Geography was established under the School of Earth Sciences in June 2017 and the first M.Sc. batch joined on 26th July 2017. The Department offers M.Sc., M.Phil. and Ph.D. programmes in Geography. The goal of these programmes is to provide students with both the breadth and depth of knowledge in Geography required for solving real-world problems. The programmes impart knowledge in conventional and recent concepts and their applications in various areas of Geography. Further, the programmes provide employable skills to the students in various technological aspects of Geography. Hence, the students will be able to gain unique knowledge and skills necessary to facilitate applications in new emerging professions related to Geography.

The duration of the M.Sc. programme is two years and the courses are designed to attain both scientific and technical aspects that enable them to grow into competent and seasoned professionals. The course curriculum is designed both at basic and advanced levels. There are 14 core and practical courses spread across four semesters.

Students in the fourth semester are given the opportunity to undertake a research-oriented project, both on-campus and off-campus in their concerned field of interest.

Apart from the core and practical courses, students are also required to take up electives and MOOC courses. The analytical and research skills gained from the programme provides wide scope for the students to practice as cartographer, commercial and residential surveyor, environmental consultant, geographical information systems officer, pollution analyst, soil conservationist, planning and development surveyor, secondary school teacher, town planner and many more.

The department has a faculty strength of four, comprising one Professor, and three assistant professors. The department has GIS and cartography labs to support training in GIS, GPS,

ESTABLISHED  
**2017**

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **03** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **04**

PROJECTS **01** | **Rs32.96 LAKH**

computer cartography, and remote sensing, and to allow students to pursue independent research projects.

More than 20 broad research themes facilitate transdisciplinary research in the department. The department offers two research programmes M.Phil. and Ph.D. and encourage research scholars to develop original thinking in the field of geography and geospatial sciences and to carry out independent research of high quality. We emphasise the human-environment interface, such as watershed management, climate change, resource degradation, urban growth and impact of urbanisation, disaster management, health, and tourism.

Internship and field works are an integral part of the course curriculum and all M.Sc. students are encouraged to pursue the same in the second year of the course. The department undertakes regular excursions, field visits and institutional visits to cultivate inter-disciplinary research. Additionally, students are actively involved in understanding the local regional problems of the area, such as the impact of cyclone Gaza was well-researched by the department. To facilitate community-university interaction, open days are organised by the department wherein scholars present and create awareness about environmental issues. ■

## Success STORIES



### Awards and prizes!

Ms.Tini P. Rajendran, second-year M.Sc. Geography student secured Second Rank in the Ninth State Level Talent Test conducted by the Indian Geographical Society (IGS) on 23 January, 2019 and received Prof. A. Ramesh Award – 2019. Research scholars Mr. Ashish Kumar V. and Mr. Sandhip Mondalare cleared UGC-NET JRF examination. The M.Sc. Geography second-year students who cleared UGC-NET-JRF that include Mr. R. Kannan and Ms.Kripa. S. Mr. Prasantha Ghadei, M.Sc. I, secured Winners position in the Game of Cricket Competition held at CUTN. He also participated in the South Zone Inter-University Chess Tournament (Men) held at Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal, 4-7 December 2018. Mr. Prabhath Ranjan, participated in the Art from Waste event held on 29 August, 2018, conducted by the Department of Management, CUTN, and he has secured second prize in the NCW and CUTN sponsored 'National-Wide Competition for Students on Law related to Woman' organized by the IQAC, CUTN, on Oct 30, 2018.



### Foundation Day

The Department of Geography celebrated its First Foundation Day in Department Seminar Hall at the Presence of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Respected Registrar and other esteemed dignitaries on 31st July 2018. ■

### Geo Club launched

Department of Geography was inaugurated on October 6, 2017, and the celebration was titled 'Udayam'. During the event, the Geography Club was also launched. Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash delivered the inaugural address and Registrar Dr. S. Bhuvanewari also addressed the participants. Prior to the event, the department organised the 'Wildlife Conservation Cartoon Making Competition' on October 5, 2017. ■

### GIS and cartography labs

The department has GIS and cartography labs to support training in GIS, GPS, computer cartography, and remote sensing, and to allow students to pursue independent research projects. ■



### Geo Dept draws crowd on Science Day

CUTN's Department of Geography attracted both students and faculty members from several departments on the Science Day on March 1, 2018. Science exhibits were put on display at the department. This apart, a quiz contest was also conducted as part of the celebrations. A one-day field visit to Puducherry was conducted with all students and faculty members to visit the Vector Control Research Centre, ICMR, and French Institute of Pondicherry. Here, the students explored detailed discussions for research and placement opportunities. ■



2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015



### Environmental studies in coasts

Dr. R. Nagarajan, Associate Professor and Dean, Curtin University, Malaysia delivered a special lecture on Biogeochemistry: An integrated approach for environmental studies in the coastal region on July 9, 2018. ■

### Natural farming practices

Dr. Judith Bopp, Post-Doctoral Researcher, Cultural Geography Workshop, Institute of Geography, University of Kiel, Germany delivered a special lecture on Local Knowledge and Spirituality in Natural Farming Practices in Peri-Urban Chennai on 5 March 2019. ■



### Geoinformatics for beginners

The Department of Geography has organised a National level workshop on 'Geoinformatics for Beginners' from February 11 to 15, 2019. ■



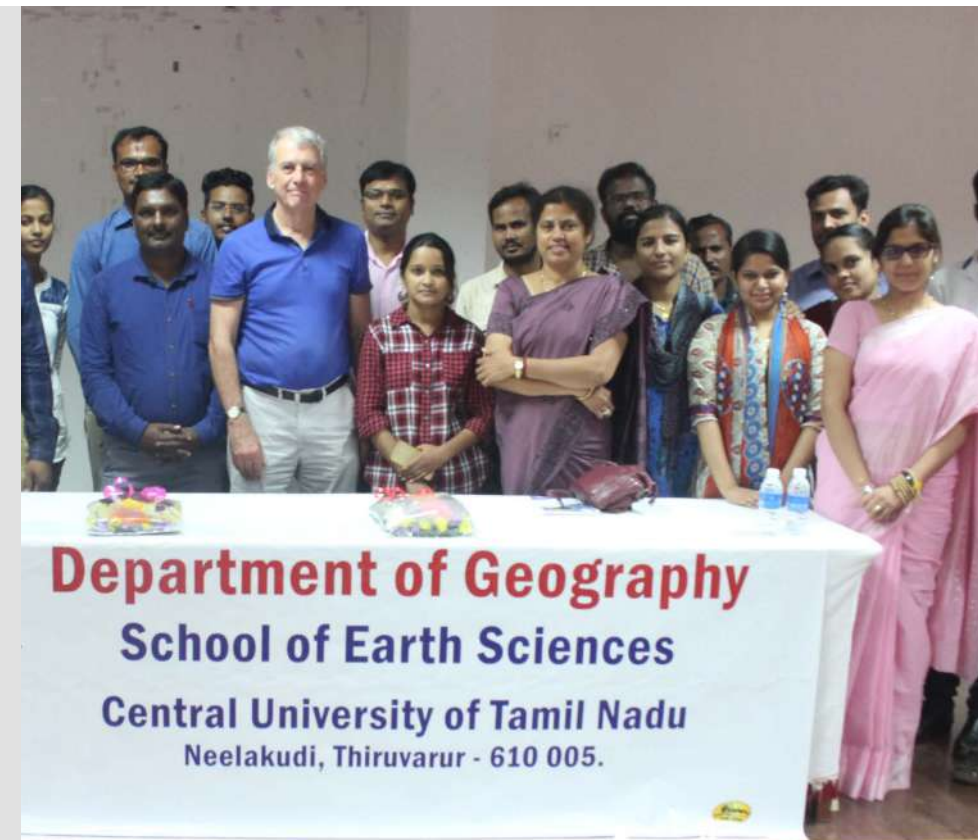
### Field visits!

The Faculty members and students of the Department of Geography visited VCRC & French Institute of Pondicherry as part of a field trip on March 9, 2018, and second field trip was to Muthupettai and surroundings with Dr. Mu. Ramkumar, Associate Professor, Department of Geology, Periyar University, Salem. ■



### A Haining experience!

Prof. Bob Haining, a renowned figure in the field of Geography, was the special invited guest of intensive sessions organised by the Department of geography during November 20-22. Prof. Haining is an Emiratus Professor of Human Geography and Fellow of Fitzwilliam College, University of Cambridge. He delivered two special lectures on 'Developing a Spatial Decision Support System to Help Public Health Services Respond to a Malaria Outbreak: a Case Study' and 'Spatial Precision and Statistical Precision: Can we have the Best of Both Worlds?' ■



### Geography exhibition

The department faculty and students visited Kendriya Vidyalaya, Thiruvavur, and organised a geography exhibition in connection with Earth Science Week celebration. ■



### Wetlands Day celebrations

Geoclub Ecumene of the Department of Geography celebrated the World Wetlands Day and organised competitions for creating awareness among the students. Various department students participated in the event enthusiastically. ■

### Disaster risk reduction

The Department of Geography organised a special lecture and demo on fire precautions with the help of Thiruvavur district fire brigade on the World Disaster Risk Reduction Day at the MP Hall, CUTN. ■



### Is part of Isro-IIRS

The Department became a part of ISRO-IIRS (Indian Institute of Remote Sensing) network institution to offer geospatial related outreach programmes to the students. So far the Department has offered seven basic as well as advanced courses through which more than 90 participants benefited including students, research scholars and faculty members during 2017-2019. ■



### Earth Week

CUTN's Department of Geography observed The Earth Week from October 13, 2017, with a special lecture by Dr. K. Kumaraswamy, UGC-BSR Emeritus Faculty Fellow, Department of Geography, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, on the theme of Earth Science week, Earth and Human Activity. ■



### Awards, recognitions

Prof. Sulochana Shekhar and Dr. K. Balasubramani, received achievement awards from Bharat Ratna Kamaraj Educational Society for their contribution to the new school curriculum development and textbooks of Government of Tamil Nadu in 2018. Dr. K. Balasubramani was awarded Young Scientist Fellowship by the Tamil Nadu State Council of Science and Technology in 2018. He also received a certificate of appreciation for the contribution to the preparation of District Disaster Management Plan- 2017 from the Karur District Collector on August 15, 2017. Dr. K. Balasubramani has also received an ICSSR Travel Grant of Rs.20,000 to present a research article in the International Conference on Climate Change, Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development through Geospatial Technologies organised by the Department of Geography, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, during November 2018. ■



### Success STORIES

## DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY FACULTY



Prof. Sulochana Shekhar  
Head



Dr. Aakriti Grover  
Assistant Professor



Dr. Balasubramani K  
Assistant Professor



Dr. E. Venkatesham  
Assistant Professor

# For excellence in education

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Department of Education is a pioneer and unique department among the Central Universities in offering the B.Sc., B.Ed Integrated Programme, fetching the NCTE approval in 2016. Conceived and established in line with the recommendations of the MHRD and New Education Policy, this pre-eminent department fosters collaboration and a multidisciplinary approach, which helps the teacher-trainees develop the all-round vision to succeed anywhere in the noble profession of teaching.

### Vision and mission

The department envisions to provide academic leadership in the field of Education in general and teacher education in particular. It also strives to make significant contributions to policy making and institutional improvement through effective research studies in various stages of education such as elementary, secondary and higher education.

It also aims to develop, document and disseminate innovative best practices in teaching and learning through the integration of information and communication technology.

### Thrust areas

Teacher education  
Mathematics and Science education  
Educational technology  
Educational psychology

The Department of Education has international level links with UNESCO and ICDE and national level links with NUEPA, NCTE and NCERT. The process of the assessment and accreditation of Departments of Education and Colleges of Education has been initiated by NCTE for which the draft tools of assessment and accreditation were piloted and validated at

ESTABLISHED  
**2016**

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **02** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **06**

PROJECTS **04** | **Rs32 LAKH**



the Department of Education jointly by NCTE and the Department of Education, involving the Deans, Heads, Principals and Faculty Members.

The Department has contributed at the national level to NAAC and NCTE through the then Head of the Department Prof. R. Karpaga Kumaravel who has served as Chairman, NAAC Peer Team- Assessment and Accreditation visits and

## Success STORIES

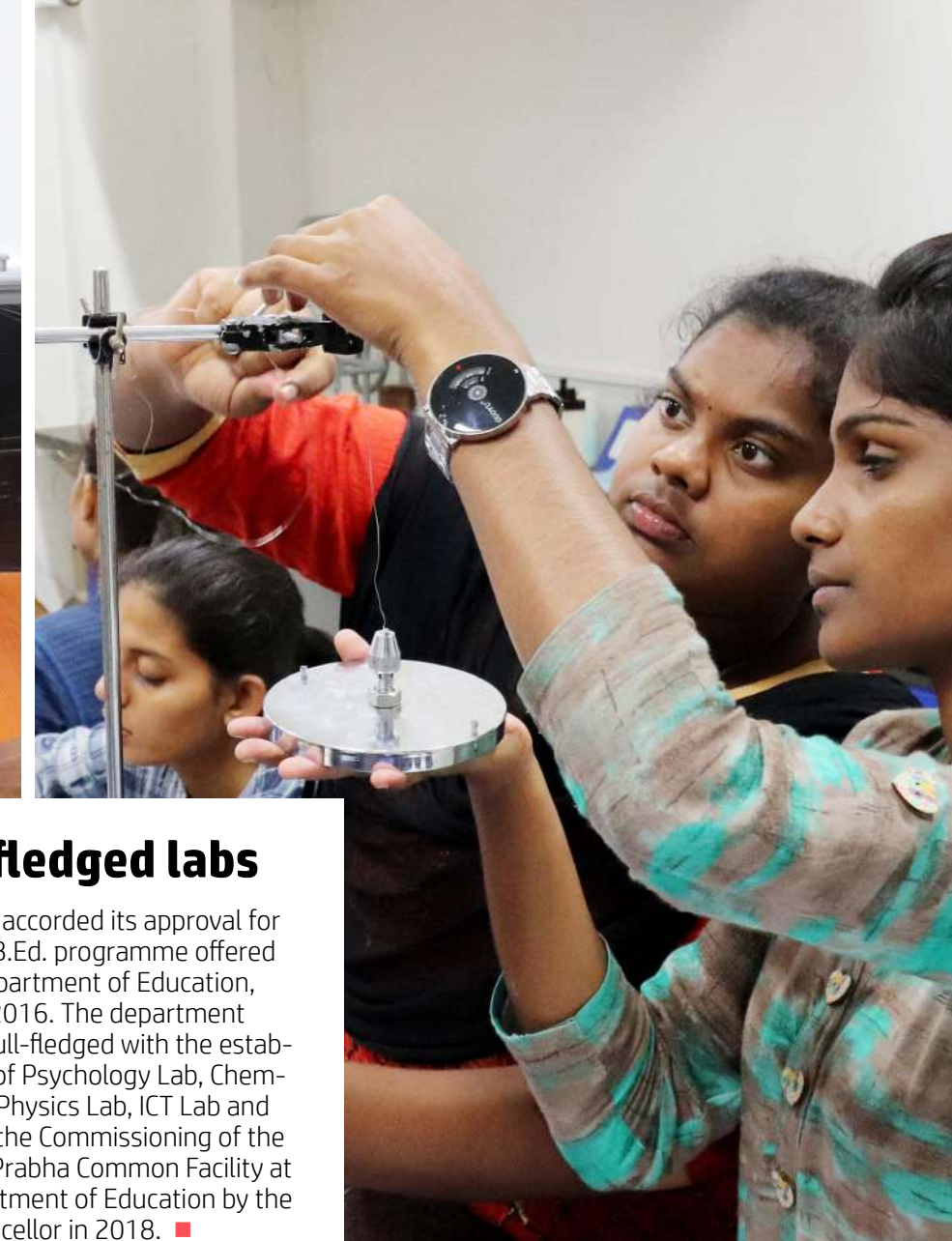
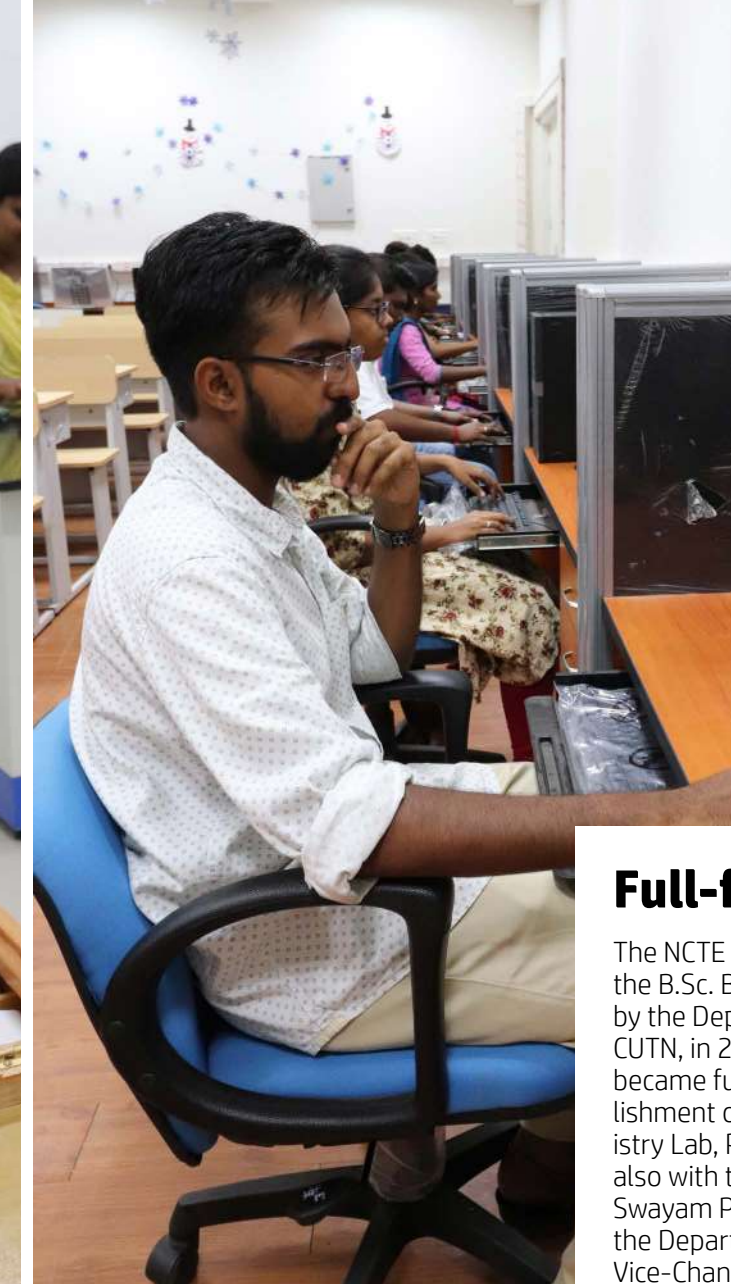


### One-of-its-kind department

Department of Education of the Central University of Tamil Nadu is a pioneer and a unique department among the Central Universities of South India, fetching NCTE recognition for the MHRD-recommended B.Sc., B.Ed., four-year integrated programme on July 8, 2016. It is a one-of-its-kind department among the CUCET universities across the country, offering the B.Sc., B.Ed., four-year integrated programme. ■

Chairman, NCTE inspection team for University Departments and Colleges of Education and also at the international level to UNESCO and the International Council for Distance Education (ICDE), Oslo, Norway. Parents-teachers meeting are periodically organised in which a large number of parents across the country take part. The Head makes a detailed presentation on the student-friendly measures taken at the Department and get feedback from the parents for follow-up.

Students were actively involved in extension activities like plant sampling and campus cleaning. Education department students have also achieved numerous laurels. ■



### Full-fledged labs

The NCTE accorded its approval for the B.Sc. B.Ed. programme offered by the Department of Education, CUTN, in 2016. The department became full-fledged with the establishment of Psychology Lab, Chemistry Lab, Physics Lab, ICT Lab and also with the Commissioning of the Swayam Prabha Common Facility at the Department of Education by the Vice-Chancellor in 2018. ■

### UNESCO presentation

Prof. R. Karpaga Kumaravel of the Department of Education offered a Plenary Presentations in the UNESCO International Conference at Bangkok in 2016. Prof. Kumaravel has also been appointed as a National Level Standing Committee Member of New Delhi for a period of four years to advise NCTE on matters pertaining to teacher education at all-India level. ■



### Going cashless!

Department of Education has organised several extension and community development activities such as VISAKA Cashless Transaction Campaign which was conducted at Neelakudi village. The campaign was launched at the Weekly Market in 2017 by Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash. ■



### Winners

Education students won prizes at the VITA PRETIOUSUM, conducted by the Department of Applied Psychology, CUTN. ■



2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

### Reading disabilities

Department of Education organised an International Seminar on 'How to assist the Students with Reading Disabilities' in collaboration with the National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University of Singapore, and Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, in July 2017. Prof. R. Karpaga Kumaravel, Organising Secretary, spoke on quality benchmarking of distance education. ■



### Inspirations

Department of Education organised an essay writing competition on 'The Teacher who inspired me the most' as part of the Teachers' Appreciation Day celebrations on Sept 5, 2017. Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash distributed certificates and awards to the winners: Ms. Aamnayee Mishra (Chemistry), Ms. Ruchi Mishra (Physics) and Ms. Kamali (Education). ■



### Trip to AIR

It organised a one-day educational tour to the All India Radio (AIR), Karaikal, on February 7, 2018. The students got orientation about various programmes broadcasted in the radio station. Also, students recorded a series of awareness programmes on issues such as manual scavenging and bravery, which were later broadcasted in the AIR, Karaikal. ■



### Weather check

Education students also visited the Perunthaliavar Kamarajar College of Education; Cyclone Detection Radar Station (CDRS), Karaikal and; Karaikal Beach on February 7, 2018. The visit to Doppler Weather Radar Building in CDRS was a memorable experience to students where they were taught about weather forecast, cyclone detection and measuring humidity. ■



### Swayam Prabha for students

In the Department of Education, the Digital Innovative Experiment of Swayam-Prabha Visual Classroom was inaugurated for the benefit of all the students of Humanities and Social Sciences by Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash on Feb. 27, 2018. ■



### Lectures

Department of Education organised a series of lectures on education: Mr. Veera Raghavan, Former Secretary of MHRD and Advisor of Planning Commission (Education) delivered a Lecture on 'Indian Education Policy - Goals and Means' on Sept 21, 2017. ■



### Brain learning

Prof. Mrs. Vimala, Emeritus Professor-IGNOU, delivered a lecture on 'Academic issues of students' on Sept 21, 2017; and Prof. Jahitha Begum, Head, Dept. of Education, Gandhigram Rural Institute delivered a public lecture on 'How does brain learn' on Dec 18, 2017, followed by a discussion, moderated by Prof. R. Karpaga Kumaravel. ■



### Field visits and linkages

Department of Education organised a three-day field visit to Regional Institute of Education (RIE-NCERT) in September 2019 and the students had a hands-on experience in the digital studio in recording an educational programme and also at the laboratories with state-of-the-art facilities. ■



### Endowment Lectures

Prestigious Endowment Lectures in Education were delivered at the University of Madras by Prof. R.Karpaga Kumaravel, Dean, on 'Problem Finding in Research' in November 2018, the National Education Day. ■



### ICSSR projects

Education department faculty members took up several research projects with the financial support of the ICSSR, Delhi. Prof. Karpaga Kumaravel in coordination with Dr. B. Padma studied on 'E-Maturity and Digital Culture among the Teacher Education Institution in relation to certain Psycho-Social Variables.' A project on 'Emotional intelligence and teacher competencies with respect to Inclusive Education' was done by Assistant Professor Dr. Poornima Rajendiran. Assistant Professor Dr. Pramila Ramani and Dr. P. Thiyagarajan conducted their study on 'Development and Implementation of E-Learning in Discrete Mathematics'. ■



### Success STORIES



### Faculty development

As the first of its kind in the Central University of Tamil Nadu, the Department of Education conducted the Faculty Development Programme for the faculty members on September 8, 2018, in which several former Vice-Chancellors served as resource persons. ■



### Celebrating teachers

The department organises Teachers' Day celebrations every year in which Best Teacher Awardees are felicitated and Best Researcher Awards are given away to outstanding researchers. Competitions were also conducted for students on themes like 'Qualities of a good teacher' and 'The teacher who inspired me the most'. ■

### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FACULTY



Dr. P. Srinivasan Associate Professor and Head



Prof. R. Karpaga Kumaravel Professor



Dr. Poornima Rajendran Assistant Professor



Dr. Biju K Assistant Professor



Dr. Pramila Ramani Assistant Professor

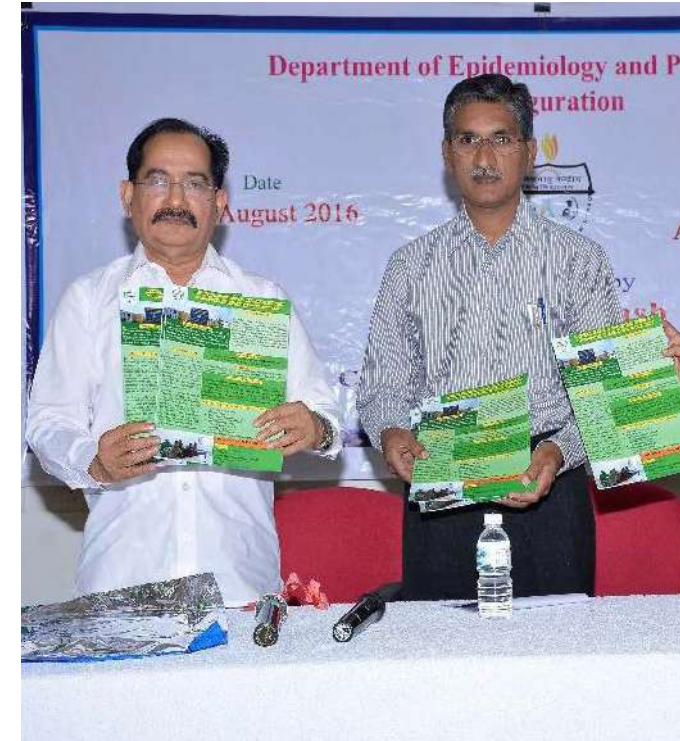


Mr. Sunil Kumar Assistant Professor

# Attracting bright scholars

## DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Established in 2016, the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health (EPH) aims to train and produce talented workforce to meet the public health requirements of the country. The department is presently offering a Master of Science (M.Sc.) programme and Ph.D. programme in Epidemiology and Public Health. Perhaps, CUTN is the only University in India that is offering a M.Sc. programme in EPH. Along with Microbiology and Life Sciences, EPH is part of the school of Life Sciences at CUTN in 2018.



ESTABLISHED  
**2017**

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **02** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **03**

PROJECTS **03** | **Rs86.54 LAKH**

With a mission to understand the determinants of health and disease, their distribution and frequency, and help plan the public health policy, the department trains the future work force in the field of epidemiology, public health, health education, environmental health, nutrition, biomedicine, global health diplomacy, public health ethics and other relevant thrust areas. The department started functioning with two contractual faculty members and the first batch of students (2016-2018) were admitted through examinations conducted by the university. Three regular Assistant Professors joined the department in 2017.

Subsequent admissions were given through the CUCET. The department is also attracting bright scholars and JRF holders for its research programme. Each year, there is a substantial increase in the number of students applying for its M.Sc. programme and the current applicants for 2019 are 577, competing for the 15 seats.

The M.Sc. programme is offered as 85-credit-hour degree program. All students complete five core courses in epidemiology, public health diplomacy, global health policy, disease modelling, environmental health, social and behavioural sciences, public health administration, and biostatistics. Hours are devoted to required labs in epidemiology and data

### Success STORIES



#### One of its kind!

"I am pursuing masters in Epidemiology and public health (EPH) under the ICCR scholarship scheme. I feel honoured and privileged to be part of the CUTN family. My heart is finally at rest after securing myself an admission to pursue M.Sc. EPH from CUTN because its the only university that incorporates epidemiology and public health after realising the relevancy of the two as a block contrary to other universities offering only public health. Long live CUTN for turning my dream into a reality." - **Koko Ronald** from Uganda.

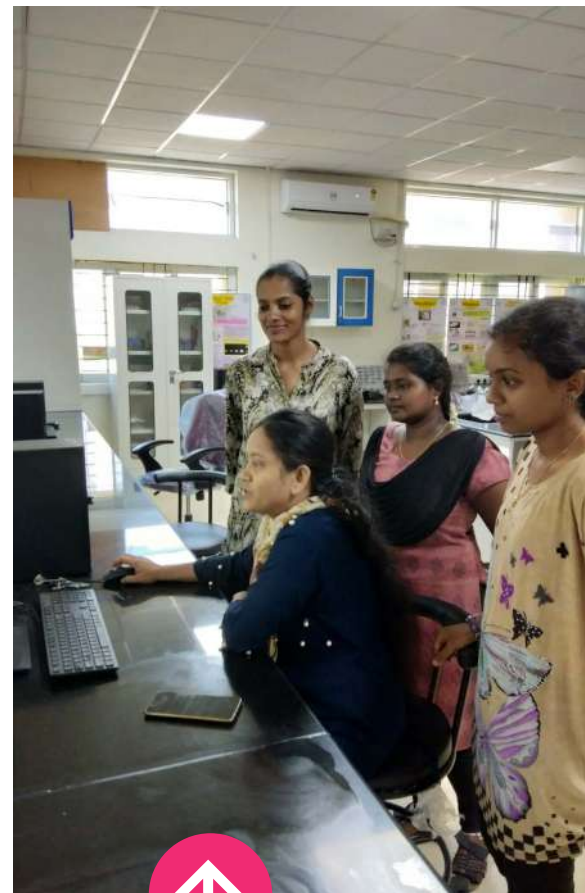
management and electives. Internship is done at the end of the first year, for two months followed by the project work at the end semester. Department of Epidemiology and Public Health has been organising several seminars, workshops and free medical camps for the benefit of the university fraternity and the larger public in and around Tiruvarur.

On April 21, 2017, the department, along with the Departments of Social Work and Life Sciences, organised a National Seminar on Emerging and Reemerging infectious Diseases. ■



#### Vector Biology Research Lab

VBR Lab is used to create documentation of mosquito species from Tiruvarur, Kumbakonam and Nagapattinam followed by Lakshadweep. Also, various coastal areas across the county. DNA barcoding to understand the phylogenetic relationship of mosquito species documented from various places. Trying to understand the gene flow of island mosquito along with mainland mosquito. Understanding of insecticides susceptible mosquito species from the above said places. ■



#### Computational Lab

The Department of Epidemiology and Public Health (EPH) has a computational lab to teach high quality statistics through statistical packages such as EPIINFO and SYSTAT. ■

#### A lab for zoonotic diseases

Department holds the Lab for Epidemiology of zoonotic diseases and development of novel diagnostics for diseases of public health importance Gender Health, Health Policy and Qualitative Research. ■







# Art and science of saving lives!

## DEPARTMENT OF LIFE SCIENCES

The Department of Life Sciences was established in 2012, with a vision to help students understand the genesis, diversity, and functioning of living organisms in order to conserve, and coexist in concert with nature.

The mission of the department is to contribute to the improvement of knowledge in life sciences through research, education and creative analysis, innovative teaching and learning for addressing issues pertinent to biological sciences. The department started to function on July 18, 2012, from a temporary campus set at the Collectorate Annexe in Thiruvavur. The department kick-started with 19 students and two contractual faculty members by offering a five-year integrated MSc (iMSc) degree programme in Life Sciences.

Subsequently, in April 2015, after the recruitment of four regular faculty members in the department, it started the PhD programme in Life Sciences with eight graduates under the supervision of its regular faculty members.

The university also appointed a Ramalingaswamy Re-entry Fellow to support research activities at its initial stages. The department moved into the permanent campus under the School of Basic and Applied Sciences in 2014. The department started to gain momentum witnessing a tremendous increase in the uptake of students eventually, and in 2016, it raised to a student strength of 134 in iMSc Life Sciences across the five years of the programme.

The department came under the umbrella of the School of Life Sciences from September 2018, and is currently striding together with her sister departments under the school aiming towards excellence. The Department of Life Sciences perpetuates research and education in biological sciences with a deep respect for life and the individual uniqueness of every living object. Currently, the department faculty constitutes an Associate Professor and five Assistant Professors,

ESTABLISHED  
**2012**

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **02** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **06**

PROJECTS **12** | Rs**2.7** CRORE

working across six research divisions namely Infection Biology and Medical Microbiology, Vector Biology and Neuro-immunology, Blood and Vascular Biology, Molecular Cancer Biology, Plant Stress Physiology, and Endocrinology and Experimental Toxicology. The integrated masters (iMSc) programme comprises various subjects across the life sciences discipline that includes botany, zoology, biochemistry, biophysics, biotechnology, developmental biology, immunology, neurobiology, microbiology, molecular biology, genetics, cell biology, pharmacology, vector sciences, environmental sciences, behavioural sciences, etc. The department also offers a PhD programme in life sciences.

The department has introduced modern teaching methods such as periodic student-teacher interactive seminars, hands-on practical sessions, problem-based learning (PBL), tutorials, journal clubs, science café and field visits for its students to reputed research institutions as well as industry visits to transform teaching and research into a more contemporary and vibrant phenomenon. The department has stood to the standards of institutions of repute, and is continuing to put up its visibility across the country by inviting various eminent scientists and scholars from across the world especially from University of Tasmania, University of California at San

### Success STORIES



#### Ambassadors of knowledge

It is a commonly held notion that prompt utility is the real mission of science. The Department of Life Sciences is dedicated to exploring scientific knowledge that can contribute to human resources, societal development, and nation-building, offering real service to humankind. The department owns numerous graduate students qualifying for summer internship programs offered by several national institutions of repute such as CSIR, IISc, IISER, THSTI, NII and ICMR. Till date, two batches of iMSc Life Sciences students have successfully graduated from the university who will serve as ambassadors of scientific knowledge and professionalism imbibed from the department.

Diego, national institutions namely CCMB, DRDO, PGIMER, IITs, IIS, IISc, AIIMS, VCRC, NIMR over the years.

This apart, the students are regularly taken to educational tours and industry experts are invited to the departments to increase the rates of placement in leading global institutions and industries. Educational tours for students have been undertaken to the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore, DRDO Centre for Life Sciences, Bharathiar University, Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), Silent Valley National Park, Sim's Park, Coonoor, Ooty Botanical Garden, National Institute of Oceanography, BITS-Pilani, Goa and CFTRI Mysore. ■



#### Kala-azar expert meet for WHO

As the World Health Organisation (WHO) embarked on its mission to contain kala-azar (black fever), the Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) was chosen to organise a two-day expert consultation from August 19, 2016, in Chennai, to draw an action plan and wipe out this "poor man's fever" from the face of Earth. International experts attended this WHO-funded event and submitted recommendations for implementation. ■

#### Equipment influx

The department has witnessed a massive transformation during 2016-18 when the department procured several major research equipment including the BACTEC Blood Culture System, BD FACSCanto II Immunocytometry System, Bioplex-Luminex Protein Array, Droplet Digital PCR System, MasterCycler Nexus Gradient PCR, Real-Time PCR, and several other instruments for carrying out cutting-edge research across diverse areas within life sciences. ■





# Recording fast paced growth

## DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY

The Department of Microbiology (DMB) established in 2017 with a professed objective of inculcating research-oriented learning aptitude and disseminate relevant scientific knowledge among student community through excellent strategy pursued in teaching and research.

DMB is an efficient educator endowed with comprehensive research infrastructure bestowing on quality research plans for scientific innovative studies and as such it is emerging as a potential and result oriented vibrant department of CUTN. The prominent objective of the department focuses on the placement of its students in national research organisations, reputed teaching institutions, vibrant biological industrial entities adopting the state of the art technologies etc.

This department offers a regular M.Sc Microbiology degree program to the aspirants of science education. The department is under the ablest governance the guidance and aspirations of the Dr. D.Siva Sundara Kumar, Associate Professor and Head of this Department, effectively leading the Department with the vibrant assistance of Dr.Suchitra Rakesh and Dr.Kaushik Rajaram, Assistant Professors.

The department provides a platform, support and continuous encouragement and motivation to the students for their professional advancement and personal development. The department has the apt prowess in the domains of mycology, medical microbiology, phage display, bioprospecting, diagnostic biosensors, nanoparticles, biofertilizers, biofuel production etc. M.Sc. The department has one central instrumentation and research facility, along with three research laboratories i.e., Mycology & Neurodegenerative Disease Research Laboratory, Phage Display Laboratory and Biofuel Research Laboratory. In 2019, the department comes within the broad spectrum of the School of Life Sciences.

Being the youngest department blossoming within the

ESTABLISHED  
**2017**

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **02** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **04**

PROJECTS **03** | **Rs1 CRORE**

school of life sciences, it has been emerging towards potential excellence rapidly.

The department offers MSc programme that encompasses various areas of modern microbiology such as General Microbiology, Cellular & Molecular Microbiology, Microbial Biochemistry, Immunobiology, Microbial Genetics, Microbial Physiology, Bacteriology, Mycology, Virology, Parasitology, Food, Dairy, Pharmaceutical and Industrial Microbiology, Agricultural Microbiology, Plant Pathology and Methods in Gene Technology Medical Microbiology and Microbial Technology.

These chosen areas of studies are occupying the most advanced microbiological research fields and capable of satisfying the needs of highly skilled manpower to related industries, generating self-employment opportunities besides providing high calibre faculty to teaching institutions.

The core objective of the curricula plan is to intertwine the benefits of both the academic and research studies to achieve excellence in scientific studies on par with other reputed institutions in India as well as abroad.

As a part of the curriculum, the students of Microbiology were taken to field trip to study the vaccine production technology against viral infections at the Pasteur Institute in Coonoor and the experience helped translate their theoretic-

## Success STORIES



### Dealing with dengue

If you thought your mosquito repellents that you apply during the nights can save you and your children from the killer disease dengue, rethink! For, *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes that spread the dengue viruses are pre-dominantly day-biters. In May 2018, on the eve of the National Dengue Day, the Department of Life Sciences (DLS), along with the Departments of Epidemiology and Public Health, and Microbiology, Central University of Tamil Nadu, organised a seminar to raise awareness on the subject and also to summarise the latest research developments in the prevention and control of vector-borne diseases.

cal knowledge into practical application.

These apart, the department has organised special lectures, seminars and awareness programme and created opportunities for students to interact with leading scientists and reputed scholars. The faculties of the department regularly publish research outputs in international journals and present them in conferences, apart from books chapters. It has published in the Springer-Nature book series and notably filed a US non-provisional patent in December 2018. ■



### State-of-the-art labs

Department of Microbiology offers a platform, support and continuous encouragement and motivation to the students for their professional advancement and personal development. Being a new department in the university, it has been gaining excellence rapidly. All faculties are provided laboratories besides active engagement in extramural projects. The department has a central instrumentation facility for project students, along with three research laboratories: Mycology and Neurodegenerative Disease Research Laboratory, Phage Display Laboratory and Biofuel Research Laboratory. ■



### Major projects

Faculty members of the department have received several national as well as international distinctions and recognitions in the form of fellowships, honours, prizes and publications. Head Dr. D. Siva Sundara Kumar has been appointed as an Honorary Assistant Professor in the School of Biomedical Sciences, the University of Hong Kong, in 2016. Dr. D. Siva and Dr. Suchitra recently secured extramural grants from the DST-SERB, Rs55 lakh and Rs35 lakh, respectively. ■





2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

2



**Increasing demand**

Candidates seeking admission to this Department is gradually increasing evidenced from the actual numbers of applications received for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019: 877, 1377 and 2085, respectively, against the 33 vacancies for its programmes. ■

**The world view**

Faculty of the department have been honoured with international recognitions in the form of honorary position, invited lectures and publications. The head of the department, Dr. D. Siva Sundara Kumar has been appointed as an Honorary Assistant Professor in the School of Biomedical Sciences, the University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong in 2018. ■



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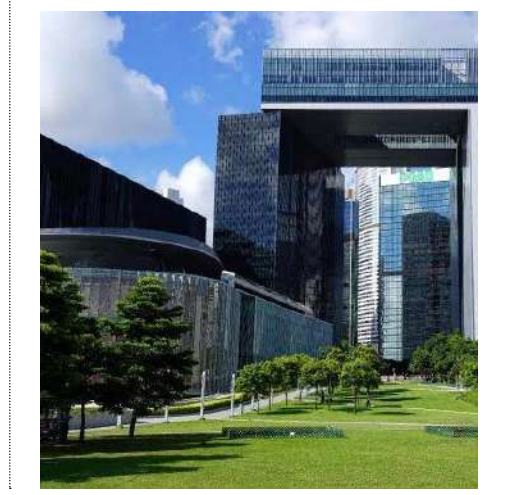


**Serving HK**

In February 2018, Dr. D. Siva Sundara Kumar was formally invited to deliver a seminar at the School of Chinese, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong. ■

**Grants pour in**

The department regularly receives research grants from various international and national funding agencies for their novel and viable proposals. In 2018, Dr. D. Siva Sundara Kumar has secured Human Medical Research Grant (HK\$ 1,95,500) from the government of Hong Kong. ■



1

**Innovation and Invention**

Since India has been involved in research and development for the Make in India programme, several multinational corporations across the world have transferred their R&D base in India. This is a substantial reason as to why Indian Universities should file for Patent applications as all of the above facts give incentives for the university to innovate and produce more beneficial products that help develop the society as well as the economy. In collaboration with Hong Kong Baptist University, Dr. D. Siva Sundara Kumar filed a US patent for 'Uses and Development of Neurodefend For Treating Neurodegenerative Diseases' (US Non-Provisional Patent Application No: 505236638), filed on December 14, 2018. ■



8



**Special lectures**

The department has organised special lectures, seminars and awareness programme and created opportunities to students to interact with leading scientists, industrialists and reputed scholars. ■



9

**NET success**

The department offers CSIR-NET coaching to train students and help them secure junior research fellowships and lectureships. A second-year student, Ms. Yachana Kumar has cleared both CSIR-JRF 2019 and GATE 2018. ■



**Placement**

The 1st batch of MSc. Microbiology students have been offered with project assistant positions at Biocoon Pvt Ltd., Unibiosys Biotech Research Labs, Pvt. Ltd. Cochin Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. ■

2016 2017 2018 2019



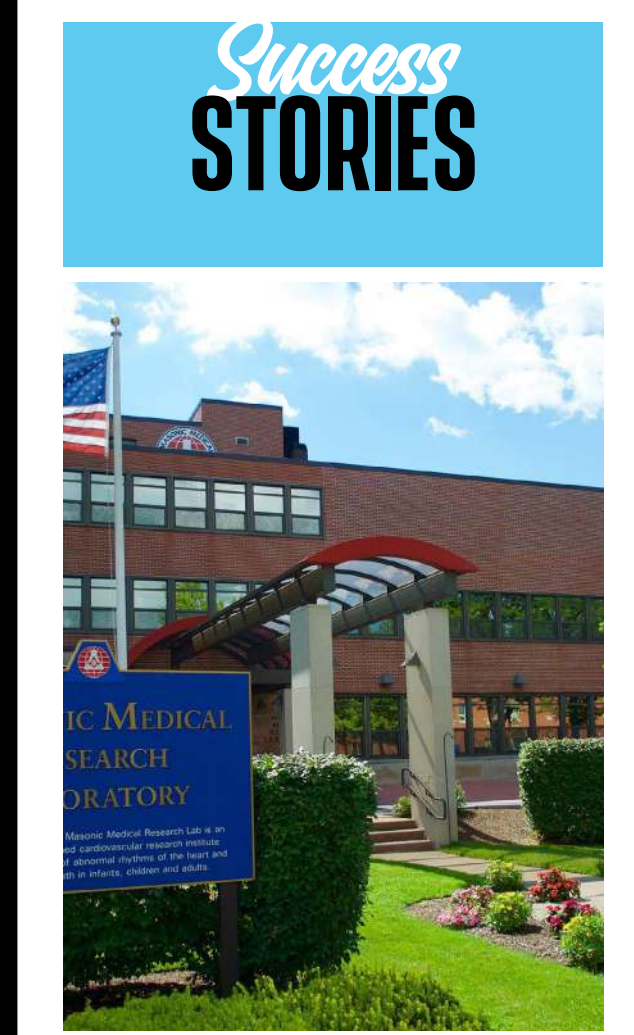
**Friend or foe?**

An outreach awareness programme on 'Microbes: Friend or Foe' was organised by the DMB on November 01, 2018, to disseminate information to school children about both beneficial and detrimental microbes and to create awareness about microbial organisms and ignite a curiosity in among the children to appreciate the scientific education in this domain. ■



**Start-up grant**

Dr. Kaushik R has secured UGC-start up grant and won the first prize for oral presentation and Ms. P. Swathi, our 2nd year student, won the second prize for poster presentation at the National level conference, Wonders of the Small 2.0, held on 22nd March, 2019 at Pondicherry University, Puducherry. ■



**Student progress**

The success of the students is the success of the department. The department implements contemporary teaching practice such as regular student- teacher interactive seminars, vibrant practical sessions, problem-based learning (PBL), tutorials, journal clubs, and Industrial visits to reputed research institutions and industrial hubs to transform teaching and research into a novel philosophy to face contemporary and live wire needs of the present competitive world. The department has strived to match with the standards of institutions of repute, and is still performing to showcase its identity across the country by involving the participation of various eminent scientists and scholars from across the world, specifically from Masonic Medical Institute, USA and National institutions like IITs, CSIR-NIO, and CSIR-CECRI over the years to enhance its teaching potential. ■

DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY FACULTY



Prof. Ram Rajasekharan  
Professor and Head



Dr. D. Siva Sundara Kumar  
Associate Professor



Dr. Suchitra Rakesh  
Assistant Professor



Dr. Kaushik Rajaram  
Assistant Professor

# Programmed to achieve success

## DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

The Department of Computer Science was inaugurated on September 14, 2016, by Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash. It is committed to impart quality education in all fields of IT, a field growing in leaps and bounds. The department believes that the interplay of theory and practice can train the students



ESTABLISHED  
**2016**

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **03** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **04**

PROJECTS **03** | **Rs10 LAKH**

properly in rapidly advancing curriculum. This department comprises of faculty members with doctorate degrees and actively involved in research and in carrying out projects besides teaching. The following programmes are offered by the department: M.Sc. in Computer Science, M.Phil. in Computer Science and Ph.D. in Computer Science.

The department offers Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) which enables students to choose electives from other departments. The students are evaluated for courses through Continuous Assessment Scheme (CAS).

The department have well-furnished smart classrooms, Alan Turing advance computing lab and Dennis Ritchie data analytics lab with WiFi connectivity and air-conditioned conference halls with a seating capacity of 500. Students are provided ample opportunities to improve their organisational, interpersonal skills and group dynamics. Emphasis is on consistent and good academic performance. Students are motivated to handle seminars and to develop soft skills and encouraged to participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities to bring out the best in them, provides the best practices for teaching and learning.

This department offers an M.Sc. in Computer Science, a full-time four semester programme spread over two years

### Success STORIES



#### Student wins

Mr. Akesh E. S. from M.Sc. Computer Science has won the first prize in Quiz Competition in BancQuest 2019 conducted by the Department of Banking Technology, Pondicherry Central University during February 14 to 16, 2019. B. Venkateswarlu and V. Nivedha from M.Sc. Computer Science have won the second prize in Technical Paper Presentation in Technothirst 2019 conducted by the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, A.V.C. College of Engineering during March 1-2, 2019. Mr. S. B. Arjun and Ms. S. Agila won the second prize in Web Designing contest in Extravaganza 2018 conducted by the Department of Computer Science, Rabiammal Ahamed Maideen College for Women, Thiruvaur. ■

started from the academic year 2016-2017. The programme provides a solid theoretical foundation through high quality teaching complemented by extensive practical learning. The curriculum is designed to meet the standards expected from the IT industry and to those students who aspires for research. Foundation for a professional career in computing-based industries, foundation for basic and applied computer science engineering research and concrete knowledge in reasoning methods, design and implementation techniques is offered. ■



#### Special lectures

A series of special lectures were organised by the Department of Computer Science by eminent scholars. Prof. G. Aghila from NIT-Puducherry delivered a special lecture on 'Ontology Engineering'; Prof. V. Prasanna Venkatesan, from Pondicherry Central University on 'Future disruptive technologies'; Prof. G. Florence Sudha from Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Pondicherry Engineering College, on 'Medical Imaging and Processing'; Prof. P. Shanmugavadivu, from Gandhigram Rural Institute, on 'Research Dimensions in Big Data'; Dr. S. Dominic from NIT-Trichy, on 'Probabilistic model and their applications' and Dr. K. Saruladha from Pondicherry Engineering College, on 'Recommendation Systems using Machine Learning techniques'. ■



#### Career guidance

Central University of Tamil Nadu and Lions club of Thiruvaur Araneri jointly organised a one-day career guidance programme Zenith 2017 on March 24, 2017, at the Multipurpose Auditorium of CUTN. Over 700 students from arts and science colleges and engineering colleges in and around Thiruvaur and Nagapattinam districts participated in the event. The objective of this programme was to create an awareness about the courses offered in CUTN and the admission procedures and provide an exposure to the student participants as well as to motivate them to do their higher education in centrally-funded institutions. ■



2009

2010

2011

2012

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**IoT using Raspberry Pi**

A two-day national workshop on 'IoT using Raspberry Pi' was conducted by the department from April 5, 2018. ■

**Workshop on Digital India**

A one-day workshop on Digital India Initiatives was conducted by the Department of Computer Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu, on October 7, 2017. ■



4



**Research fundamentals**

A one-day National Workshop on Orientation to Research Fundamentals and Recent Innovations in Computer Science was conducted by the Department of Computer Science, CUTN, on Feb 24, 2018. ■

**Spick and span!**

As part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, the Department of Computer Science organised a cleaning campaign and skit competition in the department on September 27, 2018. Students, research scholars and faculty members participated in the cleaning campaign. Final-year M.Sc. Computer Science students performed the skit on clean India mission at the valedictory function, which was conducted during the later part of the day. ■



1

**Contests galore**

As part of the National Science Day celebrations, the Department of Computer Science conducted a C Debugging, Quiz and Web Designing competitions for all the M.Sc. Computer Science students on February 27 and 28, 2018. Dr. K. Nandhini was the convener and Dr. P. Thiyagarajan was the co-convener for the event. Similarly, on the Innovation Day, the department conducted essay-writing and poster-presentation competitions on March 19, 2018. ■



8

**Net coaching**

Department of Computer Science has been conducting NET coaching classes for postgraduate students of the department from September 2017. As a result, there has been an increase in the number of students and scholars passing the National Eligibility Test. ■



9

**Digitisation of resources**

A five-day national workshop on Digitalisation of resources using open-source software DSpace was conducted by the Department of Computer Science in March 2017 in collaboration with UGC Infibnet. ■



10

**Visit to Infosys**

Second-year M.Sc. Computer Science students belonging to the 2016-18 Batch were taken on a six-day industrial visit to the Infosys Mysore Campus from March 8, 2018. Dr. A. Martin, Assistant Professor, accompanied the students. At Infosys, the students learned about the nuances of the corporate environment. ■

2016

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2018

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**Campus Wi-Fi project**

Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Dash launched the Campus Connect Wi-Fi Project on September 21, 2017. Dr. P. Thiyagarajan, Assistant Professor and Head of Department (In-Charge), Department of Computer Science, was the Project Nodal Officer. Around Rs6 crore was sanctioned for this project by the MHRD/UGC for the establishment of hotspots on the academic campus. Central University of Tamil Nadu inked a pact with the MHRD, UGC and NISCI along with 38 other Central Universities for establishment of campus-wide WiFi network in August 2016. ■



**Scholar forum**

CUTN's Department of Computer Science has been encouraging its scholars to deliver talks on diverse topics. Research scholar Mr. Muhammed Niyas K. P. delivered a talk on 'Basics of Deep Learning' on March 20, 2018. Another scholar Mr. Kiran Kumar Kondru delivered a talk on 'Petrinets and its applications' on April 23, 2018. Mr. Janardhan N. delivered a talk on 'Computational Thinking and Problem Solving using RAPTOR' on April 27, 2018. ■



**Certificate course**

University Grants Commission has sanctioned the Department of Computer Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur, to run certificate course on 'Basic Computer Applications' through the Community College.

Ms. K. Nithinila and Ms. V. Nivedha won the third prize in a Quiz contest in Extravaganza 2018 conducted by the Department of Computer Science, Rabiammal Ahamed Maideen College for Women, Thiruvavur. Rahul Kumar won the first prize in C Debugging competition conducted by the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, National Institute of Technology-Puducherry, Karaikal. ■



**Dr. P. Thiyagarajan**  
Assistant Professor and Head (in-charge)



**Dr. K. Nandhini**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. R. Saranya**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. A. Martin**  
Assistant Professor

# An edifice, not a tool box

## DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

Launched in 2010, the Department of Mathematics started a five-year integrated M.Sc. Programme in Mathematics. It strives to be a premier educational and research facility in India focusing on innovative teaching, abstraction, application and interdisciplinary research in Mathematics.

The department promotes professional working environment that supports risk-taking, innovative ideas and team work. At present, we have eight regular faculty members against the 10 sanctioned positions.

We offer five-year integrated Masters programme in Mathematics, M.Phil in Mathematics and PhD programme in Mathematics. The curriculum for the iM.Sc. programme was designed in consultation with top Mathematicians of this country that includes essential abstract and applied topics of Mathematics. We prescribe project work for iM.Sc. students for motivating them to do research in Mathematics. The first batch of PhD students joined the department in August 2015. We admitted seven PhD scholars as the first batch in 2015. So far, three scholars from the department have been awarded Ph.D., while 15 are pursuing their research.

The thrust areas of research in our department include functional analysis, numerical analysis, linear algebra, optimisation and operations research, data mining and analytics, computational and numerical algorithms, partial differential equations, integral equations, harmonic analysis, integral transforms, fluid dynamics, graph theory and complex analysis.

Department faculty members have collaborations with experts in India and abroad. Yonsei University (South Korea), Air Force Institute of Technology (USA), IIT (Kanpur), HRI (Allahabad), NIT Goa, IISER (Trivandrum), IIST (Trivandrum), Central University of Kerala (Kasaragod), IIT (Chennai), ISI (Hyderabad), IIM (Indore), ISI (Delhi), HRI (Allahabad), Bharathiar University (Coimbatore), Periyar University (Salem) are among those institutions. The faculty members also have major projects in National Board for Higher Mathematics (NBHM), Scientific and Engineering Research Board (SERB) and University Grant Commission.

Faculty members of the department have visited China, South

ESTABLISHED  
**2010**

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **03** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **08**

PROJECTS **04** | **Rs54.69 LAKH**



Korea, Belgium, Brazil and Vietnam for international conferences with financial support from NBHM, SERB, ICIA11, Belgium, and ICM, Brazil. Faculty members of the department are serving as reviewer for American Mathematical Society (AMS) Review and referee for various reputed international journals.

Faculty members of the department are currently serving as joint secretary of Kerala Mathematical Association and organised three conferences, several workshops, four summer school and three winter school events that were attended by participants

## Success STORIES



### Funded programmes

One International Conference, two National conferences, four summer schools, three winter schools and several workshops were organised by the department faculty members and that were attended by participants from various academic institutions and research laboratories. The programmes were organised with the financial support of various external funding agencies like National Board for Higher Mathematics (NBHM), National Centre for Mathematics (NCM) and Scientific and Engineering Research Board (SERB). In this regard, the department received over Rs. 58.57 lakh. ■

from various academic institutions and research laboratories.

The programmes were organised with the financial support of various external funding agencies like National Board for Higher Mathematics (NBHM), National Centre for Mathematics (NCM) and Scientific and Engineering Research Board (SERB). In this regard, Department received over Rs58.57 lakh.

Faculty members of the department have delivered invited talks and presented papers in over 130 national conferences and workshops and 16 international conferences. ■



### Computer Lab

Department of Mathematics has a well equipped and air-conditioned computer lab with 45 computers. This lab is supported with campus wi-fi and 20 KVA UPS. The students and faculty members are using the lab for accessing various research articles through online subscription. ■



### Internship

Scholars and students of the Department visited various research institution in India, for instance, IIST (Trivandrum), IITM (Vadodhara), TIFR CAM (Bangalore), IISc (Bangalore), IISER (Trivandrum), IIT (Chennai), IIMSc (Chennai), Shiv Nadar University (Noida), IIT (Kanpur), BITS (Hyderabad), NIT (Goa), IIT (Hyderabad), IISER (Mohali), ISI (Bangalore), IASc (Bangalore) for the purpose of attending International/ National level conference/workshop/summer internship/seminar. ■





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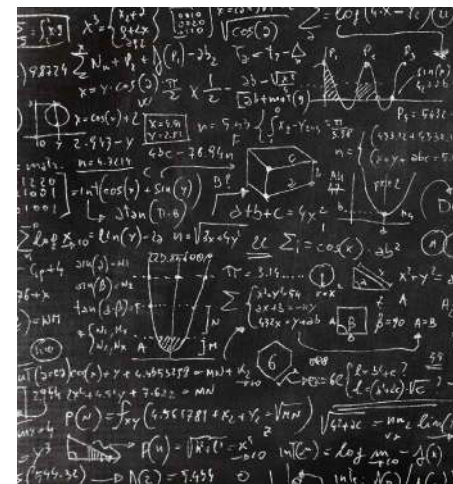


**Foreign visits**

Faculty members of the department have visited China, South Korea, Belgium, Brazil and Vietnam to attend international conferences and received Rs2,28,025 as financial support from the NBHM and SERB, \$300 from the organising committee of ICIA11, Belgium and R\$8800 from ICM, Brazil. ■

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3



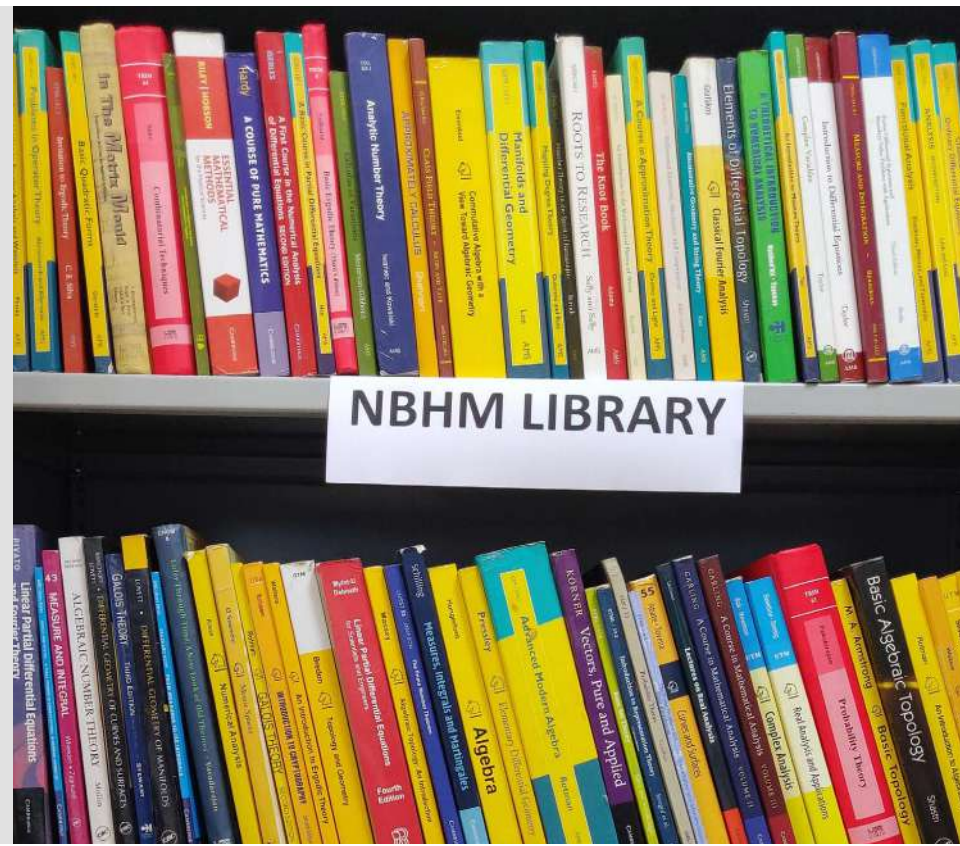
**Research grants**

Faculty members of the department completed two research projects with financial supports Rs23.47 Lakhs from NBHM and SERB. Two more research projects are being carried out with financial support Rs31.22 Lakhs under a SERB core research grant (CRG) and a UGC start-up research grant. ■

1

**NBHM Library**

National Board for Higher Mathematics, Department of Atomic Energy released Rs8.5Lakhs towards purchasing the library books for the Department of Mathematics, CUTN in 2012 & 2014. Along with this grant, the department is receiving complimentary books from NBHM continuously. The NBHM library is being used by the students and faculty members of the Department regularly. ■



4



**Training students**

Department of Mathematics organised a summer camp in 2013 at Kattur School, Thiruvaur to provide awareness to the young kids about higher education. Faculty members and I.M.Sc. students also delivered series of lectures to motivate school students towards popularising basic science. ■

**Programming**

Department of Mathematics organised a three-week long Advanced Instructional School on Mathematical Programming during July 2016. The three-week programme concentrated on the topics optimisation, mathematical programming, game theory and advanced combinatorics. It was attended by several scholars from top institutions of this country. ■



5

2016

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2019

**Workshop**

Department of Mathematics has organised a 14-day interactive workshop on Partial Differential Equations and Applications sponsored by the National Board for Higher Mathematics (NBHM), for the benefit of its students. ■

8



**Outreach**

Department of Mathematics organised in association with Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan (RAA) a Pedagogical Training Programme for Science and Mathematics Teachers to teachers of primary schools in and around CUTN and several science camps for school students during 2016-2018. ■

9



**Math club**

It is a forum for students, research scholars and faculty members to present any topic on Mathematics. Regular talks are being delivered and discussions were made. Unique practice of this forum is posting problems on the board by any member of the department and it will be resolved by any interested student. ■

10



**Nurturing a pan-India initiative**

This is a pan-India initiative taken by a group of committed mathematicians who have come together to create a culture of nurturing mathematics in our country. This group conducts various workshops at national level with the support of government of India. ■



**Pedagogical training for teachers**

Pedagogical Training for Mathematics Teachers (PTMT) is a unique programme organised to familiarise Mathematics teachers in different colleges throughout India by experts who are well versed in the methodology that evolved for the last 27 years in the programme. Mathematics teachers from across India participated in the event organised during December 2018 at Central University of Tamil Nadu. ■

**Success STORIES**



**Students achievements**

So far twenty one students of our Department have cleared national/state level competitive exams like CSIR(JRF), UGC(JRF), DST-INSPIRE, GATE, NBHM PG Fellowship and SET. Many students are placed in industries and institutions under private/government sectors. Two teams of Integrated M.Sc. students bagged first and second prizes in national lever quiz competition FORYASIS at IIT Madras. ■

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS  
**FACULTY**



**Dr. R. Roopkumar**  
Associate Professor & Head



**Prof. T. Sengadir**  
Professor



**Dr. A. Chandrashekar**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. Ramesh V.P**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. N. Barani Balan**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. Virendra Kumar**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. T. Kavaskar**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. S. V. Bharanedar**  
Assistant Professor

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# Raising music where it was born

## DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

The Department of Music was established in the year 2016. CUTN is the only Central Institution in South India offering academic programmes in Music. The department had a grand beginning with an undergraduate programme in Music and extending music education to the students of other disciplines of CUTN as generic electives. Being the birthplace of the Trinity of South Indian Music, namely, Sri Syama Sastri, Sri Tyagaraja and Sri Muttuswami Dikshita, Thiruvurur has become an ideal place to propagate the rich music tradition propounded by them.

Objectives of the department is to provide traditional classical music education to students of different backgrounds and revive the music legacy of Tiruvurur, inculcate nuances of music by laying a strong foundation of basics, individual attention to students and bring out their talent, make extensive learning material accessible in the form of authentic audio, video and textual resources, supplemented by modern IT tools, focus on shaping a student to take up music as a profession (performer, teacher or researcher), extend music as an additional subject to students of different disciplines and to make the Department of Music, a research hub in the region.

The department offers a four-year UG programme in Music, Bachelor of Performing Arts - Music (B.P.A. Music), designed according to the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) that is approved by the Academic Council of CUTN, 2016. It consists of Theory and Practical papers.

The curriculum would cover basic training in the first year with beginners' exercises and foundation courses for voice stability and *sruti* and *laya* control. Besides Classical Music (Carnatic music) compositions, students could learn songs from other genres such as devotional songs, folk songs, patriotic songs and songs for dance and Harikatha. Gradual increase in the content of the Classical music training is prescribed through the eight semesters.

In the third year, there is an opportunity to learn to play

ESTABLISHED **2016**  
 NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **03** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **04**



any of the instruments, viz., Veena, Violin or Mridangam. Under electives, basics of Hindustani Music, Western Music, Regional Music of India and Music and Technology, Indian Culture and Sanskrit and Dravidian scripts are offered. In the final semester, the student has to perform a Classical Concert for an hour's duration and thus the programme is designed to produce a graduate with multi-faceted knowledge of Music.

The Department of Music offers M.Phil and Ph.D. in Music. The duration of these courses is 1 year (2 semesters) for M. Phil and 3 years for Ph.D. Students who have passed the UGC-JRF can apply for registration round the year. Those who do not possess NET qualification, should apply through CUCET that is conducted every year. These programmes are aimed to bring out the research outputs in various areas like Music

## Success STORIES



### Conquering challenges

**Mr. N. Manoj**, a visually-challenged student with JRF qualification, became the first research scholar to join the Ph.D. programme in the Department of Music, in January 2019. He has completed M.A. and M.Phil. in Music from the University of Madras and will be working in the area of Stylistic Analysis of Music Compositions and Concerts.

**Mr. T. V. Varun**, a physically-challenged student of BPA Music started learning music from the basics after joining the Department of Music, CUTN. Within a span of two years he has developed a singing voice and also a good control over *tala*.

analysis, Stylistic studies, Theoretical and Historical studies and Interdisciplinary studies. A student enrolled for research programmes is expected to undergo Research Methodology, Course Work (Practical and Theory) and also opt for required relevant electives, by staying in the CUTN campus. The Department offers a variety of courses under Generic Electives for students studying in various Departments of CUTN. ■

## Magic of music

Thiruvurur can be termed, with no exaggeration, the cradle of Carnatic music. The contribution of this sleepy town is so immense that it has had to offer the Sangeetha Mummoorthys to musicdom. Now, music remains just in its yesteryear fame. In this backdrop, it was like homecoming for music, when the three-day National Classical Carnatic Music Festival was hosted by CUTN, commemorating saint-poet Thyagaraja on his 250th birth anniversary. Classical music has not seen many feminine instrumentalists. The fest began with a difference as three women instrumentalists took up the stage. Mrs. Yoga Vandana, a veena player strung the audience together with her strings. The veena with, the best of its company, Mridangam and Morsing, played by Mrs. Ranjani Venkatesh and Mrs. Bhagalakshmi Krishna, set a very graceful ambience which was throughout the festival.

This was followed by a vocal performance by twins, Aarthi and Archana, and party. The second day witnessed one of the best forms of instrumental performances, the Jugalbandhi. It was a potpourri of musical forms, as Sitar and Tabla, prominent of Hindustani instruments, were played in competence with Mridangam, a pure Carnatic percussion and Violin, a western string espoused by the carnatic music. With B. Sivaramakrishna Rao on Sitar and B. V. Raghavendra Rao on Violin. The performance did full justice to Jugalbandhi, for which the audience stood as evidence. The Oscar nominee Dr. Sreevalsan J. Menon from Kerala did an expertful job through his vocal performance. It was Cuddalore S. J. Janani & Party who performed on the vocals on the third day.

Cuddalore S. J. Janani, a child prodigy and a multi-faceted musician, had set the musical aura up through her vocal performance. Following that came the most expected of all performances, the Jalatharangam, porcelain pots filled with ter in different levels making musical notes when tapped, by Kalaimamani Anaiampatti S. Ganeshan & Party. His agedness was proved deceptive by his energy packed performance. The well experienced Anaiampatti S. Ganeshan, built the musical aura up taking it to its highest with Jalatharangam. The pleasing sound of Jalatharangam and his expertise on it left the crowd spellbound, as he performed the keerthana 'Alaipayuthe Kanna'. As a young and budding university, our campus is witnessing one such festival for the first time. The fest has taken the first leap towards building up a new music culture in the varsity and inculcating music amongst the students, as it is reviving the past glory of the land. ■



### From vocal to veena and violin

The Department offers Music education in South Indian Classical Music – Vocal, Veena and Violin. Students from different parts of the Country (Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Chattisgarh) pursue BPA Music. Since prior knowledge for music is not necessary, students enthusiastically learn to sing and play instruments. ■





2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

## 1 Tribute to the trinity of music

A National Seminar on the Contribution of Trinity to Music was organised in February online. As many as 52 research papers were presented by research scholars and musicians from different parts of the country. The contributions of the Classical Music Trinity of South India was analysed and discussed in its varied facets. ■



## Thanking Tyagaraja

On the anniversary of Sri Tyagaraja, one among the Trinity of South Indian Classical Music (Sri Tyagarjana Aradhana) was celebrated at CUTN for the first time, with the rendering of the famous Pancaratna keertanas. They were rendered by the faculty members and students of the department. They were accompanied by Dr. Girish, Department of Music, Annamalai University, Chidambaram on Flute and Shri. Mohana Krishnan along with his disciples on the Mridangam. ■



## Tribute to Gandhi

Tribute was paid to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi by rendering Gandhi bhajans by the faculty members of the department, captivating a hall full of audience with staff and students on October 4, 2018. Dr. V. Premalatha and Ms. Rasiga D. taught the audience to sing 'Raghupati Raghava Rajaram' and Dr. Harish Narayan taught 'Vaishnava Jana To'. ■

## Success STORIES



## Prize catch!

BPA Music students along with other teammates from the Departments of Physics and Chemistry won the overall championship in the annual sports event of CUTN, 2019. **Mr. Kavin Mughil** was the runner-up in football. ■

## Huge demand

In the first batch, there has been a record number of students opting for music as generic electives, with more than 100 students in the odd semester and more than 70 students continuing their music learning in the even semester of 2017-18. Added success to this student enrollment is a 100% pass with CGPA ranging between 7.81 and 8.67 of the UG students. The elective course students had shown a 99.9% of pass in the first batch with CGPA ranging between 6.2 and 9.1. ■

## DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC FACULTY



**Dr. V. Premalatha**  
Associate Professor & Head



**Shri. Ratheesh P. R.**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. Udaya Kiran K. T.**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. S. Seethalakshmi**  
Assistant Professor

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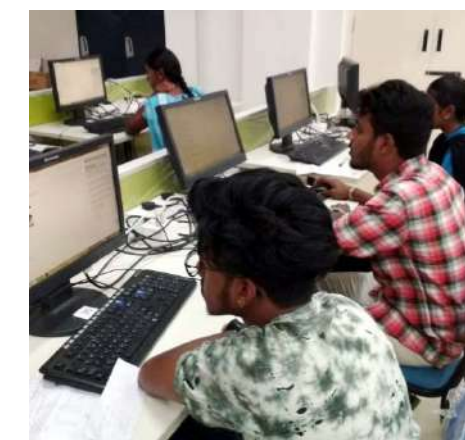


## Music feast

Musicians and scholars from four southern states of India who attended a National Seminar performed a Classical music programme at CUTN. It featured the most popular compositions of the Trinity. The performance was accompanied by violin, veena, flute and mridangam. ■

## MOOCs-ICT

CUTN's first MOOCs course on "Elements of Indian Music" went online from the department. Classes were conducted in the Smart Classroom of the Department of Music. Examination was also conducted online with the help of Moodle software of CUTN. As many as 19 students opted for the courses and exhibited good results. ■



## 4



## Rangapresvesam

The debut performance of a music student is considered as an auspicious event. First Rangapresvesam was conducted in which 20 students were made to take the stage for their maiden performance. Classical Music compositions were rendered by the first-time performers. ■

## Revering the instruments

Tradition says, music and musical instruments are to be worshipped and honoured. During Saraswathi Pooja and Ayudha Pooja were celebrated at the Department of Music with great traditional fervour, exhibiting the reverence and respect that the students have for their tools. ■



## Trinity treats

Sri Muttuswami Dikshita, one of the Trinity of South Indian Classical Music was born in Thiruvavur. He has composed a set of 11 compositions on Goddess Kamalamba of Thiruvavur, called the Navavarana kritis. The Kamalamba Navavaranam was rendered by the disciples of Sangita Kalanidhi Shri D. K. Jayaraman at CUTN. ■



## 8

## For peace

Music brings happiness, music gives peace. For this, one has to enjoy and appreciate music. Department of Music organised a workshop on Appreciation of Music and offered a gateway to this. ■

## Research

Dr. V. Premalatha has been awarded a research project for the publication of an unpublished work in Music called "Talakshanam". An MoU has been signed between Dr. V. Premalatha and the National Mission for Manuscripts, GoI, New Delhi in Dec 2017. An amount of Rs.2.65 lakhs has been approved to undertake the work. ■



## 10

# Going glocal to meet challenges

## DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Department of Economics is one of the oldest in the School of Social Sciences and Humanities started in 2011 at Central University of Tamil Nadu. Initially, the department started with one programme: Integrated M.Sc. Economics with 16 students. Currently, it offers PhD Programme in Economics, five-year Integrated M. A. Programme in Economics and two-year M. A. Programme in Economics and hosts around 200 students and scholars.

Its programmes have been widely popularised and applications received for each programme for admission have increased by manifolds. The course curriculum for these programmes have been developed meticulously to address the need of both theoretical and applied aspects of economic studies and diversified career objectives, including research. The students are encouraged to participate in seminars, conferences and summer internship programmes to enrich their knowledge in various courses.

### Thrust area of the department

Agricultural Economics, Development Economics, Monetary and Financial Economics, Econometrics and Quantitative Economics, Indian Economic issues, Macroeconomic Policy analysis, Public Finance and Policy, Industrial Economics and Health Economics are the department's thrust areas.

Its vision is to be a prominent research and teaching department in Economics with the objective of preparing students to be leaders capable of meeting the challenges of the developing local and global community.

The department is forged ahead with six faculty members: Associate Professor and Head Dr. Prasant Kumar Panda, Associate Professor Dr. N. Rajagopal and Assistant Professors Dr. P. Balamurugan, Dr. Sumalatha B.S., Dr. B. Balaji and Dr. Aas Mohammad.

### Distinguished economists

Several distinguished economists have visited the Department of Economics, CUTN, including Dr. C. Rangarajan, former Gov-

ESTABLISHED **2011**

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **03** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **06**

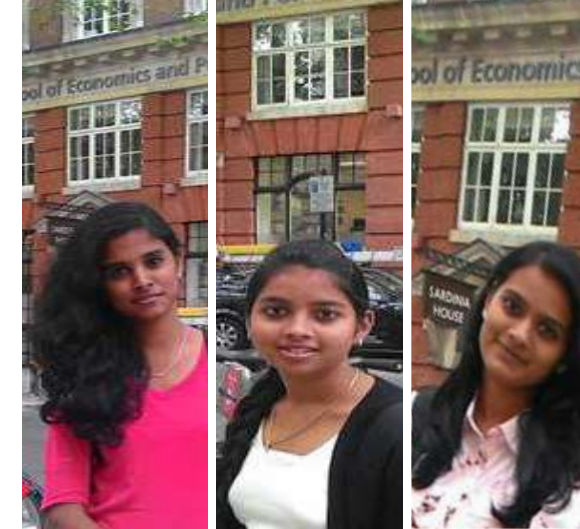
PROJECTS **04** | **Rs14.50 LAKH**



ernor of the Reserve Bank of India and former Chairman of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council of India, Prof. Rory Horner, Global Development Institute, University of Manchester, Prof. Jaya Krishnakumar, Professor of Econometrics, Institute of Economics and Econometrics, Geneva School of Economics and Management (GSEM) University of Geneva, Prof. K. L. Krishna, Professor, Chairperson, Madras Institute of Development Studies and Former Director, DSE, Dr. Venkatesh Athreya, Former Professor, Department of Economics, Bharathidasan University, Trichy, Prof. Pullin B. Nayak, former Director, Delhi School of Economics, and Prof. B. Kamaiah, former Dean of the School of Economics, University of Hyderabad.

These apart, Prof. Pinaki Chackravorthy, Professor, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi and Advisor, 14th Finance Commission, Prof. Shashanke Bhide, Former Director, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai, Prof. Neelakantan, Former Director, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai, Prof. Amit S. Ray, Senior Professor, Centre for

## Success STORIES



### At LSE

Five students of the department, Meenakshi Abirami B, Gowthami R S, Sruthi S, Junofy Anto Rozarina N and Antariksh Agarwal have participated in summer school at the London School of Economics.

### First in CUTN

First PhD awardee from the Central University of Tamil Nadu is Ms. Sweety Thomas, Department of Economics in the year 2018. Ms. Sweety Thomas has been awarded for Swami Vivekananda single girl child fellowship for research in social sciences in the year 2015-16.

International Trade and Development, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and Former Director, Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, Prof. Sundar Ramasamy, Former Director, Madras School of Economics, Chennai, Prof. K. R. Shanmugam, Director, Madras School of Economics, Chennai, Prof. Arunodaya Saha, former Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Tripura, have visited the department. ■



### Former RBI Guv at CUTN seminar

CUTN's Department of Economics, along with the Madras School of Economics (MSE), organised a two-day seminar from January 18, 2018, at the Central University of Tamil Nadu with special lectures by Dr. C. Rangarajan, former Governor of the RBI, on 'The Journey of India's Economic Reforms' and Dr. Siddhadharan on 'Paradigm changes in Technology and Employment'. There were 17 lectures by the faculty members of the CUTN and MSE on several research issues such as sustainability of public debts, investor behaviour in asset pricing, board effectiveness in an emerging market context, information asymmetry and equity issue decision of zero debt firms. ■



### Collaboration with MSE

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed between CUTN and the Madras School of Economics (MSE) in 2011 and renewed in 2016 to offer various Economics programmes at CUTN and at MSE. ■

### Tete-a-tete

This year, Prof. Amit S. Ray, Senior Professor in the Centre for International Trade and Development, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, spoke on Understanding and Redressing Inequality within a theoretical frame of Economic Development; and Dr. Beena P.L., Associate Professor from the Centre for Development Studies spoke on the Understanding the current crisis in the Indian Industrial Sector. ■





2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

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**13 clear NET/JRF**

So far, as many as 13 student from the Department of Economics, CUTN, have passed the National Eligibility Test conducted to qualify for Assistant Professorship and two JR Fellowships. ■

**Global development**

Department of Economics organised a special lecture on 'From international to global development?' in January 2019 at Central University of Tamil Nadu. Professor Rory Horner, Global Development Institute, University of Manchester, was the resource person. ■



4



**Talks than matter**

Department of Economics organised a special lecture on Union Budget 2015-16 : Implications for Indian Economy by Prof. Pinaki Chakraborty, NIPFP, New Delhi during March 2015. ■

**Placements**

The economics alumni have done extremely well in all aspects including higher studies, corporate placements and government jobs so far more than 55 Students (eco-CUTN) got placed with the median salary of Rs. 7.5L/annum. ■



**1 Reaching out to the needy**

Education is not just about scoring marks but it is also about growing up as a better human being. The students of the Department of Economics holds this close to heart. As the part of extension activity the students of the department distributed shoes and socks to the underprivileged school children of Government Middle school, Devarkandanallur, Thiruvaur in Sept 2016. ■



2016 2017 2018 2019

**8 Economics Association**

CUTN Economics Association (CEA) activities was formally initiated on March 2, 2015, inaugurated by Prof. K. L. Krishna, Chairperson, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai. He briefed on the various career opportunities that is open for an economics student. ■

**9 Workshops**

It organised a Skill-Development Workshop in March 2016 and conducted a Research Methodology Workshop on Applied Econometrics in March 2017 in association with The Indian Econometric Society (TIES). ■

**10 Swachh Bharat**

Extramural project obtained by Dr. Panda, Head of the Department on Rural Household Vulnerability to Unhygienic Practices, Its Impact on Health and Effective Interventions through Swachh Bharat Mission: An Empirical Study in Thiruvaur District of Tamil Nadu. ■

**6 Rashtrapati Bhavan**

Dr.Prasant Kumar Panda was invited to Rashtrapati Bhavan and participated in the prestigious one-week Inspired Teachers In-Residence Programme at Rashtrapati Bhavan during June 2015. Dr. Panda emerged as the Best Inspired Teacher at CUTN on the basis of nominations of students and fellow faculty and was nominated to participate in the programme at Rashtrapati Bhavan. ■

**7 Fellowships**

Dr. Sumalatha B. S. was awarded the Professor KN Raj Fellowship from the Centre of Development Studies, Trivandrum, in 2015. She also received travel grant support from SIDA and Aalborg University for attending the 13th Globelics International Conference 2015 held at Havana, Cuba. Dr. Prasant Kumar Panda was also awarded with the KN Raj Fellowship for teaching resource grant for the year 2018-19 at Centre for Development Studies. ■

**Success STORIES**



**Foreign universities**

Five students from the department: Mr. Abishek Choutagunta, Ms.Varshini VJ, Mr. Vijay Kumar Modi, Ms.Junofy Anto Rozarina N, Mr. S. Srikanth are pursuing their higher studies in foreign insitutions: Erasmus University, Illinois University, Corvinus University of Budapest and Nottingham University, Sidney University. Two more: Mr. Antariksh Agarwal, Mr.Wibnu Dickson will be joining this year. ■

**Special lecture**

Department of Economics organised a special lecture on 'Do Public policies promote equality of opportunity for wellbeing? An econometrics analysis using Bolivian' in February 2016 at CUTN. Dr. Jaya Krishnakumar, Professor of Econometrics, University of Geneva, was the resource person. ■

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS FACULTY**

- Dr. Prasant Kumar Panda**  
Associate Professor and Head
- Dr. N. Rajagopal**  
Associate Professor
- Dr. P. Balamurugan**  
Assistant Professor
- Dr. Sumalatha B.S**  
Assistant Professor
- Dr. B. Balaji**  
Assistant Professor
- Dr. Aas Mohammad**  
Assistant Professor

# Looking beyond the known canon

## DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH STUDIES

CUTN's Department of English Studies, the first department to be instituted at the Central University of Tamil Nadu in 2009, started its journey with the introduction of the M.A. English programme. From a modest beginning with just two teachers and eight students, the department has evolved significantly over the following decade and now offers postgraduate (M.A.) as well as full-time research programmes (M.Phil. and Ph.D.) in English. The Department extends academic support to other departments by offering general language courses to students enrolled for Integrated M.Sc., M.A. and B.Ed. programmes in various subjects. Besides, the department offers a certificate course in French language as well.

The Department of English Studies sets out to fashion a platform for critical enquiry into language and literature not just within a traditional Eurocentric canon but also across the various textual, historical and cultural contexts in which literary creation and reception occur in a globalised world. In terms of its guiding philosophy, the Department envisages to develop a more liberal, holistic perspective on human experience through the study of language, literature and culture from around the world and aims to foster critical thinking and research essential to the awareness and realisation of our own interrelated roles and positions as humans within the networked society we live in.

In terms of pedagogical practice, the department seeks to achieve this by promoting a critical understanding of the texts, authors, themes and genres that constitute the constantly evolving idea of the "literary" within the specific domain of English Studies as well as the broader arena of the Humanities. By fostering an awareness of the increasingly inter-disciplinary and inter-cultural nature of academic scholarship, in terms of both subject matter and method, the department aims to promote and hone in the students a spirit of debate and inquiry necessary for understanding the strengths and the challenges of "doing" English Studies in our times.

ESTABLISHED **2009**  
 NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **03** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **04**

The M.A. English programme is designed to give students a necessary grounding in the traditionally recognised canon of English literature as well as to introduce them to newer, allied domains of study that now fall within the ambit of English Studies. Under the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS), mandated by the UGC and followed by CUTN, the M.A. English programme offers a combination of core and elective courses over four semesters. A unique feature of the M.A. English programme is that students are offered the choice to undertake a brief project in the final semester, in which they select to work intensively on a topic of their own interest and acquire the basic skills of conducting academic research.

The M.Phil. and Ph.D. programmes are of a duration of one and three years respectively and adhere to the UGC guidelines for academic research. Scholars are required to undertake mandatory courses in research methodology, which attunes them to the formal disciplinary means of critical enquiry in literary studies, as well as tailor-made courses in their specific area of interest, which helps them acquire a strong grounding in the particular domain of study they choose to focus on. In addition, the coursework also includes elective papers on contemporary literary theory, literature and media, aesthetics and poetics that enable scholars to situate their work within the larger academic trends and developments in the broad domain of the Humanities. Both programmes require the scholars to draft, revise, submit and formally defend a dissertation on the basis of their research in order to become eligible for the award of a degree. Through inter-departmen-

### Success STORIES



#### Ireland beckons

Three PhD scholars from the department were selected to attend the Summer School in Queen's University, Belfast, N. Ireland Through an MoU signed between Queen's University and Madras Christian College for Ecocriticism.

#### First in CUTN

This is the first among the departments to be instituted at the Central University of Tamil Nadu in 2009. It started its journey with the introduction of the M.A. English programme with a modest beginning with just two teachers and eight students.

tal activities conducted under the aegis of fora such as the English Literary Association students hone their skills of debate, elocution, stage performance, creative writing and critical appreciation of media, all of which prepare them to face the demands and challenges outside the university. ■



#### English literary association

The English Literary Association serves as a platform for the students to exhibit their talents in cocurricular activities as much as it exposes the students to the nuances of English Language to enable them to exhibit their literary flair with an eye to employability. ELA conducted the CUTN English Literary Fest on October 12, 2018, and the programme was inaugurated by Prof. A. P. Dash, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor in the presence of Dr. S. Bhuvaneshwari, Registrar of CUTN. ■



#### Swachhta Hi Seva

The English department conducted extension activities in the nearby villages and served for the betterment of the society. Swachhata Hi Seva-2018: A Programme on Health and Hygiene and Sapling Plantation was organised under the aegis of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, under the Banner of Swachhta Hi Seva - 2018. ■



#### Language lab

The department has a Language Laboratory with state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment to aid in imparting language skills. The lab is effectively used by students and faculty members for various self-enhancement and soft skill development activities. Laboratory proves beneficial for those students who are poor in the use of English language. Students from rural areas can have sufficient ear training in the language lab. It aims at confidence-building among students for interactions and presentations in English. ■





2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

2



### Student outreach

Outreach programme initiated by the Department of English Studies is a cherished department-specific activity that is designed to offer exposure to the students. Through the initiative, the postgraduate student volunteers take remedial English classes for the students of the Government Higher Secondary School, Enangudi. ■

3



### Film screening

A Movie Club was formed and this club screens movies within the department and once in a month an open screening is held for the university departments. The purpose of this club is learning through entertainment. The movies screened mainly focus on managerial skills like leadership, team spirit, group dynamics, creativity, self-motivation. ■

4



### Ecocriticism

Focus of research in the Department is ecocriticism, eco-critical perspective on literature and social and cultural practices. The mandatory annual field visit to wildlife sanctuary teaches the students to observe the relationship between nature, culture and human beings. ■

### Street play

In the Department of English Studies, short films and street plays have been conducted as an internal assessment for iM.Sc students. It provides a platform to exhibit their creative talents, and enhance their creativity, and soft skills. ■



5

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### Theatre club

Its Theatre Club conducts annual drama festivals where students enact dramas of various theatrical schools tracing the evolution of drama as a literary genre. The Department of English Studies came out with a 20-minute play on Gandhi in August 2018 as per the call of the MHRD. Reportedly, it has been adjudged as one of the best plays. It was sent for consideration and evaluation at the national level. ■



2016 2017 2018 2019

### Ethno-Eco-Mytho facets

The Department of English Studies hosted a two-day national seminar on Ethno-Eco-Mytho Facets of North East Indian Writing in English from February 8-9, 2018. It was the first of its kind in south India both in terms of its focus on the literature and culture of the North East and the participation of renowned scholars. ■

8



9

### Forum for thoughts

The Forum for Contemporary Thought (FCT) is envisaged as an interdisciplinary platform for the traffic of ideas. The Department of English Studies organises weekly seminars in which both faculty and research scholars from within the department and outside participate actively. ■

### NET/JRF

Department of English Studies has had stellar achievements in terms of its Students' Achievement. As many as Fourteen Students cleared NET. Among them, One Student cleared NET with JRF. ■

10



6

### At Calimere, students make a point!

Field visit is a mandatory-internal assessment requirement for the course, ecocriticism which is part of the ma in english studies. In November 2016, the students were taken to the Wildlife and Bird sanctuary in Point Calimere, the coastal forests, tropical dry evergreen forest and salt pans in Vedaranyam, by the course teacher Dr. Nirmal Selvamony. The students not only watched birds and black bucks, but also learned about different species of plants and their interactions with ecosystems. ■



### Breaking barriers

Department of English Studies organised a series of special lectures where faculty members from both within the department and outside made presentations on an array of topics ranging from Indian Administrative Law, Global Modernity, and Celebrity Culture to Science Fiction, The Role of Language in Science, and Space in Arts and Physics. The diversity of subjects on which the speakers deliberated attracted students and scholars from other departments, too, and generated lively post-lecture debates in which teachers and students alike participated. ■



### Farewell to the First Man

The Department of English Studies hosted farewell to mark the superannuation of Prof. Nirmal Selvamony, Head of the Department and Dean, School of Social Sciences and Humanities, on 18th April, 2018. The function began with a welcome address by Dr. Saradindu Battacharya, followed by a moving speech by Prof. Jayaraman. The students then put up a series of musical and theatrical performances, each of which resonated with the literary themes close to Prof. Selvamony's heart. Prof. Selvamony then addressed the gathering, thanking everyone and sharing his vision for the Department in the years to come. Finally, Dr. K.V. Raghupathi felicitated Prof. Selvamony with a shawl and a memento from all the faculty members of the Department. The programme formally ended with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. T.J. Abraham and was followed by dinner. ■



### Success STORIES

## DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH STUDIES FACULTY



Prof. A. Selvam  
Professor and Head



Dr. T. J. Abraham  
Associate Professor



Dr. Saradindu Bhattacharya  
Assistant Professor



Ms. J. E. Indra  
Assistant Professor

# An orientation for employment

## DEPARTMENT OF HINDI

Launched in 2014, the Department of Hindi started with the Optional Language courses designed and offered to the Integrated PG Programme students. As many as 90 Integrated students choose the Hindi course in the launch year. The courses were framed with an objective to facilitate and strengthen the expression of the students in Hindi. Recording the response, the courses were extended and advanced for the next semester. In the academic year 2016-17, with the recruitment of regular faculty members, the department rolled out its Master's and PhD research programmes.

Due to its innovative and employment-oriented curriculum, the Department of Hindi draws the attention of students and scholars from across India. The M.A. Hindi programme offered by the department covers the core of the Hindi language and literature besides its employment-oriented courses. The department is unique in nature, in terms of the wider coverage of the courses such as media and journalism, Indian literature, world literature, modern discourses, functional Hindi and translation, comparative literature, Hindi teaching, ecological discourse, linguistics, text analysis, academic writing and communication. The motive of the wider coverage with a special focus is to provide appropriate orientation to the students and platforms in view of the employment.

The focus of the programme while designing the curriculum was mainly on employability with the specialised courses so that students master in the areas of their choice and specialisation. This aspect of the curriculum of master's programme attracts students. While the department started with four students in the first batch of Master's programme and 4 in the PhD programme, it witnessed an increase in intake in the subsequent years. As of now, 10 PhD Scholars are pursuing their research with different areas of specialisations.

At the end of the programme, the graduate student is engaged to seek employment in the teaching profession, media and journalism, academic writing, translation and also asso-

ESTABLISHED 2014  
NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES 02 | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS 04



ciate with NGOs for various job profiles.

CUTN's Department of Hindi started its PhD programme with National Fellowship candidates and continues to attract candidates with fellowships. Studies offer a full-time PhD programme for a minimum duration of three years. The PhD programme offers course work for one semester with four courses, a total of 16 credits. The areas of research offered by the department cover literary criticism, fiction, modern poetry, tribal studies, third gender discourse, feminine discourse, comparative studies, translation studies, socio-political analysis in connection with the Hindi literature. The PhD programme has a unique course wherein which the scholars are motivated to write a dissertation entitled 'Broad Area of

## Success STORIES



### 5 clear NET

Since its inception, the students of the Department of Hindi have been clearing the UGC-NET. Until June 2019, 5 students and scholars (Milan Bishnoi Jan-2018, Gourav Singh Jul-2018, Ashish Dec-2018, Gangadhar Ramadge Dec-2018, Suresh Dudwe Jun-2019) have qualified the UGC-NET.

### Alumni turns teacher!

A graduate student Mr. Shreeraj of M.A. Hindi has been selected as an Assistant Professor in Hindi at KR's Sree Narayana College, Valanchery, Malappuram (Kerala) on the 29th of May, 2019.

Research' in respect of completion of their course work and identify their thrust area of research.

The department since its inception has graduated 16 students of M.A. After the recent admissions, the department has 10 scholars on the roll. It has been proactive in organising weekly seminars for, by and of the students and scholars, invited talks of the eminent scholars. ■



### Smart classroom

A classroom has been equipped with state-of-the-art facilities. This Smart Classroom is technology-enhanced and fosters opportunities for teaching and learning by integrating learning technologies. It comes in handy for technical courses offered during the Master's programme such as Translation: Theory and Usage, Functional Hindi, Linguistics and its Applications, Thesaurus and Corpus Development, Audio-Visual Media Writing, Text Analysis, Academic Writing and Communication, Drama and Theatre, Ecological Discourse and Hindi Literature, Hindi Cinema Studies, Hindi Journalism and Hindi in Media. ■

### Drama kings!

The drama troop of the Hindi Club presented a play 'Ashadh Ka Ek Din' written by an eminent dramatist Shri Mohan Rakesh. The play was presented in a trilingual form (Tamil, Malayalam & Hindi). The play was directed by Dr Krishna Kumar Paswan and co-directed by Dr Vinayak Kale, Guest Faculty, Department of Hindi, CUTN. ■

### Play time!

A play 'Inna ki Aawaz' written by Asgar Wajahat was presented by the drama troop of the Hindi Club in 2014 during a three-day National Official Language Seminar held at CUTN. Seeing the successful staging, the drama troop of the Hindi Club was invited by the Tamil Nadu Hindi Sahitya Akademi, Chennai to present the 'Inna Ki Aawaz' on the occasion of International Conference and Award Function held at Akademi in Chennai on the 10th of January, 2015. The play was applauded by the intellects participated in the conference. ■



### Theatre workshop!

A Week-Long Theatre Workshop focusing Personality Development and Behavioural Science was organised in 2015 under the aegis of the Hindi Club. Following the Theatre Workshop, the drama troop of the Hindi Club presented a play 'Voice against Corruption' on the occasion of the commemoration of Vigilance Awareness Week during the 26th to the 31st of October, 2015. ■





2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

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### Sahitya aur Adhunikta

A guest lecture entitled 'Sahitya aur Adhunikta' by Prof N Mohanan, Professor Emeritus, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kochi (Kerala) was organised by the department on the 30th of September, 2016. The talk was followed by an interactive session. ■

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### Relevance of Hazari Dwivedi

A guest lecture entitled 'Relevance of the compositions of Hazari Prasad Dwivedi' by Dr M Seshan, a famous scholar of Hindi and Tamil language was organised by the department on the 18th of September 2017. The lecture was followed by an interactive session. ■

4



### Lost in translation

A guest lecture entitled 'Relevance of Translation and Tradition of Translation in Indian Culture' by Prof. C. Annapurna, University of Hyderabad was organised by the department on the 23rd of August 2017. The lecture was followed by an interactive session. ■

### Vijay visits

A 'Poetry Recitation by Vijay Shankar' (a poet from Delhi) was organised by the Hindi Club on the 16th of August, 2018 at 12:00 pm in the Smart Classroom, Department of Hindi, CUTN, Thiruvavur. The poetry recitation followed by an interactive session with the poet Vijay Shankar. ■



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### Ladai: Playing with creative ideas

A play 'Ladai' written by Sarveshwar Dayal Saxena, was staged on the 22nd of March, 2018 in the Seminar Hall, NLBS-II under the aegis of the Hindi Club. The play was directed by Dr Anand Patil, Assistant Professor in Hindi and co-directed by Shri Sayatan Chakraborty (PhD English) and Shri Ashish (PhD Hindi). Video recording of the play was done by Shri Naveen V. Pillai and Ms S. Malini of Department of Media and Communication. Photography of the play was done by Dr Biju (Education). The play was sponsored by the University. The backdrop was designed by Ms Swati Baliwada, a student of M.A. Hindi. Flex-displays were printed with the special financial assistance by Shri Yash Raipuria, Branch Manager, State Bank of India, CUTN Branch. ■



2016

2017

2018

2019

### On phonetics

A special talk on 'Phonetics and Sound Change: In the Context of Hindi Language' by Prof. M. Gnanam, Former Regional Director (Karnataka, Kerala, Laksha Dweep), Central Institute of Hindi, Mysore Centre was organised by the Hindi Club in October 2018. The talk was followed by an interactive session. ■

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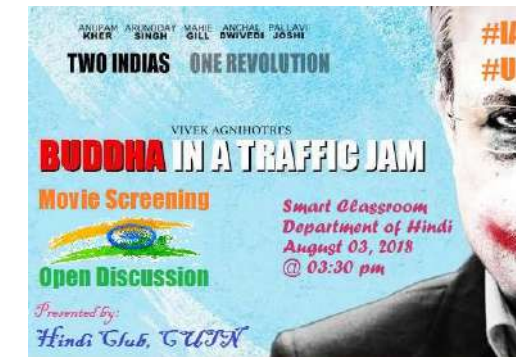
### Opportunities in journalism

A special talk entitled 'The Changing Form and Opportunities in Journalism' by Dr Ashish Dubey, Sr. Sub-Editor, Lokmat Media Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur was organised by the Hindi Club on the 1st of October, 2018 in the Smart Classroom, Department of Hindi, CUTN, Thiruvavur. The talk was followed by an interactive session. ■

### Hindi and PR

A special talk entitled 'An Emerging Career Option: Public Relations' by Ms Anita Yadav, Public Relations Officer, G.H. Raisoni University, Amravati and Former Feature Editor, Dainik Bhaskar, Nagpur was organised by the Hindi Club on the 1st of October, 2018 in the Smart Classroom, Department of Hindi, CUTN, Thiruvavur. The talk was followed by an interactive session. ■

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### Regular screenings

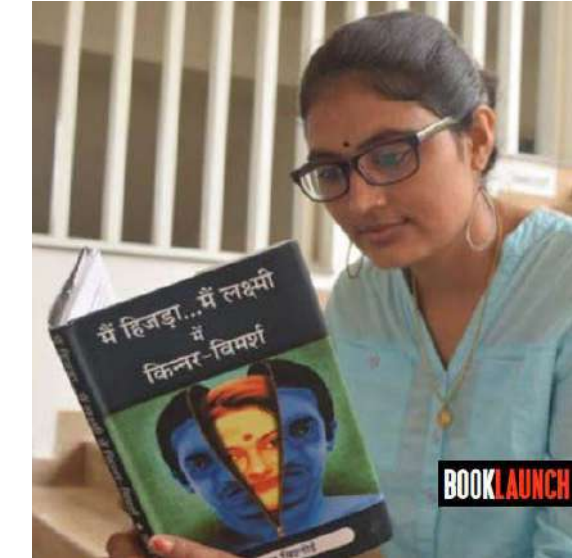
Department of Hindi, along with the Hindi Club, regularly screens movies to propagate expressions in Hindi. It screened two Hindi movies 'Buddha In a Traffic Jam' (an Indian socio-political drama film was written and directed by Vivek Agnihotri) on the 3rd of August, 2018 (Friday) at 03:30 pm in the Smart Classroom, Department of Hindi and 'Askrosh' written by a Marathi playwright Vijay Tendulkar and directed by Govind Nihalani on the 12th of September, 2018 at 03:30 pm in the Smart Classroom, Department of Hindi. The movie screenings were followed by open discussions. ■



### Creating careers

A special talk by Dr Sanjay Prasad Srivastava, JRP/Lecturer (Hindi), National Testing Service, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore entitled 'Employment Avenues in Hindi' was organised under the aegis of the Hindi Club, CUTN on the 14th of September, 2018 at 11:30 am in the Smart Classroom, Department of Hindi, CUTN. The talk was followed by an interactive session. ■

## Success STORIES



### Students release books

Two scholars named Smt. Milan Bishnoi and Shri Gangadhar Ramadge have produced two edited books pertaining to their research area 'Third Gender Discourse'. To highlight the plight of these starcrossed lot called transgenders and demand justice and due respect for them, Milan Bishnoi, a scholar in the Department of Hindi, CUTN, conducted a research on them and has published a book titled 'Mein hijada mein Lakshmi me kinnar - vimarsh' which translates to 'Survival in the miserable life of marginalization and isolation'. ■

## DEPARTMENT OF HINDI FACULTY



Prof. S. V. S. Narayana Raju  
Professor and Head



Dr. P. Rajaretnam  
Associate Professor



Dr. Anand Patil  
Assistant Professor



Dr. Madhulika Ben Patel  
Assistant Professor

# Creating history in quick time

## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

The Department of History was established in 2017 and it offers postgraduate programme in History with courses on Indian history, ancient history and world history. Apart from the regular papers, elective papers are also offered by the department with the intention to promote historical studies to graduate and postgraduate students of other disciplines. The course is designed meticulously to address the needs of both traditional and applied aspects of historical studies and diversified career objectives. The implementation of choice-based credit system facilitates students to pursue their interests and to select their specialization from an unmatched variety of courses and subject-specific electives.

The department is spearheaded by Dr. Prasant Kumar Panda, Associate Professor of Economics and Coordinator of the Department of History, and four Assistant Professors on contract. The number of applications received by the department has been witnessing a steady increase since its inception in 2017 when it was 125, 318 in 2018 and 663, this year.

History students have also made their presence felt in several avenues. In 2018, 30 percent of the students from MA final year had qualified UGC JRF/NET.

Abdul Basith C. presented a paper on 'Safety in public transport - A special reference on Auto rickshaw service in Thiruvavur' in the national conference-cum workshop on Road traffic injury and public health importance held at the Central University of Tamil Nadu in February 2018.

### Swachhata Hi Seva

The Department of History organised a 'Door to Door Swachhata Awareness' as a part of Swachhata Hi Seva 2018 on September 27, 2018, at Anaikuppam village. The campaign was inaugurated with taking pledge of Swachh Bharat by Prof. S. V. S. S. Narayana Raju, Dean, School of Social Science and Humanities, Central University of Tamil Nadu, in the presence of Dr. Prasant Kumar Panda, Coordinator, Department of His-

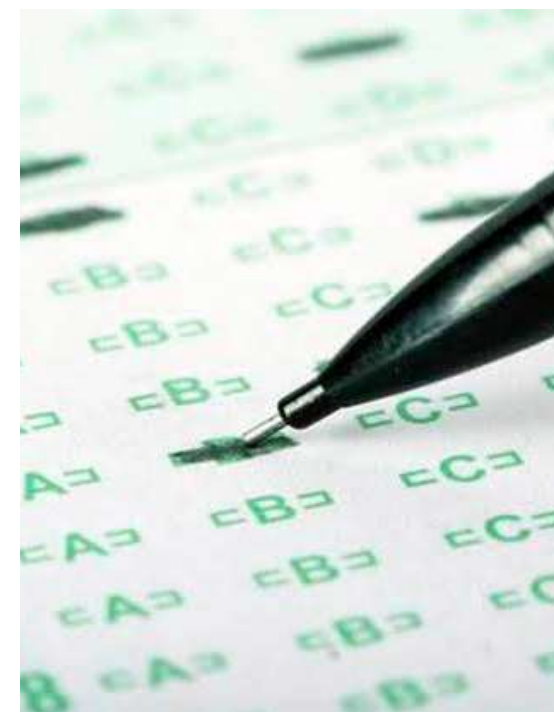
ESTABLISHED 2017  
 NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES 01 | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS 04



tory, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kanagarathinam D, V., Coordinator of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Department of History, faculty and students in NLBS I, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur.

At Anaikkupam village, Mr. Sugumaran, Ex-Counsellor, on behalf of the village, welcomed the faculty and students of the department. The door to door swachhata awareness campaign was conducted by the department along with Mr. Sugumaran. The Swachhata slogans were raised and awareness pamphlets and printed moral stories on sanitation were distributed with personal interaction. The campaign rallied through houses, anganwadi, primary and high schools and the primary health centre. The Swachhata Awareness was

## Success STORIES



### 30% clear NET

History students have also made their presence felt in several avenues. In 2018, 30 percent of the students from MA final year had qualified UGC JRF/NET. ■

well received by the villagers.

### Medicine in Colonial India

Department of History organised a special lecture series on Medicine in Colonial India: Encounters, Power and patronage in August 2018. Professor Poonam Bala, Visiting Professor, Department of Criminology, Anthropology and Sociology, Cleveland State University, Ohio, was invited to deliver special lecture. She introduced the encounter framework to understand the relationship and dialogue between indigenous and Western medicines in colonial India.

The transformation of the relationship from respecting each other to scepticism on indigenous medicines by the colonial government and the practitioners of Western medical practitioners have been analysed in the background of power, authority and hegemony. ■

### Study tours, field trips

The M.A. students of Department of History went on a study tour and field trip in February 2019 to the places of archaeological and historical importance at New Delhi, Agra, Fatehpur Sikri and Sanauli, UP, as part of the course curriculum. The students visited the Taj Mahal, Agra Fort, Fatehpur Sikri, Humayun's tomb, Qutb Complex, Red Fort, Juma Masjid, Feroz Shah Kotla, Ashoka Pillar, National Museum, and Mughal Gardens in Rashtrapati Bhavan. Besides visiting these places, the students got hands-on experience in excavation methods at Sanauli, Uttar Pradesh, a Chalcolithic site that is being excavated by the Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi. The tour was coordinated by Dr. S. B. Darsana and Dr. A. Suresh, faculty in the Department of History, CUTN, along with the coordinator of the Department of History, CUTN. ■



### Estampages

To give hands-on training in estampage (copying the inscriptions), the students were taken to a Shiva temple at Kottur Pakkam. Various stages of taking the estampage of the Chola inscriptions from the temple wall were explained. The students also took estampage of the inscriptions. They brought the copies to the university for safe-keeping. ■



2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

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### Lecture series on Historiography

The Department organised a 'Lecture series on Historiography' during February 2018 by Professor N. Rajendran, Visiting Professor, Dept. of History, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu. He discussed about the Historiography and postmodernism. The lectures were attended by the faculty and the students of the Department of History. ■

3



### New India Manthan

The Department organised a special invited talk on 'Quit India Movement' as a part of 'New India Manthan' on 27 September, 2017. A talk was delivered by Prof. G. Chandhrika, Professor, Department of History, Pondicherry University. She focused on climax of nationalism, popular protest, violence and heroism. The talk was attended by faculty and students of various departments of Central University of Tamil Nadu. ■



### To the museum

History students were taken to the museum maintained by the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology, where they noticed objects from prehistoric to medieval period and learnt about the stone tools, pottery, bronze images and inscriptions. ■

### Temple treat

A field trip was arranged by the Department of History as a part of the curriculum in September 2019 for its postgraduate students. They visited the Thyagaraja Swamy temple at Thiruvarur and the architectural and sculptural importance of the temple was explained to the students. ■



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### Offering perspective on global history

The Department organised a 'Lecture series on Introduction to Global History' on 19 April 2018. The lecture was delivered by Professor Venkata Raghotham, professor of History and Dean, School of Social Science and International Studies, Director HRDC Pondicherry University. He discussed the theoretical concepts of global history and interconnectedness. The complex process of nation building in Europe and Asian countries had been explained. The concept of Great Divergence also had been analysed by him in his address. The lectures were attended by the faculty and the students of the Department of History. ■



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### Symposium on recent trends

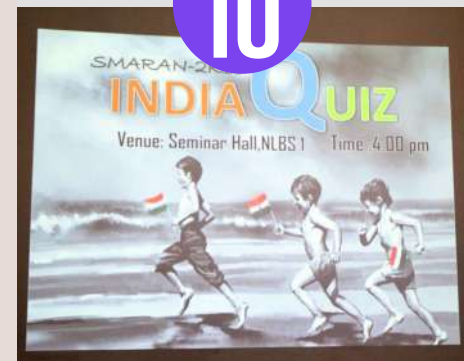
To create awareness among the younger generation about India's heritage and traditions and to encourage the young researchers to undertake research, the Department of History, CUTN organised a national symposium on recent trends in Indian Archaeology and Heritage on February 15, 2019. ■



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### Interactions

A symposium on 'Heritage tourism in India with special reference to Taj Mahal' was addressed by Dr. D. Dayalan, former Director, Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi. Dr. V. N. Prabhakar, Director, Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi, delivered a lecture on the recent discoveries in Harappan archaeology. Dr. V. P. Yatees Kumar spoke about the documentation with GIS. ■



10

### Recollecting the sacrifices

Department of History organised interdepartmental competitions in August 2018 on the theme SMARAN, 'Recollecting the sacrifices of our freedom fighters' to commemorate the 72nd Independence Day of India, Co-ordinated by Dr. Bithin Thakur. ■



### Quiz and contests

History student Albert Varghese represented CUTN in Quiz at South Zone Inter University Youth Festival held at Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam, Tirupathi. He also participated in the Madras Minute Quiz conducted by Indian Institute of Technology - Chennai. Sandeep Sabu also participated in Inter University South mime competition at the South Zone Inter University Youth Festival held at Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam, Tirupathi. Sanofer I participated in Inter University South Mime competition at South Zone Inter University Youth Festival held at Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam, Tirupathi. ■



Prof. Bhagabana Sahu  
Professor and Head



Dr. K. Thangapandian  
Assistant Professor



Dr. Pranjal Garg  
Assistant Professor



Dr. Louis Mushary  
Assistant Professor

# Empowering the rural masses

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

Established in 2013, the Department of Social Work of the Central University of Tamil Nadu aims to provide professional training with Social Work field experience. It offers a regular two-year postgraduate programme in Social Work: Master of Social Work (MSW). Master of Social Work is an academic and professional discipline that seeks to facilitate the welfare of individuals, families, and groups and communities.

The programme offers three specialisations: Medical and Psychiatric Social Work; Community Development and Human Resource; and Labour Management. The department aims to promote social change, development, cohesion, empowerment and overall well-being of the masses.

It is reinforced by the principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility, and respect for diversities. The students are offered hands-on experience in the practice of social work skills such as social case work, social group work and community organisation.

The Department of Social Work ensures that the students are trained with multi-pronged strategy of skill development through well structured field work practicum. The department also offers M.Phil and PhD programmes.

The department has already proved its merit as a centre of excellence in Social work education attracting students from across India. A unique feature of the MSW programme offered by the Department of Social Work in CUTN is the multi-cultural setting in which it functions with students, teaching and non-teaching staff belonging to different states in India and from diverse social and cultural backgrounds. The multi-cultural learning atmosphere helps the students in building a national perspective during the training process and also equips them in developing cultural competence in personal and professional life.

Another feature is the rural setting in which the university is functioning which provides a peaceful atmosphere for curricular activities. In addition, the rural setting also acts as a live

ESTABLISHED **2014**  
 NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **02** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **05**  
 PROJECTS **15** | Rs3.15 CRORE



lab for the Social Work students to have a direct exposure to the community setting and its dynamics. The department has undertaken several community outreach programmes from the time of its establishment in association with academic, government and non-government institutions in the locality.

The department also takes up skill-development programmes, extension lectures, knowledge building workshops, national and international seminars, research projects, etc. to achieve its vision to be a nodal learning centre in the field of Social Work. The department is taking continuous efforts to keep the MSW curriculum and pedagogical tools updated to meet academic, field and student requirements. The strength of the department is also observable in the first-rate infrastructure facilities (smart classrooms, Social Work

## Success STORIES



### Visiting professor to Minnesota

Dr. Sigamani P., Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Social Work, went as a visiting Professor to the School of Public Health, University of Minnesota. Dr. Sigamani had a two-week visit in the month of August 2016 and one week visit in April 2017 for academic and research collaborations. Dr. Sigamani had a one-week visit from March 19, 2018, for academic and research collaborations. ■

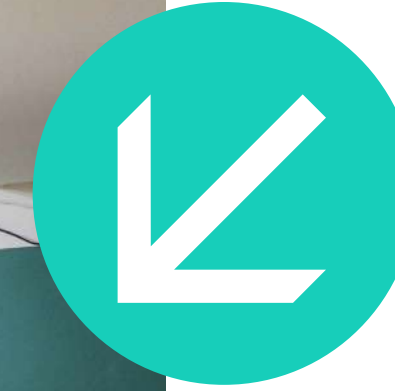
Seminar Hall, Department Library) offered to the students for a vibrant academic atmosphere.

The university also provides the students with a well maintained library and computer lab to facilitate the learning and training process. The proactive association of the department with the University Counseling & Guidance Cell also caters to the personal and professional needs of all the students in the campus. The teaching faculties of the department are subject experts in various fields of Social Work practice including public health, mental health, community development, environment and development, social policy, human resource management and provide consultancy to academic, government and non-government institutions in the local to global setting. They are also engaged in research and advocacy in different social sectors contributing evidence-based instruction and practice in addition to the contribution of quality publications. ■



### Conference on evolving engg economic trends

CUTN's Department of Social Work organised a twoday international conference on 'Evolving Trends in Engineering Economics, Health System Management and Business Communication' in association with the Department of Humanities, Coimbatore Institute of Technology, from March 1, 2018. Sponsored by TEQIP (PHASE 3), the conference highlighted several concerns and aspects of engineering economics, health system management and business communication. Eminent academicians, experts, researchers and scholars participated in the conference. The conference discussed interconnectivity among engineering economics, effective management of health system and communication for business process. Dean of Advanced Institute of Applied Anthropology, Jishou University, China, Dr. Robert GuangTian was the chief guest for the conference. It was co-sponsored by the Tata Consultancy Services Western Norway University of Applied Science. ■



### Faculty development

The Department of Social Work has initiated collaboration with the Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis Minnesota USA and organised International Conference on Emerging trends and challenges in Environmental and Occupational Health on 17th & 18th January 2019 at New Delhi with collaboration of the Department of Social Work, Jamia Millia Islamia (Central University), Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis Minnesota USA and Department of Social Work, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Tiruvaur. ■



### For child rights

A one-day Child Rights Sensitisation Training Programme was organised for the students and scholars by the Department of Social Work in association with the NGO ForYouChild, Chennai on October 27, 2017. ■



### Theatre workshop

Department of Social Work, in association with KoodalKalaiKoodam, Resource and Training Centre for Theatre and Folk arts, Madurai organised a Street Theatre and Parat Training Workshop for Master of Social Work students during Sept. 2017. The workshop was led by Dr A Alaguselvam, Mr Francis and Mr Vaiyapuri from Koodal-KalaiKoodam. As many as 42 students from MSW participated in the workshop which culminated in three street theatre productions on the themes of water pollution, gender discrimination and social exclusion in education sector. ■





2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2



### Menstrual hygiene management

A national seminar on 'Menstruation and Hygiene Management: A rights based approach' sponsored by the National Commission for Women was organised by the Department of Social Work in association with CASH/ICC and Hostels of CUTN. The keynote address for the seminar was given by Prof Pamela Singla. ■

### For headmasters

Department of Social Work, in association with District Child Protection Unit – District Administration (Govt. of TN) Thiruvavur organised a two-day Capacity Building programme on 'Children & Well-being' for Higher Secondary and High School Head Masters in Thiruvavur District during Jan. 2018, to facilitate awareness generation and building capacities of relevant stakeholders to ensure the safe and secure environment for the children in the schools. ■



### Road traffic injury

A national conference-cum-workshop on Road Traffic Injury and Public Health Importance was organised by the department in collaboration with the Department of Social Work (UGC CAS), Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi during February 2018. ■

### Prevention of drug abuse

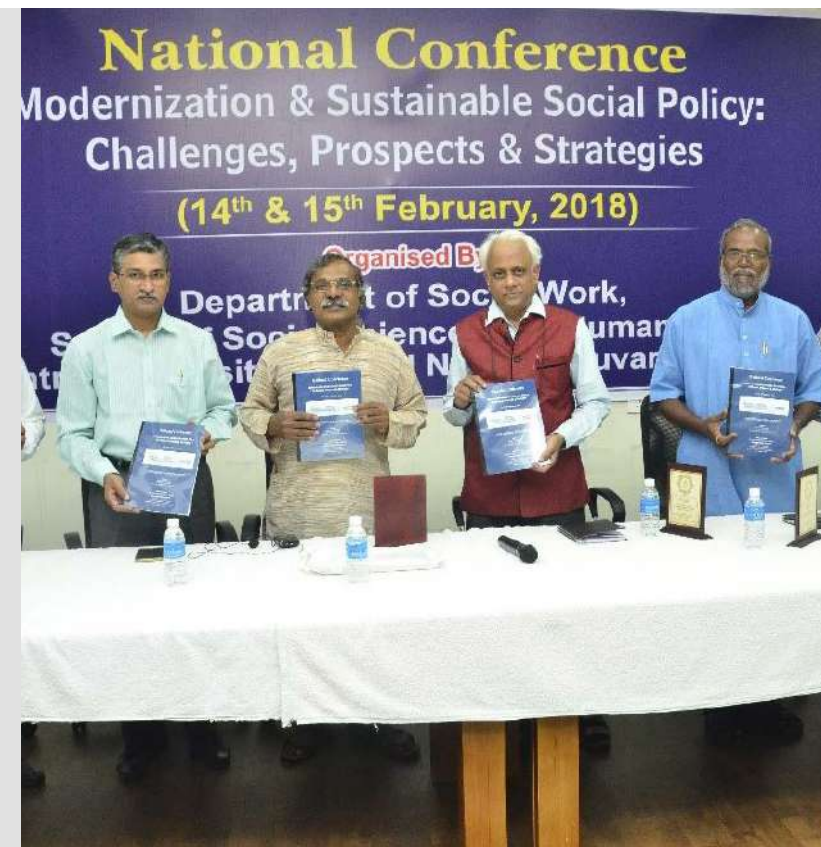
Department of Social Work organised a series of awareness programme on 'Drug Abuse Prevention' for school students, teachers, and parents, college and MSW Students and NSS volunteers, apart from officers. ■



1

### For modernisation and social policy

Social Work Department organised the National Conference on Modernisation and Sustainable Social Policy – Challenges, Prospects and Strategies during February 2018 with 100 participants from across the country. The inaugural and valedictory address was given by Prof V R Muralidharan from Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT, Madras and Prof V Nirmala from Dept of Economics, PU. The conference featured Plenary Symposiums and four Oral Presentation sessions during the two-day proceedings. The Plenary Symposiums had 12 invited speakers from academic institutions like the Centre for Development Studies, Central University of Gujarat, and the Council for Social Development, Hyderabad. There were 24 oral presentations during the conference. ■



2016

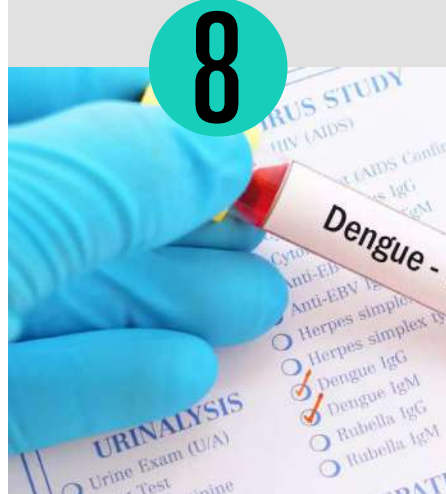
2017

2018

2019

### Dengue awareness

A one-day national-level workshop on Dengue Awareness was jointly organised by the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Department of Life Sciences and Department of Social Work on 11th November 2016. ■



### Health, safety

Department of Social Work organised a National Conference on 'Health, Safety & Well-being of the Workers in Unorganised Sector/ Informal Economy' during March 2017 for educators. Prof. Giridhara R Babu, Addl. Professor, Public Health Foundation of India delivered the keynote address at the conference that were attended by scholars. ■

### Rural camp

The department has been conducting 10-day rural camps in and around Thiruvavur district and students camp along with faculty members for village studies using PRA and survey methods, formal and informal interactions with the community and cultural programmes relating to social issues. ■



### For human rights

Department of Social Work organised a special lecture on 'Issues on Human Rights in India' on August 29, 2017. Dr. Raja, Assistant Professor in the Department of Politics and International Studies, Pondicherry University, delivered a lecture. Dr. Raja discussed the values and aspects of human rights in contemporary India. He deliberated on the kinds of violence prevalent and their causes. He pointed out that social norms are dominating the legislative norms. These apart, he discussed about manual scavenging, redistributive justice system and Directive Principle of State Policy, and fundamental rights. ■



### Research skills

A two-day trans-disciplinary research methodology workshop was jointly organised by the department along with a few other departments of CUTN from November 1, 2016. It was tailor-made to facilitate the academic requirements of the post-graduate student community of CUTN. It was conceptualised with the intention of knowledge-building on the fundamentals of research concepts, methodologies and processes in addition to providing hands-on training in synopsis and thesis writing with inputs on essentials of writing. ■



## Success STORIES



### In the USA and China

Dr. Sigamani P, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Social Work, CUTN, delivered invited lectures on Occupational and Environmental Health at Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, US; Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, US; Department of Public Health Sciences, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC, US; College of Economics, Minzu University of China and Central University of Finance and Economics, Beijing, China. ■



### Celebrating victory

Students from the Master of Social Work (MSW) of our university had won prizes in CatHarsis – a national-level social work students meet organised by the department of social Work, Bishop Heber College in Tiruchy. In several competitive events, Cutn students vijairaj n, aneesha George, mariya Joseph, saranya, rajillesh m m, sisind n, abhirami K u, fousiya C K, rinshad K v, Bharat Kumar, sandra m J and shamsuddeen K P emerged as the winners, bringing laurels to the university and their department. ■

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK FACULTY



**Dr. Sigamani P**  
Associate Professor and Head



**Dr. P. Udhayakumar**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. N. Sivakami**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. Chitra K.P**  
Assistant Professor



**Mr. Chittaranjan Subudhi**  
Assistant Professor

# It's the talk of the town!

## DEPARTMENT OF TAMIL

Launched in 2012, the Department of Tamil introduced a postgraduate programme. In 2014, the department introduced the PhD research programme. Subsequently, the department filled all the allotted seats in the postgraduate programme and 10 scholars are pursuing their research in various fields of Classical literature and traditional grammar.

The department offers special coaching to ace the NET, UPSC and TNPSA. More than 20 students have cleared the UGC-NET-JRF within the short span of five years and the Tamil students have cracked the state and national level competitive examinations and are placed in exemplary positions across the country. Moreover, a good number of students have joined highly-reputed institutions such as the JNU and Delhi University for their higher studies. State and national awardees are placed as permanent faculty members reflecting the richness of



ESTABLISHED **2012**  
 NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **02** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **06**

the department. The Department of Tamil has inked an MOU with two internationally-reputed institutions: CICT and EFEO. Through this MOU, the CICT is providing postgraduate studentship of Rs3,000 a month and a yearly book grant of Rs2,500 till the completion of the programme and to Ph.D. scholars Rs12,000 a month as fellowship and Rs10,000 a year as contingency.

EFEO offers Rs25,000 a month to research scholar as research fellowship. The Department of Tamil has conducted several national and international conferences, symposiums and workshops in collaboration with the CICT, EFEO and Sahitya Academy and has also received grants from the ICSSR, ICHR, UGC and CIIL. The Department of Tamil conducts monthly special lecture series: Face to Face, TeleConference and Video Conference that are delivered by eminent scholars from various fields of Tamil, History, Archaeology, Culture, Anthropology and Tamil computing. Research and book review forums are conducted regularly to develop the research and writing skills of the scholars. As a best practice, the students of this department collect regional dialect of Chola region regularly and have published the first set of compiled words in the name of Thakkol.

Department of Tamil organises field work every year to various temples of Tamil Nadu to get first-hand experience on inscriptions, architecture and archaeology. The department aims to bring itself to the forefront in all aspects.

Special lecture series are organised to enhance the multi-disciplinary skills of the students by inviting scholars from various parts of India to deliver lectures in the fields of Tamil

## Success STORIES



### Awards galore

Ms. **S. R. Vinitha** from the Department of Tamil won the rolling Trophy in Speech Competition, conducted by Kathir Mohaiddin College, Athirampattinam, in February 2019. Mr. **R. Anandha Kumar**, Ph.D. Scholar of the department, has received the award for the best article in the International conference on *Tamil Illakiyangalil valviyal koorukal*, Title of *Moolapadaviyal Nokkil Natrinai: 38 vathu paadal*. ■

language, literature, grammar, inscriptions, manuscripts, theories, world languages, computer knowledge in Tamil, comparative studies, folk lore and aesthetics.

The faculty and students display their scholarly knowledge by participating in various national and international seminars, literary meetings and various competitions and writing scholarly books. ■

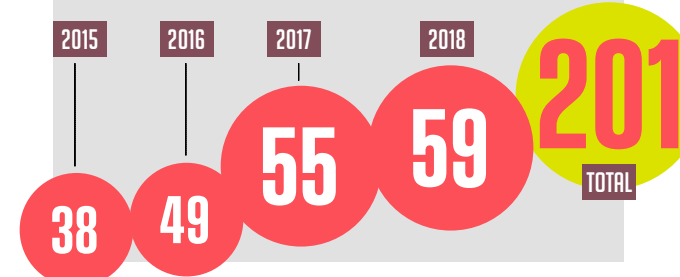


### Saving the green

Department of Tamil encourages students, faculty members and staff members to actively participate in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan mission. It organised a programme for cleaning and plantation in the CUTN residential campus and an awareness procession by students of Tamil Department in the rural areas to maintain the cleanliness of living places. Prof. P. Velmurugan stressed on the importance of green environment. Dr. S. Subash, SBA Coordinator planted trees with the help of students. ■

### Series of talks

Department of Tamil since its inception arranges special lecture series, research forum, book review in all the terms to enhance the multi-disciplinary skills of the students by inviting scholars from various parts of India to deliver lectures in the fields of Tamil language, literature, grammar, inscriptions, manuscripts, theories, world languages, computer knowledge in Tamil, comparative studies, folklore and aesthetics. These lectures, forums and reviews are based on the curriculum of the students and help in enhancing the students. The below graph expresses the number of activities conducted till date. ■



### POS tagging

A three-day training-cum-workshop on POS Tagging for Tamil Language organised by the Department of Tamil in association with the Central Institute of Indian Languages, LDC-II, Mysore was held in 2017 in CUTN. Dr. P. Velmurugan, Head, welcomed the audience for the workshop, which was followed by the Presidential address of Prof. T. Sengadir. Prof. K. Karunakaran, former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University delivered an elaborate and inspiring inaugural address, emphasising on the need for deeper studies in linguistics and also encouraged students to take up socially-relevant research that benefit society. Dr. L. Ramamurthy, Head, LDC-II, CIIL delivered the keynote address. ■



### President award

Prof. P. Velmurugan, Head of the Department, has won the President Award for Young Scholar in Classical Tamil for his books on 'Tamil marapilakkanangalil idaichorkal' and 'Ezhuthilakana matram'. He has also bagged a State Best Author award for the book 'Illakana Marapum Illakkiya Pathivum'. ■





2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

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### Pacts with institutions

Department of Tamil has inked an MOU with two national and international institutions: Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT), Chennai and Ecole française d' Extrême-Orient (EFEO). ■

3



### UGC-NET coaching

CUTN's Department of Tamil offers free coaching to the students of the department to pass the National Eligibility Test that qualifies candidates who aspire to become Assistant Professors. As a result, several students from the department have passed the test. ■

4



### Dancing to tunes

Gilappatikaram Varippadalkal, a musical programme was demonstrated in 2014 by Prof. E. Angaiyarkannai, Dr. Karpagam and their team from Tamil University at CUTN where the 11 types of dances in Cilappatikaram were performed. ■

### Archaeological visit

Department organises field trips to archaeological sites of relevance as part of the curriculum for the students for better understanding of the subjects. An archeological excavation was conducted at Ambal a Sangam historical site in Nagapattinam with Prof. K. Selvakumar, Tamil University, Thanjavur on July 5, 2016. The students were taken for an educational tour to Poompuhar exploring various routes and places that are mentioned in ancient Tamil Epics and Poems. ■



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### An exhibition of hero stones

The Government Museum, Thiruvavur, and Department of Tamil, Central University of Tamil Nadu, jointly organised a one-day seminar and exhibition on the Hero Stones of Tamil Nadu on March 6, 2019 at the Tamil Department of the university. Dr. R. Poongundran, formerly the Assistant Director, Tamil Nadu State Archaeology Department delivered the keynote address on the topic 'hero stones'. The plenary session was chaired by Dr. M. Marudhupandiyar, (Curator, the Government Museum, Thiruvavur) who also delivered a lecture on the treasures of Thiruvavur. An exhibition on hero stones was conducted in March 2019. About 200 people, including professors, researchers and students from other universities and colleges participated in the programme. ■



8



### Residential programme

Research scholars participated in a month-long residential programme in the 9th workshop of NETamil entitled 'Glosses – Lexicography – Semantics', conducted at the Pondicherry Centre of the Ecole Française d'Extrême-Orient from September 6-22, 2017. ■



9

### Historical reconstruction

Department of Tamil organised a one-day special lecture on Indian excavation findings to Historical Reconstruction. The special lecture was delivered by Mr. K. Amarnath Ramakrishna, Superintendent of Archaeology, Assam, Archaeological Survey of India on April 9, 2018. ■



10

### Book releases

Department of Tamil organised a book release function for the launch of Anangu during 2018. Several scholars and students from the department have been exhibiting their literary skills and releasing books bringing laurels to the department. ■

6

### Buddhist influence

Sahitya Academy and the Department of Tamil jointly organised a one-day symposium on the Influence of Buddhism on Dravidian Literature on December 12, 2018 in the Department of Tamil. Prof. Sirpi. Balasubramaniam, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Shakitya Akademi delivered the keynote address on Buddhist influence on Dravidian Literature. He opined that Buddhism extended its influence throughout the world though it originated in India. ■



### An interdisciplinary perspective

A two-day workshop on 'Tamil Classical literature: An interdisciplinary perspective' was organised during February 11-12, 2013. Prof. K. Ramasamy (Officer In-Charge, CICT) delivered the presidential address for the event. Prof. R. Kothandaraman delivered a keynote address for the event. Dr. K. Jawahar and Dr. Sathish organised the workshop and students and research scholars participated from across the country. ■



## Success STORIES



### Young scholar award

Dr. K. Jawahar, Assistant Professor from the department, won the Presidential award for Young Scholar in Classical Tamil by the Central Institute of Classical Tamil (Under MHRD) for 2015. He was honoured with a cash prize of Rs1,00,000 and a citation by the President of India. ■

### Book of knowledge

The department faculty members have published more than 25 books on various topics such as classical literature, grammar, linguistics, tamil computing and modern literary theories. ■

## DEPARTMENT OF TAMIL FACULTY



Prof. P. Velmurugan  
Head



Dr. G. Ramesh  
Associate Professor



Dr. K. Jawahar  
Assistant Professor



Dr. P. Kumar  
Assistant Professor



Dr. S. Subash  
Assistant Professor



Dr. V. Rameshkumar  
Assistant Professor

# Materials science: It's what matters!

## DEPARTMENT OF MATERIALS SCIENCE

The Department of Materials Science at CUTN has been established in 2016. It has evolved from the tradition of collaboration across disciplines by exploiting the latest breakthroughs in Chemistry, Physics, and Life Science as well as emerging techniques from Mechanical, Chemical, and Electrical Engineering to create better materials. Materials are crucial to the performance and reliability of virtually every technology. The field of materials science is one of the rapidly developing fields. The central theme of materials science is that the process by which a material comes into being determines its structure, which in turn controls its properties and ultimately its functional performance.

The teaching and research philosophy of the department is to impart the students with the understanding of the interplay between major aspects of materials science, name-



ESTABLISHED **2016**  
 NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES **02** | NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERS **04**  
 PROJECTS **06** | **Rs1.06 CRORE**

ly, composition, structure, processing, characterisation, and properties and equip them to develop innovative technologies based on sound fundamental principles.

Our departmental vision is to foster the individual growth of our students so that they gain practical experience and knowledge in areas of materials theory, synthesis, and characterisation and master experimental design and the interpretation and presentation of results. Interests within the Department span the entire materials cycle from mining and refining of raw materials, to production and utilisation of finished materials, and finally to disposal and recycling. There are rich varieties of problems of vital importance to the development of the science of metals, polymers, ceramics, glasses, electronic materials, biomedical materials, composites, and other materials awaiting solution. The Department has the computational and experimental resources available to attack these scientific and engineering problems successfully.

The faculty and students in our department seek to improve the performance of existing materials, synthesise new materials, and understand materials in all of their roles. The broad-based programme encompasses a wide range of materials and enables students to understand the scientific principles governing the interrelation among processing, structure, properties, and materials performance. Students learn to integrate these principles in the systematic design of new materials from faculty members who are renowned for their pioneering work. Strong interdisciplinary research is at the core

## Success STORIES



### Winners all the way!

Mr. **Daniel Willson**, I M.Tech. (Materials Science) student won the first prize in the State level Tamil speech competition and received a cash award of Rs3,000 from the Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu.

Mr. **Girish Kanna**, Ms. **Swetha Rani Keshri**, Mr. **Vishal Singh** cleared GATE-2018.

Mr. **Shubam Sen**, and PhD scholar Mr. **Akilesh Kumar Yadav** have cleared the GATE-2019 examination.

National Youth Award (2016-17) was received by M.Tech student Mr. **Pruhvhi Golla** from Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for outstanding services to the community

of the materials science department at Central University of Tamil Nadu. All the faculty members in the department are highly experienced persons with post-doctoral experiences in countries, including Japan, Korea, USA and France.

The department mainly focuses research on nanomaterials, nano-thinfilms, magnetic materials, metals, alloys and intermetallics, ceramics and polymers, soft hybrids, materials for green energy technologies and electronic and optoelectronic materials. Other areas of interests include materials synthesis and characterisation. ■



### Going green!

Under its 'One student one tree mission,' over 30 various tree saplings were planted by M.Tech, Materials Science students on August 23, 2018. This campaign was initiated by Department of Materials Science. ■

### Instrumentation and Wet Labs

CUTN's Department of Materials Science is well-equipped with modern laboratories for student, scholar and faculty research. Its lab infrastructure houses an Instrumentation Laboratory and a Wet Lab Facility for M.Tech. students and research scholars. ■







2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

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### Conference on functional materials

CUTN's Department of Materials Science and the Department of Medical Physics, Anna University, in collaboration with University of Oslo, Norway, jointly organised a three-day international Conference on Advances in Functional Materials at Anna University, Chennai, during January 6-8, 2017. It was inaugurated by Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. P. Sash. Professors, senior scientists and scholars participated in the event. ■

3



### Quiz time

On February 28, 2019, the Department of Materials Science celebrated the Science Day with the department students, research scholars, project assistants and faculty members participating in the Quiz programme organised as a part of it. ■

4



### Workshop

Central University of Tamil Nadu's Department of Materials Science organised a 'One-day Workshop on Advanced Functional Materials' on March 29, 2019, for the benefit of the department students and scholars. ■

### Visit to CIF, PU

M.Tech. (Materials Science) 2017 batch students and all research scholars in the department were visited Central Instrumentation Facility and Centre for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, Pondicherry University on April 20, 2018 to learn experimental techniques in materials science. ■



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### From China to CUTN

In a seminar conducted by the Department of Materials Science, Dr. T. Sakthivel from the Key Lab Advanced Transducers and Intelligent Control System, College of Physics and Optoelectronics, Taiyuan University of Technology, Taiyuan, China, delivered an invited lecture on 'Advanced Nanostructured Semiconductor Photo catalysis: Fundamental to Application' on January 31, 2019. ■



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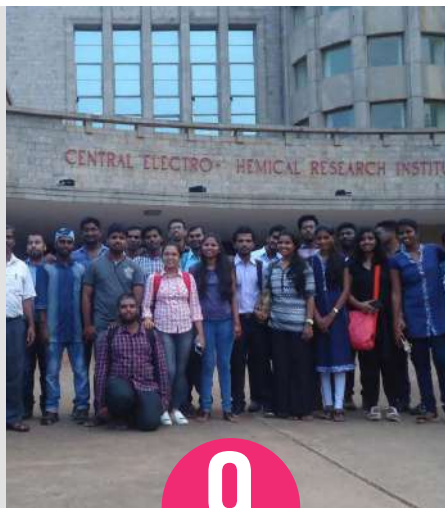


### Industrial visit

M.Tech (Materials Science) 2017-2019 batch students were visited CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute on November 1, 2017, to learn experimental techniques in materials science. ■

### Advanced techniques

M.Tech. Materials Science students from the Department of Materials Science in CUTN visited the Central Instrumentation Facility (CIF) and Madanjeet School of Nanotechnology Center at Pondicherry University to learn advanced characterisation techniques in Materials Science. ■



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### Projects worth over Rs1 crore

As many as five sponsored research projects worth over Rs1 crore have been implemented by the faculty members of the Department of Materials Science. ■



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### Rescue operations

On November 25, 2018, the department students visited the Vangathangudi Panchayat (near Mannargudi), a remote place which was worst-affected by the recent cyclone. With the help of local volunteers, relief materials were distributed to 500 families in the villages of Vangathangudi Panchayat. Our team personally distributed the relief materials in these villages. ■



### Awards galore

Dr. Gunasekaran has received grant for two externally-funded projects from DST – SERB and UGC, New Delhi. He is a recipient of various awards including JSPS (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science) Post-doctoral Research Fellowship (from Nov 2014- Aug 2016), at Tohoku University, Japan, Young Scientist Award (2016) with worth of Rs37.94 lakhs project sanctioned from Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, New Delhi, Best Achievers' Award (2014), among several other awards. ■



### Success STORIES



### Young scientist award

Dr. Srinivasan Sampath has received the Young Scientist Award-2018 from the Academy of Science, Chennai, in the discipline of Chemical Sciences. ■

### Hungary for research

Dr. V. Gunasekaran visited Department of Applied and Environmental Chemistry, University of Szeged, Hungary as a visiting scientist for three months (May-August 2019) supported by INSA and Hungarian Academy of Science. ■



Dr. S. Beer Mohamed  
Associate Professor and Head



Dr. K. R. S. Preethi Meher  
Assistant Professor



Dr. Srinivasan Sampath  
Assistant Professor



Dr. V. Gunasekaran  
Assistant Professor

**SCHOOL OF COMMERCE AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT**

## Comprehensive course in tourism and management

Central University of Tamil Nadu is introducing four new postgraduate programmes from this academic year: M.Sc. Statistics and Applied Mathematics, M.Sc. Horticulture and Floriculture, MBA Tourism and Hospitality Management and LL.M. Corporate Governance and Industrial Jurisprudence. Each course has an intake of 20 seats. Master of Business Administration (Tourism and Hospitality Management) is a new postgraduate programme offered under the Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management with a specialisation in Travel, Tourism and Hospitality Industry from the academic year 2019 - 2020.

It is an intensive and comprehensive pro-

gramme with a strong foundation in management. Its dynamic curriculum design prepares the students to adapt to the industry demands and face the challenges of today's tourism, hospitality and travel industry.

Teaching includes lectures and other forms of extension such as presentations, discussions, brainstorming, demonstrations and field visits. The programme has a strong institute-industry Interface through invited lectures from industry and academia.

The department aims to provide high quality education and develop the students with professional and academic inputs to adhere to the requirements of the changing and challenging industry. ■



**SCHOOL OF LAW**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAW**

## Law is best! You can argue.



Along with three other programmes, a Master of Laws (LL.M) programme was introduced in the academic year 2019-20 through the newly-launched Department of Law under the School of Law.

It is a two-year full time postgraduate degree programme offered with specialisation in Corporate Governance and Industrial Jurisprudence. The LL.M programme is launched with a sanctioned intake of 20 students. The programme gives opportunity to pursue legal studies at an advanced level in a challenging and supportive environment. It aims to provide high quality inputs in the emerging areas of legal education with research dimension, focussing on lawyering skills, cultivating professional identity, fostering professional ethics, advancing social justice and gaining insights into the changing global legal system. After the end of the course, students will be able to demonstrate competency in explaining and applying the fundamentals of Corporate Law and Labour Law in India and engage in research and advisory pertinent to Indian legal system, legal analysis, reasoning and problem-solving. ■



**SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE AND FLORICULTURE**

## A new bloom on the block

Established in the academic year 2019-20, the Department of Horticulture and Floriculture is with a vision to nurture the profession of use of plants for food and other human purposes, as well as for sustaining the realms of the environment and personal aesthetics. Under the School of Life Sciences, the Department of Horticulture and Floriculture offers a two-year M.Sc. programme with four semesters.

Four Assistant Professors Dr. K. Rama Krishna, Dr. S. Senthilkumar, Dr. S. Srivignesh and Dr. Moumita Malakar have joined the department. Under one of the oldest Schools of CUTN, the Department of Horticulture and Floriculture aims to impart skills, knowledge and technology to help students intensively produce plants also for social needs.

The science of horticulture helps to nurture and expand the horizons of greenery and knowledge in order to coexist with nature. The department offers its programme with three specialised degrees: a Master of Science (Horticulture) in Fruit Science; Master of Science (Horticulture) in Vegetable Science; and Master of Science (Horticulture) in Floriculture and Landscaping Science.

The department started with 20 students and is functioning under the umbrella of the School of Life Sciences and is currently strid-



ing together with her sister departments under the school aiming towards excellence.

The programme aims to confer skills to students in the areas of production and sales in horticulture, managing landscapes, marketing of processed fruits and vegetables, research and development, teaching in institutions of higher learning and to aspirants open to explore newer concepts in horticulture. The department owns a nursery, open-field and is equipped with state-of-the-art laboratory facilities for the conduct of experiments and procedures related to the field. ■



**SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS**

## A calculated move!



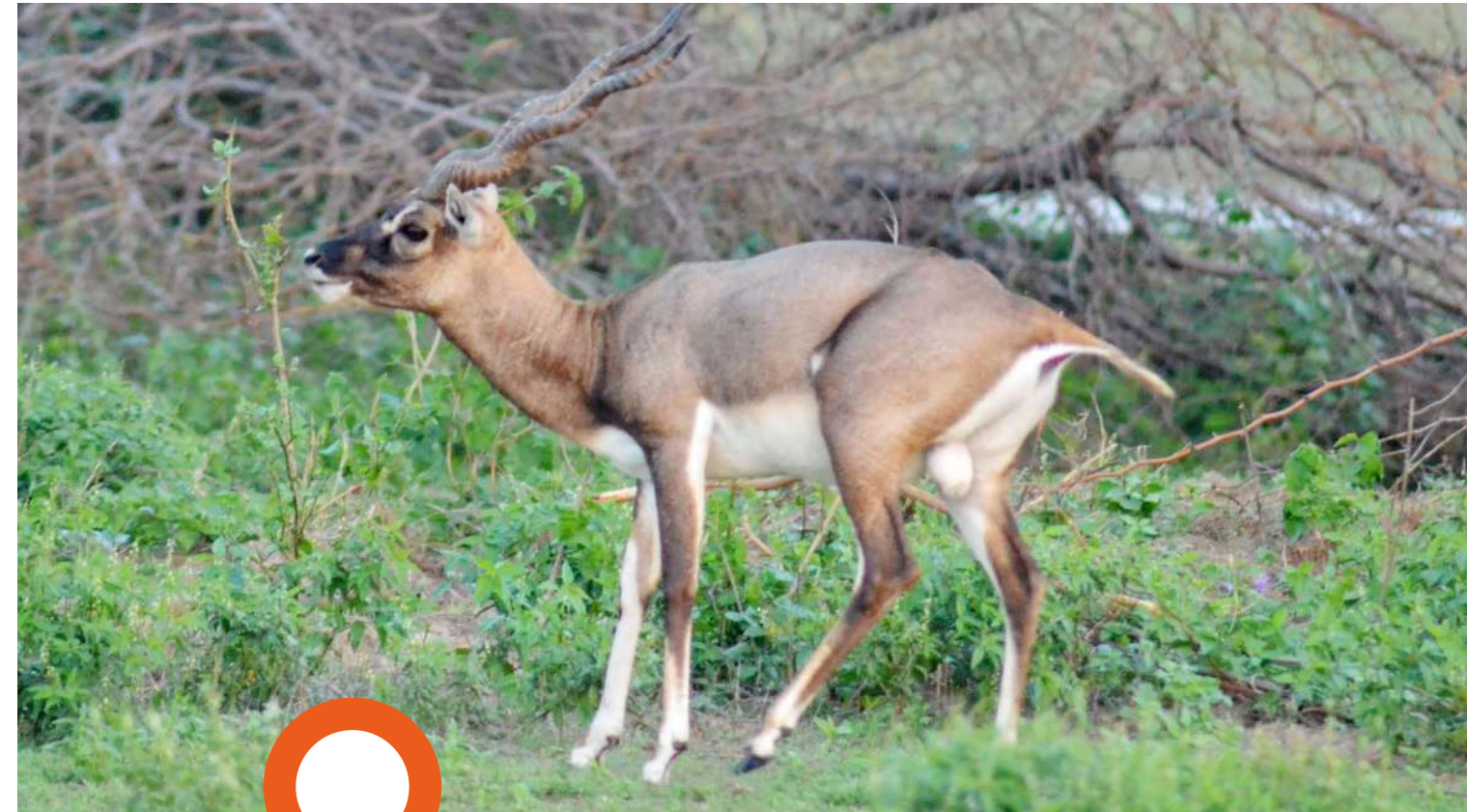
Department of Statistics and Applied Mathematics is a newly-started department with the approval of UGC, in the academic year 2019-2020. This department is introduced under the School of Mathematics and Computer Sciences.

At present, a postgraduate programme M.Sc. in Statistics and Applied Mathematics is offered by the department. The curriculum for this programme is prepared with the objective of providing a hybrid course on Statistics as well as Applied Mathematics. It offers opportunities in government and private organisations as research and development staff, statistical officers and teachers. This year, 17 students were admitted to this programme. ■



# HOTSPOTS

IN AND AROUND THIRUVARUR



**72km**  
**Point Calimere!**

Kodiakkarai is about 70km from CUTN. Also called Point Calimere or Cape Calimere, it is a low headland on the Coromandel Coast, in the Nagapattinam district. The forests of Point Calimere, also known the Vedaranyam forests, are one of the last remnants of the dry evergreen forests that were once typical of this evergreen forests ecoregion. The Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary includes the cape and its three natural habitat types: dry evergreen forests, mangrove forests, and wetlands. Point Calimere is home to the endangered endemic Indian blackbuck and is one of the few known wintering locations of the spoon-billed sandpiper

**47km**  
**Bird sanctuary!**

Vaduvoor Bird Sanctuary is in Thiruvavarur district. Its irrigation tank receives water from November to April every year which attracts a numerous foreign birds from Europe and America. The main attraction is the fertile wetlands in the region. There are also numerous lakes which provides the most required variety of fishes for the birds. The sanctuary is free for visitors and the government has provided basic facilities for an overnight stay.



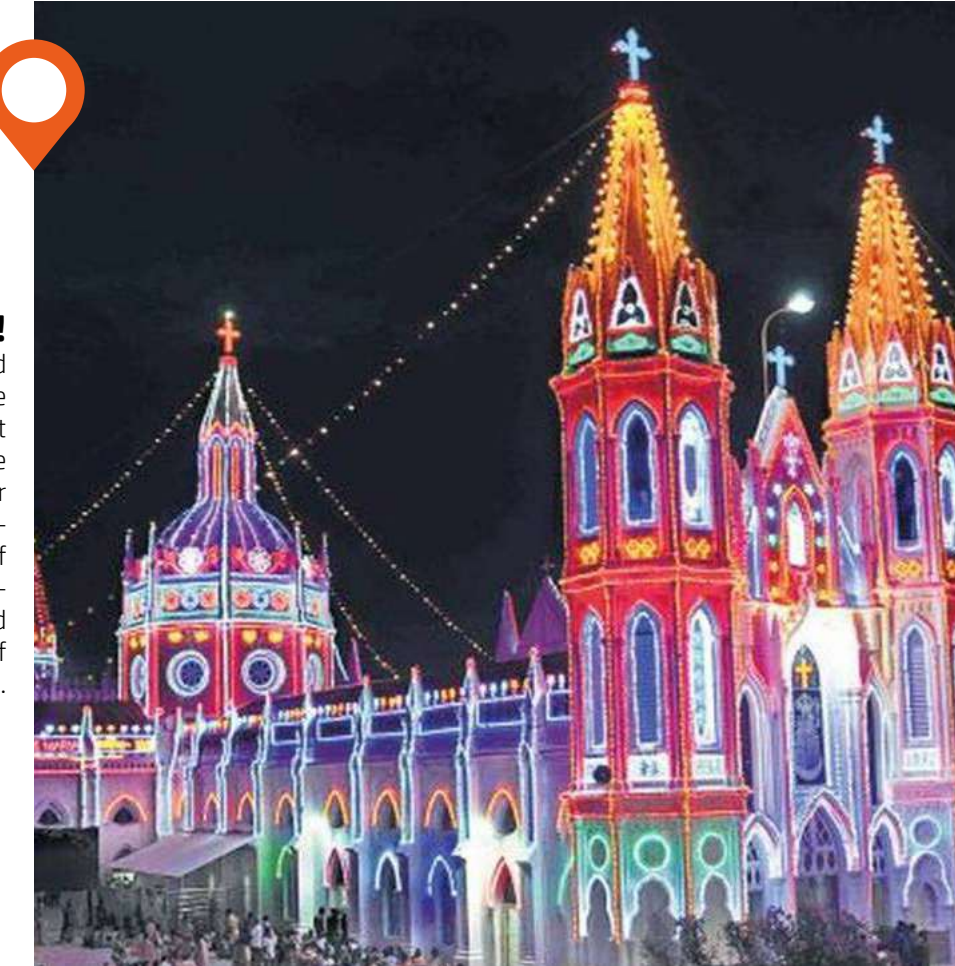
**52km**  
**Danish fort!**

Fort Dansborg, locally called Danish Fort, is located in the shores of Bay of Bengal in Tranquebar (Tharangambadi) in Tamil Nadu. Fort Dansborg was built in the land ceded by Thanjavur king Ragunatha Nayak in an agreement with Danish Admiral Ove Gjedde in 1620 and acted as the base for Danish settlement in the region during the early 17th century. It houses one of the oldest printing press of India



**44km**  
**Velankanni!**

It was once a port that traded with Rome and Greece. The town is home to one of the most visited Roman Catholic Latin Rite shrines called the Basilica of Our Lady of Good Health. Velankanni has been chosen as one of the heritage cities for HRIDAY - Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana scheme of the Government of India.



**28km**  
**Dargah!**

Nagore Dargah is built over the tomb of the Sufi saint Shahul Hameed (1490-1579 CE). Shahul Hamid is believed to have performed miracles and cured the physical affliction of king Achutappa Nayak, a Hindu ruler of Thanjavur. There are five minarets in the dargah, with the Hindu Maratha ruler of Thanjavur Pratap Singh (1739-1763 CE), building the tallest. The dargah is a major pilgrimage centre that attracts pilgrims from both Islam and Hinduism, symbolising peaceful coexistence between the two religions.

**65km**  
**Brihadisvara Temple!**

Brihadishvara Temple, also called Rajarajeshvaram or Peruvudaiyār Kōvil, is a Hindu temple dedicated to Shiva located in South bank of Kaveri river in Thanjavur. It is one of the largest South Indian temples and an exemplary example of a fully-realised Dravidian architecture. Built by Tamil king Raja Raja Chola I between 1003 and 1010 AD, the temple is a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site.





## ACADEMIC CAMPUS NEELAKUDI



TOWARDS KUMBAKONAM ROAD

- 02 Department of Mathematics
- 03 Department of Materials Science
- 04 Department of Physics
- 05 Department of Chemistry
- 08 Flag Post
- 10 Non Lab Based School - 3
- 11 Non Lab Based School - 1
- 12 Non Lab Based School - 2
- 13 Canteen
- 14 Play Ground
- 15 Multipurpose Auditorium
- 16 Sports Amenities
- 18 Girls Mess
- 19 Boys Mess
- 21 Health Centre
- 22 Indoor Stadium

HOSTELS

Six hostel blocks accommodate students and research scholars within the academic campus of Neelakudi. Two more hostels will be constructed to cater to the growing accommodation needs of the university

An iconic Library building near the Science blocks of CUTN. With thousands of books and access to online resources round-the-clock, the Library plays a major role in the learning and development of the CUTN fraternity



7

CUTN GRAND ENTRANCE

TOWARDS CHENNAI HIGHWAY

RIVER VETTAR

CUTN MAIN ROAD

6

6

CENTRAL LIBRARY

13

CANTEEN

14

PLAY GROUND

2

3

4

5

SCIENCE BLOCKS

8

CUTN ADMINISTRATIVE BLOCK



1

CLC2

One of the oldest buildings constructed on the CUTN campus, the CLC 2 block, initially, housed all then academic schools and department, before they moved out to occupy their respective individual buildings. It was constructed in 2013 and now houses the School of Life Science



3

As many as 30 individual residential quarters have been lined up for Professors within the Nagakudi residential campus of CUTN



4



5

## RESIDENTIAL CAMPUS NAGAKUDI



8

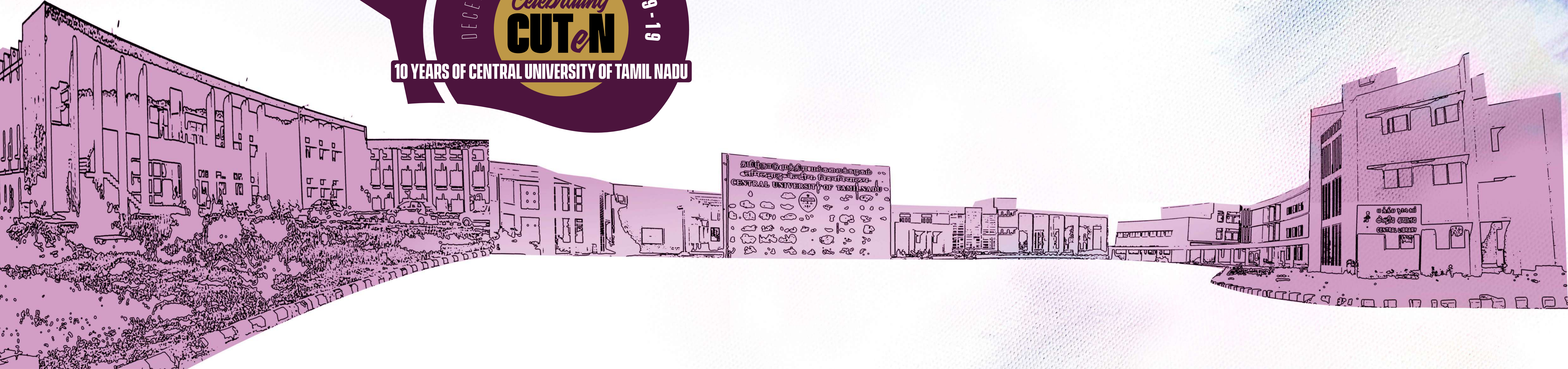
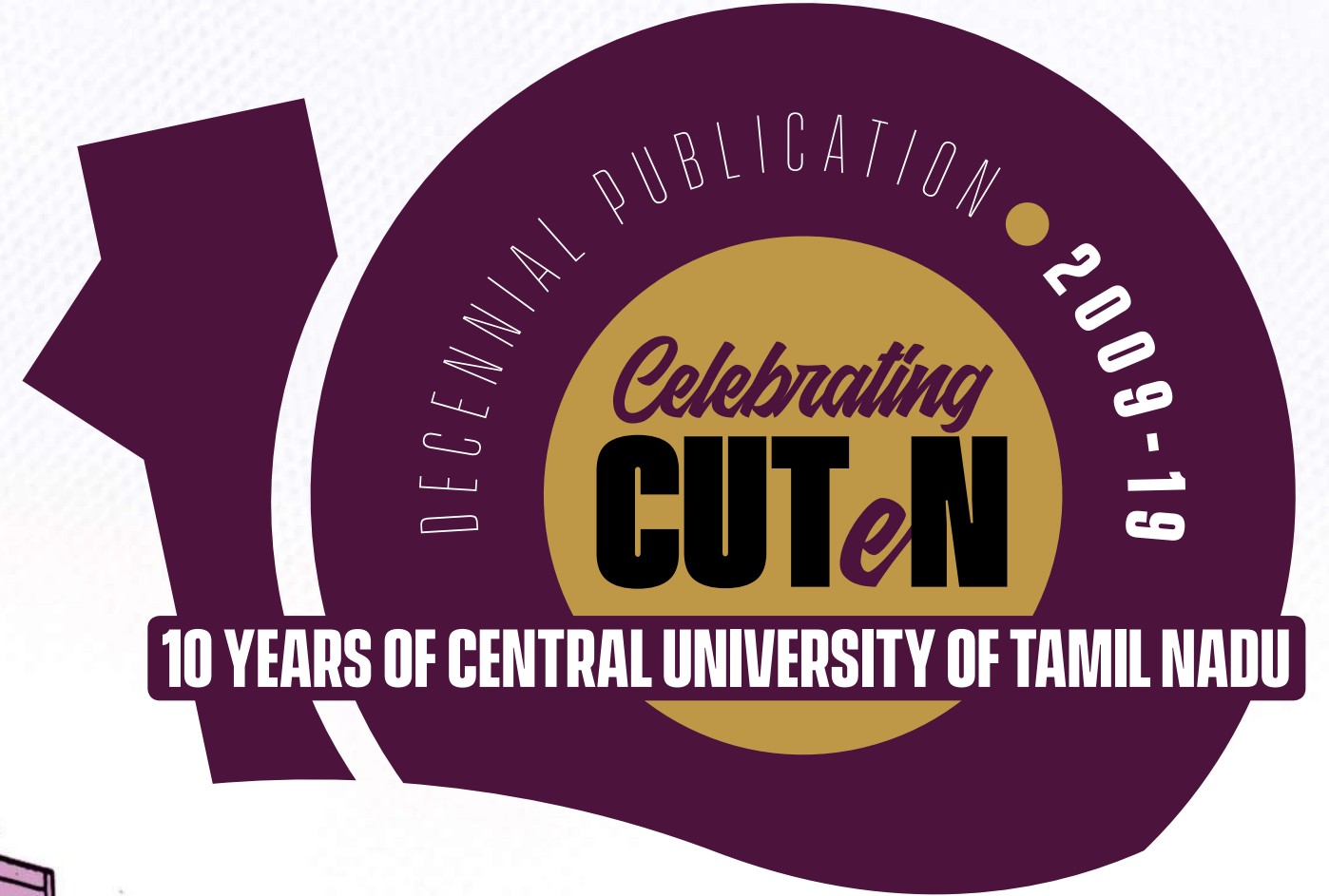
CUTN's well-equipped Guest House is housed in the Nagakudi residential campus of CUTN



1

Vice-Chancellor's and Pro-VC's residences within the Nagakudi residential campus of CUTN





Graphics and Design



**Dr. Francis P. Barclay**



**Mr. T. P. Girishwaran**