



ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY

(A State University Established in 1985)
Vallal Alagappan Valagam
KARAIKUDI - 630 003, Tamil Nadu, India
www.alagappauniversity.ac.in



2017  Accredited with A+ Grade by NAAC (CGPA: 3.64)	2018  Graded as Category-1 & Granted Autonomy	2020  Rank : 36	2018  Swachh Campus Rank : 4	2020  India Rank : 24
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Prof.N.Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, addressing the gathering at the Awareness Programme on Corona Virus (COVID - 19) held on 18th February 2020



ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY

(Accredited with 'A+' Grade by NAAC (CGPA: 3.64) in the Third Cycle, Graded as Category – I University and Granted Autonomy by MHRD – UGC, 2020: QS India Rank - 24)



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From the Vice-Chancellor

It is true that COVID-19 has considerably disrupted the normal and scheduled events of our University. However, the University has conducted a number of events during January-March, 2020. The current issue of the *Azhagu Newsletter*, got delayed owing to COVID-19 lock-down. The issue, now in your hands, contains reports on various significant academic events that happened on the campus during the first quarter of the year 2020.

The World Siddhar Day Celebrations and the Herbal Plants Exhibition organised as part of it drew the attention of the youngsters and created awareness among them on the importance of the indigenous systems of medicine. It has now become all the more appropriate and imperative for the researchers of Siddha, Ayurveda, and Unani Systems of Medicine to validate the inherent efficacy of these systems in curing many dreaded diseases in scientific terms. Three-Day Eye Screening Camp organised with Kaanal Eye Hospital, Koviloor, was highly beneficial to staff and students of the University.

The National Symposium on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel brought scholars of repute to the campus. The iron-willed visionary and statesman's contribution to modern India was highlighted by eminent historians including Prof. Arvind P. Jamkhedkar, Chairman, Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi. Similarly the speakers at the Symposium on Unearthing Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay's Economic and Political Ideologies elaborated on the need for adopting India-centric development models.

The Fit India Movement initiated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi is a programme that aims at enhancing the physical fitness, mental strength and emotional equanimity of students. Following the instructions of the UGC, the University inaugurated the campaign on 09.01.2020; and a mini marathon, Yoga, physical exercises and variety games were organised as part of the programme. Following this, a one day a seminar on the need for and necessity of natural food was organised in which student-participants evinced keen interest in learning about balanced diet for a healthy life.

The second International Conference on Mathematical Modelling and Computational Methods in Science and Engineering was a major event attended by national and international scholars from countries such as America, England, Romania, Turkey, Australia and United Arab Emirates. Star speakers from IITs, Guwahati, Roorkee, Madras and also from Central and State institutions delivered invited lectures at the conference. The Nobel Prize Excellence Theme (NEX) Talks delivered by academicians and scientists remained as great motivating factors to the young minds. The scholars at the three-day National Workshop on Advanced Nano Materials for Sustainable Energy and Sensor Applications stressed the need for multi-disciplinary collaborative research using modern technology.

Human civilization has faced many crises in its evolution and COVID-19 shall pass and we shall move towards a better future.

Prof. N.Rajendran
Vice-Chancellor

71ST REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS



The 71st Republic Day was celebrated at Alagappa University in Karaikudi with usual fervour and gaiety. Prof.N.Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, hoisted the National Flag and accepted the guard-of-honour given by the N.C.C. students and security staff of the University.

In his Republic Day Address, the Vice-Chancellor stated that the two most secular and joyful days of India are the Independence Day and the Republic Day. These celebrations remind us of the great sacrifices made by countless Indians rich and poor, young and old who really gave us the fruits of freedom. Our Constitution has stood the test time; and he added that it was time to recall and cherish the sacrifices and work done by great leaders and their followers. The total population of our country was 30 crores at the time of India's Independence and it is 135 crores today. So it has become our great responsibility to provide food, shelter and education to the teeming millions. According to NASA scientists that the earth is the only planet suitable for human habitation and bearing this in mind every citizen should strive to protect the environment and keep it pristine for the safe human life. Internal peace and external safety are the most essential ones for national development. Industry 4.0 and Education 4.0 are inseparably intertwined and the changes made in the curriculum would help

the youth to become innovative researchers and skill-oriented entrepreneurs. Alagappa University for its part is striving to work towards achieving this with the work of the faculty members, administrative staff and research students.

A colourful cultural programme was staged by the students of the College of Physical Education and the Department of Fine Arts. Prof.H.GurumalleshPrabu, Registrar, Members of the Syndicate, Finance Officer i/c, Controller of Examinations i/c, Deans, Heads of Departments, Teaching and Administrative Staff and students participated.

AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON CORONA VIRUS (COVID - 19)

The Health Care Centre of Alagappa University, Karaikudi, and the Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Sivagangai District, organised an Awareness Programme on Corona Virus (COVID - 19) on 18.02.2020 at the Convocation Auditorium of the University.

Presiding over the programme Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, said that this contagious virus which appeared and affected more than seventy-two thousand people in China has made its slow



appearance in 25 countries. India has taken several effective preventive measures. He added that this awareness programme would be highly beneficial for spreading the message

among the people of the 80 adopted villages in Sivagangai District. He said that liquid soap would be supplied to all hostels and it would also be kept in all rest rooms on the University Campus in order to sensitise the youth on the importance of keeping the hands clean.

Mr. J. Jeyakanthan, I.A.S. Collector, Sivagangai District, who spoke on the occasion, said that 92 persons of this district who have arrived from China are being carefully monitored for any signs of COVID-19 and the teams of the Health Department of this district have ample training to tackle this disease. He added that people must be vigilant about this virus said to be highly contagious and they must be receptive to the advice given by medical experts to prevent it.

Dr.V.Yasodha Mani, Deputy Director of Health Services (DDHS), Sivagangai District, in her special address, referred to the air-borne, water-borne and vector-borne diseases and she gave details of the state-of-the-art facilities available free of cost at government hospitals.

While elaborating on the important measures to be adopted for preventing this viral infection Dr. S. Anand, District Epidemiologist, DDHS, Sivagangai District, said keeping the hands clean is the first essential and he demonstrated the seven steps in keeping the hands clean to protect ourselves from this type of virus. He stated that this disease started from one of the sea food markets in China and spread to other places. The mortality rate of this disease is lower than that of the earlier ones and the death rate is found to be 2.3 percent among 100 patients affected by this virus.

AU Online Placement Portal Launched

On this occasion, J.Jayakanthan, District Collector, also launched Alagappa University Online Placement Portal and Biometric Attendance System. The on-line portal will

help both aspiring job-seekers and prospective employers by providing easy linkage between University, Industries and students.

Earlier Prof. H. Gurumallesh Prabu, Registrar, welcomed the gathering and Dr. R. Aanandhi, Assistant Professor-cum-Medical Officer, Alagappa University, proposed a vote of thanks.

Members of the Syndicate, Faculty Members, Administrative staff and students participated in the awareness programme.

To Enhance Physical Fitness and Mental Strength

FIT INDIA MOVEMENT

The “Fit India Movement” advocated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is one of the vital programmes that aims at taking the nation forward on the path of fitness and wellness. As a sequel, on the advice of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, the University Grants Commission has devised various plans for implementation in higher education institutions to enhance the physical fitness, mental strength and emotional equanimity of students.



Following the advice of the UGC, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, inaugurated the Fitness India Campaign on 09.01.2020 at the Alumni Park. The Vice-Chancellor who led the event said in a brief speech that we all need to improve our fitness to create a strong India. We can achieve things only if we are physically and mentally strong. Quoting from Swami

Vivekananda's exhortation to the youth, the Vice-Chancellor urged the students to develop their physical fitness by giving much importance to physical work and sports besides studies. He asked them to minimize the use of modern technological equipment such as mobile phone etc and use the time thus saved to go to playgrounds in order to improve and maintain their health.

Yoga and Variety of Games Organised

The event began with a mini marathon started from the alumni park at 7 a.m. in which a large number of teachers, administrative staff and students participated and it ended in front of the main administration office building. Yoga, physical exercises and a variety of games were also organised in different departments on the campuses to mark the inauguration of the programme.

Registrar H. Gurumallesh Prabu, Members of the Syndicate Dr. R. Swaminathan, Dr. T.R. Gurumoorthy, Controller of Examinations i/c Dr. Uthayasuriyan, Finance Officer i/c Prof. Chandra Mohan were also present on the occasion. Dr. M. Sundar, Principal, Alagappa University College of Physical Education and Dr. R. Senthil Kumaran, Director, Directorate of Physical Education, organised the events.

SILVER ZONE IAB BLIND EMPOWERMENT AWARD GIVEN TO THE UNIVERSITY

Alagappa University, Karaikudi, was awarded with Silver Zone IAB Blind Empowerment Champions Trophy for the year 2020 at its 35th Annual Day & Award Ceremony held on 8th February 2020. The Trophy was given by the Indian Association for the Blind, Madurai in recognition of the significant contribution made by Alagappa University for the "Empowerment of Persons with Visual Challenges". The trophy



was received by Dr.J.Sujathamalini, Associate Professor, Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Science at a function held in Madurai and the trophy was shown to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof.N.Rajendran who congratulated the faculty and students of the Special Education and Rehabilitation Science for the services rendered to the empowerment of visually challenged.

It may be noted here, besides rendering intensive teaching to the visually challenged by the students of the department, the University also helps by flag funding to the Indian Association for the Blind.

NEW BUILDINGS DECLARED OPEN BY HON'BLE MINISTER

Four two-storied residential quarters for teaching staff and six three-storied residential quarters for non-teaching staff of Alagappa University constructed at a cost of Rs. 72 lakhs and Rs. 87 lakhs respectively with the financial aid given by the UGC under the Twelfth Five-Year-Plan were declared open by Hon'ble Minister for Khadi and Village Industries Thiru. G. Bhaskaran on 13.2.2020.

An Ornamental Fish Museum established at a cost of Rs. 12 lakhs at the Alumni Park of the University was also declared open by the Minister on the occasion.

Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. H. Gurumallesh Prabu, Registrar, Syndicate Member Prof. T.R. Gurumoorthy and Prof.



R. Sanakaranarayanan, Dean, Faculty of Science, Prof. K. Udhayasuriyan, Controller of Examinations i/c, Prof. S. Chandramohan, Finance Officer i/c, Prof. C. Govindasamy, VIPs of the town and a large number of teaching and non-teaching staff were present on the occasion.

MOU SIGNED BETWEEN ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY AND WESTERN NORWAY UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES



India and Norway signed four memorandums of understanding (MoUs) in the field of research and higher education to strengthen their bilateral partnership. The agreements were signed in New Delhi during the visit of a delegation of prominent

educational and research institutions from Norway led by Ms. Anne Line Wold, Director-general, Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research. "This visit is a key step towards achieving the goals of a stronger and deeper bilateral relationship with India in the field of higher education," said Norwegian Ambassador to India. He added "For Norway, exploring potential partners and connecting researchers and institutions with their counterparts in India is extremely crucial. During this visit, we have had an excellent dialogue with the Indian authorities and found several areas of common interest that will benefit both countries,".

The second part of the academic programme was held on February 5th & 6th , 2020 at Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IITM) Research Park, Chennai on behalf of the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research, the Norwegian Research Council and Diku-Norwegian Agency for International Cooperation and Quality Enhancement in Higher Education. The MoUs signed included one between Alagappa University, Karaikudi, India and Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, Norway in the fields of renewable energy and nanotechnology to facilitate exchange of students and staff and consolidate joint efforts towards project initiatives in national and international levels. Among the clean energy resources, development of nanostructures for clean energy production application via water splitting approach is the best choice to meet the hydrogen energy demand. Both Norway and India have been active in high quality research on clean energy production, and this will help motivate students to create new efficient and cost-effective technologies for future clean energy applications. In the initial stage of MoU between these two institutions is rooted with Department of Physics, Alagappa University and in the later stage, the other departments

like Chemistry, Energy and Nanotechnology would be inducted in this programme. After elaborate discussion with Norwegian group, it is also planned to induct few arts disciplines of Alagappa University to sign MoU. Prof. H. Gurumallesh Prabu, Registrar, Alagappa University, presided over the MoU function. Dr. G. Ravi, Professor and Head of the Department of Physics and Dr. R. Yuvakkumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics participated in the event.

WORLD SIDDHAR THIRUNAL (AGATHIYAM-2020) CELEBRATED

The World Siddhar Thirunal (Agathiyam-2020) was celebrated at Alagappa University on 09.01.2020. The gala event was jointly hosted by the Puducherry Central Research Group, Sivagangai District Indian Medicine and Homeopathy Department, Alagappa University Youth Red Cross and the Tamil Nadu Branch of Indian Red Cross Society.



As part of the programme, a “Herbal Plants Exhibition” was declared open by Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University. The exhibition showcased 150 herbal plants commonly used in Siddha System of Medicine. In his brief speech the Vice-Chancellor lauded the efforts of the Siddhars who invented medicines by closely observing the nature of the diseases; and they formulated protocols for the prevention and

cure of diseases. He referred to the genius of an Ayurvedic physician named Acharya Sushruta who is said to have performed difficult surgeries using 113 types of instruments. He asked the Botany department and Biomedical Sciences Department of Alagappa University and District Siddha Medicine Department to jointly undertake research to bring out the efficacy of Siddha medicines in scientific terms. He exhorted the departments to sign a memorandum of understanding for this research.

In his speech, the Sivagangai District Siddha Medical Officer Dr. M. Parbhakaran said that this Siddha Medicine Awareness Programme aimed at creating an awareness among the youth on the ancient tradition and uniqueness of this system of medicine.

Dr. R. Rathinamala, Research Officer, Central Siddha Research Group, Puducherry, Thiru. C. Bagheeratha Nachiappan, Chairman, Indian Red Cross Society, Tamil Nadu Branch, Sivagangai, and Prof. T.R. Gurumoorthy, Syndicate Member, Alagappa University, offered felicitations. Dr. G. Paari, Assistant Siddha Medical Officer and Prof. S. Ravikumar, Head i/c Dept. of Bio-Medical Science, Dr. M. Ramesh, Head i/c, Department of Botany delivered speeches highlighting the significance and efficacy of Indian medicinal plants in curing many diseases.

Earlier Dr. G. Vinayagamoorthi, Zonal Co-ordinator, Youth Red Cross, Alagappa University, welcomed the gathering and Dr.M. Preeth, Assistant Siddha Medical Officer, Kanadukathan, proposed a vote of thanks.

FACULTY OF ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF TAMIL

Endowment Lecture Delivered

அழகப்பா பல்கலைக்கழக தமிழ்த்துறை சார்பில் கவிச்செம்மல் ரெ.முத்துக்கணேசனார் அறக்கட்டளைச் சொற்பொழிவு 11.02.2020 அன்று தமிழ்த்துறை கருத்தரங்க கூடத்தில் நடைபெற்றது.

அழகப்பா பல்கலைக்கழக துணைவேந்தர் பேரா. நா.இராஜேந்திரன் அவர்கள் இந்நிகழ்ச்சிக்கு தலைமையேற்று உரை நிகழ்த்தினார். அவர் தமது உரையில் மாணவர்களும் ஆய்வாளர்களும் தரமான கட்டுரைகளை, படைப்புகளை உலகத் தரநிர்ணய இதழ்களில் வெளியிட வேண்டும் என்றும், தினந்தோறும் நூலகம் சென்று நூல்களைத் தேடிப் பயிலவேண்டும் என்றும் கேட்டுக்கொண்டார். கவிதை, கட்டுரை, திறனாய்வு, படைப்புத்திறன் மற்றும் ஆராய்ச்சித் திறனையும் சிரத்தையுடன் வளர்த்துக் கொள்ள வேண்டும். மேலும் இணையம் போன்ற நவீன வசதிகளையும் பயன்படுத்தி அறிவுத்திறனை மேம்படுத்திக் கொள்ளவேண்டும் என்று கூறினார்.

தேவகோட்டை சேவுகள் அண்ணாமலை கல்லூரியின் தமிழ்த்துறைப் பேராசிரியர் முனைவர் பாகை. கண்ணதாசன் அவர்கள் கவிஞர் ரெ.முத்துக்கணேசனார் அவர்களின் கவிதைகள், கட்டுரைகள் மற்றும் பிற நூல்களிலிருந்து இன்றையமாணவர்கள், ஆசிரியர்கள், பொதுமக்கள் ஆகியோர் பின்பற்றக் கூடிய அறக்கருத்துக்கள் மற்றும் வாழ்வியல் சிந்தனைகளை எடுத்துரைத்தார். தமிழ்த்துறைத் தலைவர் பேரா. மு.பாண்டி வரவேற்புரை நிகழ்த்தினார். கருத்தரங்கப் பொறுப்பாளர் இணைப்பேராசிரியர் மு.நடேசன் நன்றி கூறினார். நகரப் பிரமுகர்கள், ஆய்வாளர்கள், மாணவர்கள் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

Dr. RADHAKRISHNAN AWARD GIVEN TO A FACULTY

உலகத் தமிழராய்ச்சி நிறுவனம், சென்னை, புதுவைத் தமிழ்ச் சங்கம், புதுச்சேரி, காஞ்சி கலை சங்கமம், இயல், இசை, நாடக, நாட்டுப்புறக் கலைக்கூடம் - தமிழ்நாடு மற்றும் குமாரராணி மீனா



முத்தையா கலை மற்றும் அறிவியல் கல்லூரி ஆகியன இணைந்து காரைக்குடி அழகப்பா பல்கலைக்கழகத் தமிழ் துறையில் பணியாற்றும் உதவிப் பேராசிரியர் முனைவர் மு.சுதா அவர்களின் கல்விப் பணியினைப் பாராட்டி டாக்டர் இராதாகிருஷ்ணன் விருதினை வழங்கிக் கௌரவித்தன. 08.03.2020 அன்று சென்னை உலகத் தமிழராய்ச்சி நிறுவனத்தில் அமையப் பெற்றுள்ள பேரறிஞர் அண்ணா கருத்தரங்க கூடத்தில் நடைபெற்ற விருது வழங்கும் விழாவில் இவ்விருது முனைவர் மு.சுதா அவர்களுக்கு வழங்கப்பட்டது. விருது பெற்ற பேராசிரியை முனைவர் எம்.சுதா 09.03.2020 அன்று பல்கலைக்கழகத் துணைவேந்தர் பேரா. நா.இராஜேந்திரன் அவர்களை நேரில் சந்தித்து விருதினைக் காண்பித்து வாழ்த்துப் பெற்றார்.

CENTRE FOR TAMIL CULTURE

தாய்மொழிநாள் விழா



காரைக்குடி அழகப்பா பல்கலைக்கழகத் தமிழ்ப் பண்பாட்டுமையத்தின் சார்பில் தாய்மொழிநாள் விழா 21.2.2020 அன்று பல்கலைக்கழகப் பட்டமளிப்புவிழாக்கலையரங்கில் கொண்டாடப்பட்டது.

இந்நிகழ்விற்கு அழகப்பா பல்கலைக்கழகத் துணைவேந்தர் பேரா. நா. இராஜேந்திரன் அவர்கள் தலைமையேற்று உரை நிகழ்த்தினார். அவர் தமது உரையில் உலகில் பலமொழிகள்

உண்டு, ஒரு நாட்டின் தொன்மை, கலாச்சாரம், பண்பாடு ஆகியவற்றை வெளிப்படுத்துபவை அந்நாட்டு மொழிகளே. இந்தியாவில் மொத்தம் 1621 மொழிகள் பேசப்படுகின்றன, அவற்றில் 22 மொழிகள் மட்டுமே அரசால் அங்கீகரிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன, அதில் நமது தாய் மொழியான தமிழும் ஒன்று என்று குறிப்பிட்டார். அறிவைப் பெருக்குகிற கருவியாக மொழி விளங்குகின்றது. ஆங்கிலேயர்கள் இந்தியாவை ஆண்ட காலத்தில் ஆங்கில மொழி ஓர் இணைப்பு மொழியாக மக்களிடையே இருந்து வந்துள்ளது. உலகில் மக்கள் எங்கிருந்தாலும், எவ்வாறு இருந்தாலும் அவர்களுக்கு மொழி உரிமை உண்டு, இதை அடிப்படையாக கொண்டே பிப்ரவரி 21-ஆம் நாளை யுனெஸ்கோதாய் மொழி நாளாகக் கொண்டாட அறிவித்தது. வரலாற்றுச் சிறப்புடைய கல்லணை மற்றும் தஞ்சை பெரியகோயில் கட்டடக்கலை போன்றவை முழுக்க முழுக்கத் தமிழ் அறிவைக் கொண்டு கட்டப்பட்டதாகும். எனவே தாய் மொழியில் சிந்திப்பதே அறிவு வளர்ச்சிக்குத் துணையாகும் என்றுரைத்தார். மேலும் சமீபத்திய கீழடி அகழ்வாய்வு அசோகர் காலத்துப் பிராமி எழுத்திற்கு முன்னேரே தமிழ் எழுத்துக்கள் தோன்றிவிட்டதை நிரூபித்துள்ளன என்றும் குறிப்பிட்டார்.

சிறப்புவிருந்தினர் தமிழ் மாமணி இரா.இந்திராபாய் அவர்கள் தமிழுக்கும் அமுதென்று பேர் என்ற தலைப்பில் சிறப்புச் சொற்பொழிவு ஆற்றினார். அவர் தமது உரையில் எல்லாச் சிறப்புக்களும் பெற்றது தமிழ் மொழி. உலகில் எந்த மொழிக்கும் இல்லாத சிறப்புதமிழ் மொழியின் கரத்திற்கு உண்டு. திருக்குறள், சிலப்பதிகாரம், திருவாசகம், கம்பராமாயணம் போன்ற இலக்கியங்கள் தமிழின் சிறப்புகளை விளக்கி நிற்கின்றன: தமிழ் இலக்கணம் கவிஞர் கண்ணதாசன் திரைப்படப் பாடல்களில் சிறப்புற பின்பற்றப்பட்டுள்ளன என்று இசைப் பாடல்களின் வழி ஒப்பிட்டு விளக்கினார். இயற்றமிழ், இசைத்தமிழ், நாடகத்தமிழ் என்னும் முத்தமிழையும் உள்ளடக்கியதாக அவரின் உரை அமைந்திருந்தது.

அழகப்பா பல்கலைக் கழகத்தமிழ்ப் பண்பாட்டுமைய இயக்குநர் முனைவர் சே. செந்தமிழ்பாவை வரவேற்புரையாற்றினார். உதவிப் பேராசிரியர் கா.கணநாதன் நன்றி உரையாற்றினார்.

அழகப்பா பல்கலைக்கழக அனைத்துத் துறையைச் சார்ந்தபேராசிரியர்கள், ஆராய்ச்சியாளர்கள், காரைக்குடியைச் சார்ந்ததமிழ்ச் சான்றோர்கள் மற்றும் மாணவமாணவியர்கள் பெருந்திரளாகக் கலந்துகொண்டனர்.

DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN'S STUDIES

HIGHLIGHTS OF A WEEK-LONG CELEBRATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY - 2020

Lecture on Economic Empowerment of Women through Entrepreneurship



The week-long events arranged in connection with the International Women's Day Celebration 2020 began with a Lecture on "Economic Empowerment of Women through Entrepreneurship" at the Department of Women's Studies, Alagappa University on 2nd March, 2020. The programme commenced with the welcome address given by Dr.P.Veeramani, Assistant Professor, Department of Women's Studies, Alagappa University. She said the eight-day programmes planned for the event would be conducted from 2nd March to 9th March 2020. It would add great significance to this year's celebrations making the University Community to perceive the effective role played by women in society. In her lecture Ms.Rani Salim, Beautician, Asha Herbal Beauty Parlour, Karaikudi, explained in detail the scope and potential for developing entrepreneurship among women. She said that women entrepreneurs in India could be broadly divided into five categories

namely -- Affluent Entrepreneurs, Pull Factors, Push Factors, Self-employed Entrepreneurs, and Rural Entrepreneurs. She pointed out that women entrepreneurs who are in the process of initiating a business should gather all resources, undertake risks, face challenges, provide employment to others and manage the business independently. Approximately 1/3rd of the entrepreneurs in the world are women entrepreneurs, she added.

She exhorted the women students to start small units to make Agarbattis, Papads, Pickles, embroidery and handicrafts works. Catering services, running restaurants & snack bars, small retails shops, beauty parlours would promote economic empowerment of women. More than 130 students and 30 staff members participated. At the end of the programme Dr. S.Poulpunitha, proposed a vote of thanks.

Programme on Health and Hygiene

The second programme was on “Health and Hygiene” and it was organized by the Department of Women’s Studies and Women Harassment Prevention Cell on 3rd March, 2020. Ms.S.Janaki and P.Lavanya, the 2nd Year Students of M.A. Women’s Studies programme, spoke to Health and Sanitation Workers working in Alagappa University. The purpose of the programme was to assess the knowledge and practice of personal hygiene, and to promote hygiene behaviour among Health and Sanitation Workers. The speakers highlighted how good personal hygiene helps to prevent the spread of infections, diseases and unpleasant body odours and also help them look more healthy. A Street Play was performed by the students of the Department of Women’s Studies. 35 Health and Sanitation Workers participated and benefited.

Gender Sensitization Programme for School Students

The third event in the series was a “Gender Sensitization Programme for School Students” and it was organized on 4th March, 2020. The programme commenced with a welcome address by Mr.Rajapandiyam, Head Master, Alagappa Model Higher Secondary School, Karaikudi. Dr.P.Veeramani, Assistant Professor, Department of Women’s Studies, Alagappa University, delivered a lecture on “Gender Equality”. She explained that gender equality helps to prevent violence against women and it helps to create a healthy community improving social relationship among the members. It also promotes women’s rights as well as human rights and ultimately it leads to national development and integration. Dr.S.Poulpunitha, Assistant Professor, Department of Women’s Studies, Alagappa University delivered a lecture on “Health and Hygiene”. Dr.I.Sivakumar, Post Doctoral Fellow, Department of Women’s Studies, Alagappa University, delivered a lecture on “Safety and Security of Women”. He emphasized that women have the right to be free from violence, harassment and discrimination and they should remove the barriers of unsafe environment and fulfill their potential as individuals and as contributors to work, communities and economies. Dr.T.Murugesan, Project Associate, Department of Women’s Studies, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, delivered a lecture on “Women Empowerment”. He highlighted how empowering of women physically, socially, and emotionally would improve the economic status of the family and the entire community. In this programme, 125 girls, 150 boys and 8 teachers participated and benefited. Ms. K.Jegathambal, proposed a vote of thanks.

Cultural Events for University Students

“Cultural Events for University Students” was the fourth programme and it was organized on 5th March, 2020. The main purpose of this event was to provide a platform to all the women students of the university to showcase their talents and creativity in culture related activities and to associate themselves with “Women Empowerment”. The day-long programme included Song, Dance, Face Painting, Health Queen Competitions (Morning Session). Quiz and Debate competitions were held in the afternoon session. More than 130 girl-students from various department of Alagappa University participated. In the afternoon session the quiz competition was conducted. The purpose of this competition was to test the students’ general knowledge on Women’s Education and Women Empowerment Activities. Prof.K.R.Murugan, Dean, Faculty of Arts & Head of the Department of Social Work and Dr.Suresh, Alagappa University Study Circle, were the panel of juries for this event. A total of 14 students from various departments participated in the competition. It was followed by a debate on “Gender Equality”. The main objective of this event was to promote the idea of giving equal opportunities to men and women in the society. Providing educational and job opportunities to women, sharing the responsibilities by both the genders to uplift the society were also discussed. The speakers suggested how gender equality helps sustainable development; and the effective methods of implementation of welfare measures were also the points discussed in detail. 20 students actively participated in this event. However, everybody enjoyed the event.

Cultural Events for Teaching and Non-teaching Staff

The fifth programme of Women’s Day Celebration was the “Cultural Events for

Teaching and Non-teaching Staff” and it was organized on 6th March, 2020. Events such as Song, Dance, Health Queen, Lucky Corner, Quiz, and Debate competitions were organized for teaching and non-teaching staff of Alagappa University. After the quiz competition, a debate was conducted on the topic “Gender equality”. 30 women staff were divided into two groups and the topic was discussed. Distribution of unpaid and paid work among women and men, enhancement of gender roles and standards for women and men, same personal freedoms for women and men, and protection against all forms of aggression were the points argued.

Rally on Safety and Security of Women

A “Rally on Safety and Security of Women” was taken out on 7th March, 2020. It started from Aariyabhavan Bus Stop and reached Alagappa University Main Campus. Prof.N.Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, flagged off the rally. The aim of the rally was to promote awareness about the safety and security of women and girls in private and public spheres. Prof. H.Gurumallesh Prabu, Registrar, Alagappa University, 30 teaching and non-teaching staff and nearly 200 students participated in the rally. After the rally a Legal Awareness Programme was arranged and Mrs. V. Muthurukamani, Advocate, Karaikudi, was the main speaker at the programme.

Fem Fair -2020 -- A Career Fair for Women Students

The seventh programme in the series was “Career fair for Women Students” and it was jointly organized by the Department of Women’s Studies and the Placement Cell, V. Fort Management Consultants on 8th March, 2020 at 9.00 a.m. Dr.P.Veeramani, Placement Coordinator, welcomed the participant organizations and candidates. The aim of Fem Fair – 2020 was to provide employment

opportunities for aspiring women candidates of Alagappa University (2020, 2019, and 2018 batches) from various departments; and 127 candidates attended this programme. Candidates were selected based on their performance, knowledge and skill. Nearly 1/4th of the candidates were selected.

The following recruiting companies/ organizations came to Fem Fair – 2020; Creative Info Tech-Madurai, RDM Associates – Madurai, Ruby Foods Pvt. Ltd – Madurai, Bhima Jewellers – Madurai/Salem, Varnama Interiors – Madurai, Visnu Kumar Traders – Chennai, Notan Industries -Chennai, SKC'S Silks –Salem, L&T Finance-Madurai/Tiruchy, Bell Group of Hotels-Madurai, Shiva Balaji Steels Pvt. Ltd., Dindugal, Compact UPS-Chennai, Ays Software-Madurai, Vaanana Info Tech., Agram Info Tech., Kaa be Textile, Sky Industireis, Pixel 2 Print, Anderson, and Secum Dum Solutions.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY-2020 CELEBRATED



Under the aegis of the Department of Women's Studies and the Women Harassment Prevention Cell of Alagappa University, Karaikudi, the International Women's Day-2020 was celebrated on 09.03.2020. The theme of this year's celebrations is "An equal world is an enabled world".

Presiding over the function Prof. N.Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, said that women should

perceive the inherent power and potential they possess and make use of them for their own development and also for the nation's growth. This celebration conducted year after year should lead to real social transformation. Of the students enrolled at Alagappa University, he said, 73% are women. The society should help women to prove their potential and help them show their worth. According to scientists the earth is the only planet in which living beings could exist and hence it is rightly called the mother earth. The woman is the life-giving force; and women are upholders of values and traditions.

The Vice-Chancellor said that the University has decided to select the best female student, researcher, faculty and a woman non-teaching staff for giving Alagappa University Women's Day Awards from this year onwards; and in this connection a committee has been formed for framing guidelines for selection of awardees and soon awards would be given for this year. India, by giving voting rights to women as early as 1919, has proved that it valued democratic principles in upholding gender equality, he added.

Prof. V.Manickavasagam, Former Registrar of Alagappa University, in his key-note address, highlighted how gender equality and women empowerment are fundamental for accomplishing development goals of a nation. He added that in India the participation of women in politics and decision-making are at a low level owing to discriminatory practices, lack of education, gender stereotype, etc. Political participation and political activism of women would spur sustainable development and also would contribute to the nation's development. In 2019 Lok Sabha, the number of women M.P.s are 78 as compared to 69 in 2014 and 52 in 2009. This, he said, shows slight improvement

and yet there is the lack of women's participation in the political process. He exhorted the women students to knockout all kinds of incompetence, barriers of culture; and at the same time they should energise themselves with positivity and exhibit their full potential; and he concluded his speech by asking them to imbibe the taste of success by learning the success secrets from successful women from various fields.

Ms. M.Sofiya, Advocate, Karaikudi, in her special address, explained in detail the rights and privileges given to women in the Indian Constitution. She also spoke extensively on various problems and injustices encountered by women in the conservative Indian society. She also hinted at sexual harassments meted out to women and the solutions given in the Indian Legal System for redressal of their grievances. Women should have the courage to face any problem and at the same time develop the ability to think independently. Only then can they protect themselves from problems.

As part of the celebrations, various competitions for women students, faculty and non-teaching staff were held and the winners were given certificates and prizes. Earlier Dr.P.Veeramani, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Women's Studies, welcomed the gathering and Dr.S.Poulpunitha, proposed a vote of thanks.

Special Lectures on Nutrition and Textiles

The Department of Women's Studies, Alagappa University, organized Special Lecture Programmes from 24.02.2020 to 28.02.2020 at Mary Wollstonecraft Hall. Prof. K. Manimekalai, Head, Department of Women's Studies, Alagappa University, who welcomed the gathering, spoke about the objectives of the programme.

Mrs.D.Bhuvaneswari, Assistant Professor, PG and Research Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Jamal Mohamed College, Trichy, delivered a series of Special Lectures on topics such as "Community Nutrition", "Child Development", "Home Management" and "Bakery and Confectionary Production" on 24th and 25th of February 2020. While speaking on Community Nutrition, she referred to Nutritional Programmes and Schemes initiated by the Government. She highlighted the importance of major vitamins and minerals and their role in Community Nutrition. She explained the nuances of Home Management and said that the proper interior design of a home would help us to create a healthy environment. She also gave a brief introduction regarding the various stages in the growth of a child. In the next lecture, she referred to the immense scope for self employment in bakery and confectionary trade. She also conducted practical classes and taught students how to make bakery and confectionery products. The M.A-Integrated Home Science students (batch-wise) prepared cakes and cookies in her presence. Special Lectures were useful to students. Ms.S.Janaki, a 2nd year M.A-Integrated Home Science student, proposed a vote of thanks.



Mrs. A. Sandhiya, Fashion Designer, Karaikudi, delivered special lectures and conducted practical classes on 26th, 27th and 28th February 2020. She demonstrated different types of aari and zardozi work which would add elegance and value to clothes. She

demonstrated how to carry out the following stitches -- Chain stitch, Back stitch, Buttonhole (or) Blanket stitch, Feather (or) Leaf stitch and Embossed work. She also explained and demonstrated some advance works which included sugar beads, tube beads, antique beads work, and zardozi work. She hoped that the special lectures and practical classes conducted by her would be useful to the students for setting up their own units. Ms. N. Noor Naina Mohammed, a 1st year M.A-Integrated Home Science student, proposed a vote of thanks.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

World Philosophy Day Organised

The World Philosophy Day was celebrated by the Department of Social Work, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, in collaboration with the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi, on 13th February 2020 at the Seminar Hall of the University.



Presiding over the inaugural function, Prof. N.Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University observed that Philosophy is a combination of knowledge and wisdom Epistemologically, since the Philosophy is considered to be the highest form of knowledge, in all academic disciplines we use the word Philosophy for indicating research work. Whatever be the discipline when a scholar completes his or her research work, the University concerned awards him or her the research degree stating the word “philosophy”.

(Master of Philosophy or Doctor of Philosophy). Here, Philosophy denotes the successful completion of research undertaken by the scholar in the discipline concerned.

A French writer and philosopher Voltaire, coined the word “Philosophy”, and he mentioned his ideas in the “Philosophy of History” and further he said “we have not learnt much from history”. Philosophical discipline is more Euro-centric; most of the Philosophical thoughts are related to the State-centred aspects and which mainly focus on Political Philosophy. The Vice-Chancellor further said that, among the science subjects, mathematics is considered as the queen and everyone needs to study mathematics though it seems difficult to learn. Like-wise, in Arts discipline, Philosophy seems to be the toughest subject which needs to be understood, for it is connected with all the disciplines. By enabling us to discover the diversity of the intellectual currents in the world, philosophy stimulates intercultural dialogue. By awakening the mind to the exercise of thinking and the reasoned confrontation of opinions, philosophy helps to build a more tolerant and more dignified society. Further, the concept of Philosophy originated in Greece and extended upto the eastern world. Western Philosophy was initiated and strengthened by the great philosophers namely Socrates, Plato and Aristotle and in the South East, the Philosophy was initiated by Confucius in China.

The philosophy initiated by Mahaveer, Buddha and AdhiSankarar in India was given great importance in South East Asia as well as in Indian Society. Modern Indian Philosophy was strengthened by Rajaram Mohan Roy, Vivekananda, Shri Aurobindo and J. Krishnamoorthi The Western Philosophy was established by Thomas Hobbes, John Locke and Jean-Jacques Rousseau. It is

very important to learn the contributions of the Western Philosophers about the meaning and formation of States which is very important in the present context.

Prof. K.Sambathkumar, Member of Philosophical Research (ICPR), New Delhi, delivered a scintillating Special Address on the topic "Who Needs Philosophy". In his address, he highlighted the concepts of Philosophy and tried to answer such questions as "What is Truth" "What is reality" etc. These questions were raised all over the world in all cultures at different points of time. The Indian System of thought is one such world's oldest system of thinking which began more than 5000 years ago. Great men of philosophy offered new ideas to the world; and they merit distinction as they have shown the right path in the worldly life.

Prof. N.Baskaran, Professor of Philosophy (Retd), Special Officer, DDE and Prof. K.R. Murugan, Dean, Faculty of Arts, Alagappa University, offered felicitations. More than 300 students including faculty members of the University Departments and Affiliated Colleges participated. Dr. M.A. Velusamy, Assistant Professor and Organizing Secretary, Department of Social Work, welcomed the gathering. Mr. Vengateshwaran, Research Scholar, proposed a vote of thanks.

Three-Day Eye Screening Camp Organized

The Health Care Centre and the Department of Social Work of Alagappa University, Karaikudi and the Kaanal Eye Hospital, Koviloor, jointly organized a Three-Day Eye Screening Camp at the University Hospital from 25th to 27th February 2020.

Inaugurating the camp, Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, said that the aim of the camp is to



create awareness among the staff and students on the importance of keeping the eyes healthy. He added that in today's world of hurry and flurry most of us concentrate more on our work and earning money and less on our own health. This situation needs to be avoided. Periodic health check up is very essential; and especially eye-screening is all the more important as the eye is a sensitive organ that needs proper up-keep and care. He concluded his speech by saying that the students of Alagappa University and affiliated colleges are rendering services in 80 adopted villages under National Service Scheme and the beneficiaries are rural folks of this region.

Dr. N. Krishnan, a renowned Ophthalmologist and Founder-Director of Frontline Eye Hospital, Chennai and Managing Trustee, Kaanal Eye Hospital, Koviloor, speaking on the occasion, said that the Kaanal Eye Hospital has been organising eye camps in Schools and Colleges of Pudukkottai and Sivagangai Districts for the benefit of students. He asked the students and staff of the University to utilise the state-of-the-art facilities available at the Kaanal Hospital, Koviloor.

Prof. K.R.Murugan, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Prof. Paul Devanesan, Dean, Faculty of Education, offered felicitations.

Dr. R.Aanandhi, Assistant Professor – cum – Medical Officer, Alagappa University

and the staff of the Kaanal Eye Hospital made arrangements for the camp.

Four-Day Intensive Tribal Camp Organised at Sirumalai



A Four-day Intensive Camp at the tribal area of Sirumalai in Dindigul District was organized by the first year students of M.A Social Work from 3rd to 6th March 2020. 18 students and two faculty members participated in the camp. On the first day awareness programmes on topics such as “Child Help Line” and “Corona Virus – Do’s and Dont’s” were organized at Palaiyur, a part of Sirumalai region. A cultural programme was performed by the students in the evening to entertain the people of the village. On the second day a number of competitions – drawing, essay-writing, poetry-writing and elocution – were conducted on the topic “Environmental Protection” at the Government Higher Secondary School, Pudur, in which the students of the school enthusiastically participated. An awareness programme on the “Importance of Education” and a puppetry show on “Health and Hygiene” were also conducted. A survey and a participatory rural appraisal of Pudur village were done in the afternoon session; and the second day’s programme came to a close with a cultural event arranged by the students. The programme on the third day began with “Puppetry Show on Health and Hygiene”; and awareness programmes on “Good Touch and Bad Touch”, “Child Help Line” and “Importance of Education” were arranged

for the benefit of students at Thenmalai School. Besides a survey and a participatory rural appraisal, a lively group discussion between students and the tribal people of Tholukadu and Ponnuruki areas of Sirumalai village was conducted. On the fourth day a rally on the theme “Save Water” was arranged at Anna Nagar School. The trainees did eco mapping of the village for the benefit of the authorities of Sirumalai Panchayat.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Two-Day International Seminar on “Micro-Irrigation in India: Economics, Impact and Potential”



The Department Economics and Rural Development, Alagappa University, organized a Two-Day International Seminar on “Micro-Irrigation in India: Economics, Impact and Potential” under RUSA Phase 2.0 scheme on 30th -31st , Jan 2020.

Professor H. GurumalleshPrabu, Registrar, Alagappa University presided over the inaugural session of the seminar. While delivering the inaugural address in the seminar, Professor R.S. Deshpande, ICSSR (Indian Council for Social Science Research) National Fellow, New Delhi and former Director of the Institute of Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, emphasized the important role of micro-irrigation in reducing the widening gap between increasing demand and shrinking supply of fresh water in India.

The adoption status of micro-irrigation in India, its economic impact, prospects and potentials for further expansion and challenges and constraints in adopting the new technology were discussed in the seminar under six technical sessions chaired by eminent scholars. Besides the technical sessions, a panel discussion was also organised in order to find out ways to increase the adoption of micro-irrigation such as drip and sprinkler technologies in India.

In his valedictory address, Professor C. Ramasamy, former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, highlighted the various benefits of micro-irrigation. He also noted that micro irrigation has potential in reducing the pressure on existing fresh water resources in the context of extreme climate events such as recurrent droughts. Prof. Sanjeev Kumar Singh, Coordinator, RUSA Phase 2.0 Scheme, Alagappa University offered felicitations in the valedictory session of the seminar.

13 eminent scholars from Germany, Thailand, Sri Lanka and also from different states of India presented their research papers in the Seminar. Over two hundred delegates took part in the deliberations.

Earlier Dr. A. Narayanamoorthy, Senior Professor and Head, Department of Economics and Rural Development; welcomed the gathering and introduced the distinguished guests. Dr. R. Suresh delivered the vote of thanks.

Seminar on ACT NEXT: Nobel Prize in Economics, 2019

The Department of Economics and Rural Development (DERD) in collaboration with Departments from the Faculty of Management organised a Seminar on “ACT NEXT: Nobel

Prize in Economics, 2019” at the Seminar Hall of the DERD, Alagappa University, Karaikudi. While delivering the presidential address in the inaugural function, Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, emphasised the need for alleviating poverty in the world. He added that Random Control Trial (RCT) Approach propounded by three remarkable economists received the attention of the entire world, the work for which Nobel Prize was awarded to them in the year 2019. One of them is an Indian namely Abhijit Banerjee. He exhorted the students to become “knowledge seekers”. The teachers must encourage the students to seek knowledge and do original research work. Though the Nobel Prize is being awarded for the best contributors in the field of Peace, Literature, Physics, Chemistry and Medicine since 1900, Economics joined the list in 1969.

Dr. M. Suresh Babu, Professor of Economics, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, in his keynote address explained the details of randomized control trial approach used by the Nobel Laureates of 2019 in Economics, namely Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer. This approach helps to identify suitable policies for eradicating global poverty.



Prof. M. Senthil, Dean, Faculty of Management, Alagappa University, offered felicitation.

Special Addresses were delivered by Dr.S.Iyyampillai, Former Professor of Economics, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, Dr. K.Uthaya Suriyan, Professor & Head, Department of International Business, Dr. T.R.Gurumoorthy, Senior Professor & Head, Department of Commerce and Dr.C.Vethirajan, Professor and Head, Department of Corporate Secretaryship, Alagappa University, Karaikudi.

The valedictory Address was delivered by Prof. M.Selvam, Syndicate Member and Former Professor and Head, Department of International Business and Commerce, Alagappa University. Students from various Departments of the University participated and presented papers.

Dr.A.Narayanamoorthy, Senior Professor & Head, Dept. of Economics & Rural Development, welcomed the gathering. Dr. K. Ramesh Kumar, Assistant Professor, proposed a vote of thanks.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

One Day National Symposium on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel : An Iron Willed Visionary of India

The inaugural function of a One Day “National Symposium on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel : An Iron Willed Visionary of India” was organized today (27-01-2020) by the Department of History, Alagappa University, under the sponsorship of Indian Council of Historical Research (ICSR), New Delhi.

Presiding over the symposium, Prof. N.Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, stressed the study and importance of History to learn about the past and to shape the future of societies. He said that Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel’s life is intrinsically connected with India’s Independence. A study

of his life history is not only interesting but also enlightening on the making of the Indian republic. His contribution to unite 562 Princely States in India to form the United India after Independence will ever be remembered with gratitude by the people of India. As a close associate and follower of Mahatma Gandhi and an activist Patel supported peasants of Gujarat in their massive struggle against the British Government in 1918 sacrificing his own lucrative career as a lawyer. In fact, his intense fight for the farmers’ rights brought him the label “Sardar”. A visionary of modern India his contribution to nation-building should be known by every citizen of India and hoped that this symposium would bring to light his multi dimensional character.



Prof. Arvind P.Jamkhedkar, Chairman, Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, in his key note address, dwelt on the need to have historical knowledge and perception to understand the features of any society and nation in a proper way. History is a main tool to understand the past and to plan for a better future. This symposium would pave the way for studying the contribution of Vallabhbhai Patel in the light of his work for making the new United India. He added that all leadership qualities enumerated by Chanakya in his work Arthashastra were found in abundance in Sardar Patel. Patel exuded rock-like will power and confidence in his actions. At the same time, he did not hesitate to show kindness and compassion to the lowly and the down-trodden

people. Himself a leader, he was a loyal and dedicated follower of Mahatma Gandhi; and he believed in discipline which would bring success and it is essential for better administration and consequent progress and development of a nation.

Dr.KR.Murugan, Dean, Faculty of Arts, Alagappa University offered felicitations.

Earlier Dr. AR. Saravanakumar, Head i/c, Department of History, Alagappa University, welcomed the gathering. Dr. S.Rajavelu, Adjunct Faculty, Department of History, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the technical sessions that followed Dr.Amit Dey, Professor of History, University of Calcutta, West Bengal, Prof. K.A.Manikumar, Professor of History (Rtd.), Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli, Dr. Prabha Ravi Shankar, SNTD Women's University, Mumbai, Dr.P.Sakthivel, Annamalai University, Prof. Nageshwara Rao, CReNIEO, Chennai, Dr.S.Babu, Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Arts College, Pondicherry, Dr.S.Ananathakrishnan, A.M. Jain College, Chennai, Dr.K.Ashok, Madras Christian College, Chennai, were among those who delivered special lectures on the multi dimensional personality of Sardar Patel.

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

One Day Workshop on Indian Research Information Network: Adoption and Promotion

The Department of Library and Information Science, Alagappa University, and Indian Research Information Network System (IRINS) jointly organised a one day "Workshop on Indian Research Information Network: Adoption and Promotion" on 8th February 2020 in the University Seminar Hall.



Prof. N.Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor of Alagappa University, Karaikudi delivered the presidential address. In his address, he underlined the importance of research for good teaching by saying "Roots of good teaching is nourished in the soil of good research". For designing better curricula in the University Departments and to implement the same from the academic year 2019-20, 46 subject experts were invited from 20 world class Universities and their suggestions were taken into account while restructuring the syllabi. In order to boost research works in the University, he said a total of 200 Ph.D. scholars are being given a monthly fellowship of Rs.20,000; to promote research skills, good quality research books and journals worth Rs. 1.8 crores have been purchased by the University. With all these facilities, researchers are exhorted to do research with integrity, passion and social relevance, so that the researches will be used as inputs for policy making purpose.

Prof. H.S. Siddamalliah, University Librarian, Rajeev Gandhi University, Bangalore, in his inaugural address, highlighted the significant role of the librarians in bringing out quality research by enabling the Research Supervisors to have access to a wide range of resources. Library can play a vital role in providing all kinds of assistance – starting from language correction to data analysis.

Prof. Sanjeev Kumar Singh, RUSA Coordinator, Alagappa University in his

felicitation address, appreciated the performance of Alagappa University Library, which exhibits a wide range of books and journals, required both for research and competitive examinations with financial assistance from RUSA 2.0 scheme. Also he informed that out of about 40,000 higher education institutions in India, only 150 institutions have registered with Indian Research Information Network System (IRINS) and Alagappa University is one among them.

Shri P.Sankar, Deputy Librarian, Punjab Central University, Shri Hitesh Solanki, Scientist – C, INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, spoke on the occasion. Dr.S.Thanuskodi, Professor & Head, DLIS, Alagappa University, welcomed the gathering and Dr.R.Jeyshankar, Assistant Professor, proposed a vote of thanks. More than 200 students, Research Scholars, and Faculty Members from Alagappa University and various Universities and Colleges participated in the workshop.

DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

Two-Day “International Conference on Performing Arts and Fine Arts -- Challenges and Prospects Today”

A Two-Day International Conference on Performing Arts and Fine Arts – Challenges and Prospects Today” was organized by the Department of Fine Arts, Alagappa University, in collaboration with Kalai Kaveri College of Fine Arts, Tiruchirappali on 05th & 06th March 2020.

Presiding over the inaugural session of the conference, Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, said the study of art history reveals how trends in art forms have changed over the years owing to various factors. He added that the practice of these art forms need to be refreshed from time to time with newer perspectives. Every country and region has its own unique culture and tradition

which is reflected in its art forms. In today’s urbanized environment it becomes imperative to protect folk arts for the benefit of posterity. These art forms have to be digitalized and preserved in the library.

In his inaugural address, Rev. Fr. S.G. Saminathan, Secretary, Kalai Kaveri College of Fine Arts, stated that varied art forms help to create a culture of ethics and character. He added that art must grow and at the same time, along with it, artists must also grow and it is the responsibility of the society to protect art and artistes. He hoped the meet would provide a forum for participants to review the traditional and the current methods of teaching fine arts subjects and also study the impact of digitalization on various art forms.



A compendium containing 76 research papers was released by the Vice-Chancellor and the first copy was received by Rev.Fr. S.G. Saminathan.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Joseph Jeyaseelan of Kalai Kaveri College of Fine Arts, said that the performing artistes, painters and sculptors play a crucial role in the society as they help people to lead a stress-free life. Today artistes and artists face challenges on account of the invasion of electronic and digital technology. Unlike in manual art-making, they are forced to limit their creativity compromising with the use of technology. They have to boldly face the electronic challenges without which they cannot survive.

Dr. Julia Deimisier, a scholar from Germany, while offering felicitations, said that art forms help in maintaining cultural traditions, cultural integration, unity, peace and harmony around the globe. They act as bridges connecting the people of the world. Today the mass media and social media have helped art creators and art performers to reach out to the entire world.

Mr. M. Ariyanayagam, a scholar from France, highlighted the challenges faced by the arts and artists in today's world and also referred to the opportunities available for them in the globalised world.

Dr. K.R.Murugan, Dean, Faculty of Arts, Alagappa University, in his felicitation, referred to the efficacy of music and explained how classical music is being used as a therapy to cure diseases.

Earlier Dr. S. Rajaram, Professor and Head i/c, Department of Fine Arts, Alagappa University, welcomed the gathering and Dr. P. Natarajan, Principal, Kalai Kaveri College of Fine Arts, Tiruchirappalli, proposed a vote of thanks.

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY CELEBRATED

National Science Day on the theme "Women in Science" was formally inaugurated on February 28, 2020 by Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University at the Science Campus, Alagappa University, to commemorate the day on which the Nobel Laureate Sir. C. V. Raman discovered the Raman Effect 92 years ago. Prof. S. Karutha Pandian, Dean, Faculty of Science while welcoming the gathering referred to the importance of celebrating the National Science Day.



In his inaugural address Prof. Rajendran traced the history of science starting from the discoveries and inventions of Galileo. He also mentioned that people from all walks of life should have scientific temper. Students of all streams should read History of Science and the journeys of great scientists, he added. He also narrated the contributions of women scientists from India such as Dr.V.Shanta, Cancer Institute (WIA), Adyar Chennai, Kalpana Chawla, astronaut and a space scientist from Karnal, Haryana, Asima Chatterjee, an organic chemist who developed the anti-epileptic drugs and Kamala Sohonie, a biochemist from Indore, Madhya Pradesh. He also pointed out that despite huge scientific advancement, many people are still clinging to superstitious beliefs. Thus, understanding and accepting science will be better for the mankind, he added. He stated that 73% of the Alagappa University students are women and they are performing well in education and research. Prof. K. Sanakaranarayanan, Director: USIC, proposed a vote of thanks. Registrar Prof. H. Gurumallesh Prabu, Syndicate Members, Heads of the Departments and Faculty members participated in the event. Students from various schools and colleges visited the Research Labs at Science Campus and interacted with Faculty Members and Research Scholars of Alagappa University.

Three-Day National Workshop on Advanced Nano Materials for Sustainable Energy and Sensor Applications



With the objectives of training the young research scholars to approach their research problems with a holistic perception and to inculcate in them the organisational skills, Alagappa University has been consistently supporting the young scholars to plan and organize conferences / workshops / seminars on the topic of their own choice under a common theme approved by the MHRD - sponsored RUSA 2.0 Scheme. As part of this endeavour, Research Scholars of the School of Physical and Chemical Sciences, Alagappa University, organized a three-day National Workshop on “Advanced Nano Materials for Sustainable Energy and Sensor Applications” (AN SEA 2020) from 4th to 6th March 2020.

Presiding over the inaugural function, Prof. N.Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, enumerated the feats and milestones achieved by the University over the years and how this institution is progressively striving to achieve global ranking. Dwelling on the importance of acquiring current knowledge in the chosen field of science, he exhorted the researchers to update their knowledge periodically so as to enhance their research skills and get innovative ideas for new research. Updating knowledge has become very essential in today’s world of knowledge explosion which

has been taking place so rapidly in all branches of science, technology, medicine, etc. The Vice-Chancellor stressed that the research scholars should focus on original and purposeful researches that are helpful to the society.

Focus should be on Multidisciplinary Collaborative Research

Prof. S. Sivasubramanian, former Vice-Chancellor, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, pointed out the correlation between independent, augmented and collaborative learning for achieving innovative and creative research. He highlighted the influence of Artificial Intelligence and the Digital Knowledge which have made the learning process faster and easier than yesteryears. By making the best use of these modern tools, the young research scholars should focus on multi-disciplinary collaborative research covering different areas such as Bio-Electronics, Bio-Sensors, Energy Science, Nano Science & Technology, Physics and Chemistry.

Dr. Sethu Gunasekaran, Founder-President of the Indian Spectro-Physics Association (ISPA), enlightened the participants on the enormous scope available for young innovators and inventors in India for converting their knowledge into useful products. He also urged the research scholars to focus on quality research rather than simply increasing the number of publications in less important and predatory journals. He also pointed out that the current H-index, a key indicator of research quality, is 426 for India as against that of 1783 for the United States of America. Hence, it is high time that our researchers focused on citable quality research.

Dr. Ramesh R Varier, Managing Director, AVN Arogya Healthcare Ltd., Madurai, in his special address, invited the research scholars

to focus on researches which are urgently needed for scientific validation of Ayurveda Products of India. The enormous and priceless wealth of knowledge available in India on various indigenous medical systems and practices should be validated scientifically and made available to the people so as to reduce the cost of medical expenditure and curing disease without side effect. He also pointed out that Alagappa University has recently entered into an MoU with his organization towards promoting collaborative research which aimed at addressing the needs of the society.

The research scholars of Alagappa University Ms.Karkuzhali welcomed the gathering, Ms. Priyanka presented the thematic address and Ms. Anancia Grace proposed a vote of thanks.

Prof. C. Sekar, RUSA 2.0 Theme Coordinator, acted as Convener of the Workshop which was organised by ten research scholars from the Schools of Physical and Chemical Sciences.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

2nd International Conference on Mathematical Modelling and Computational Methods in Science and Engineering (ICMMCMSE-2020)



The 2nd International Conference on Mathematical Modelling and Computational Methods in Science and Engineering (ICMMCMSE-2020) was held at Alagappa

University under the auspices of the School of Mathematics and the Department of Mathematics from 22nd to 24th January, 2020.

Presiding over the inaugural function Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, said that Mathematics plays a crucial role in almost all scientific and other researches and hence a mastery over mathematics has become essential for researchers in all fields. In recent years computational mathematics and mathematical modelling are contributing enormously to multidisciplinary research and they are intrinsically connected with researches in business, economics, engineering, medicine and social sciences. He added that mathematical modelling has significantly contributed to medical research; and biomedical modelling has helped to investigate viral infection all along and today it has helped to recognise corona virus which is said to be highly hazardous to human life. He said that the gathering of experts in various fields of mathematics from abroad has paved the way for signing of MoUs for collaborative research at Alagappa University.

A souvenir containing abstracts of research papers was released by the Vice-Chancellor and the copies were received by the distinguished guests. In all 315 papers were presented in 13 technical sessions conducted on all the three days of the conference. Of these 40 papers were presented by scholars from abroad.

Prof. Martin Bohner, Missouri University of Science and Technology, USA, Prof. Dumitru Baleanu, Cankaya University, Turkey, Prof. Valentina Emilia Balas, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad, Romania, Prof. Poom Kumam, King Mongkut's University of Technology, Thailand, Prof. Chee-Peng Lim, Deakin University, Australia, Prof. Fathalla A.

Rihan, United Arab Emirates University, UAE and Prof. Ovidiu Bagdasar, University of Derby, England delivered invited lectures.

Distinguished Indian Mathematicians Prof. Natesan Srinivasan, IIT, Guwahati, Prof. Paramasivan Arumugam, IIT, Roorkee, Prof. Muslim Malik, IIT, Mandi, Prof. E. Natrajan, Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology, Trivanduram and Dr. Izhar Uddin, Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi were the other star speakers at the conference.

Earlier, Dr. N. Anbazhagan, Professor and Head, Department of Mathematics, Alagappa University, in his welcome address, referred to the objectives of the conference. The main aim is to provide a forum for researchers and experts from Mathematics background in science and engineering to exchange information about recent trends in this field and to expose the scholars here to innovative and interdisciplinary research. Dr. R. Raja, Convener of the conference, proposed a vote of thanks.

National Conference on Challenges in Mathematical Modelling



The Department of Mathematics, Alagappa University, organized a National Conference on “Challenges in Mathematical Modelling” on 20.02.2020 at the Convocation Seminar Hall.

While delivering the presidential address Prof. N.Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, referred to the close linkage between

history and mathematics; and he added that in ancient India our ancestors used mathematics in a remarkable way which could be seen in the constructions of massive temples, forts, palaces and dams which proclaim the genius of our ancient architects and planners. He added that American Historian Robert Fogel published a book with the title “Time on the Cross” for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in the year 1994. He propounded a concept called “Cliometrics” which highlights a technique for scientific interpretation of economics, using the mathematical and statistical analysis. The Vice-Chancellor exhorted the participants to create a passion for learning mathematics among students and also explained the importance and the joy of sharing mathematical knowledge with others.

Mathematics is at the Base of All Science Subjects

Dr. Pankaj Srivastava, Mothilal Nehru National Institute of Technology, Allahabad, while delivering the inaugural address, elaborated on the connection between Mathematics and various other fields such as Medical Science, Astrology etc. He said that the traditional way of imparting Mathematical Education, especially at the Undergraduate and Post graduate levels requires major changes and the curricula should be redesigned, according to the changing demands in the domains of Science and Technology, Humanities and Management . He also said that mathematics students must learn from the current trends in Medical Science as how it has completely changed over the years, catering to the changing needs of the people. There are numerous areas in Medical Science where new modelling systems are being used for achieving tangible results which have proved to be highly beneficial to mankind.

Dr.B.Krishnakumar, Department of Mathematics, Anna University, Chennai, offered felicitation. He advised the students to utilise their knowledge in proper and effective ways so that they can reach greater heights. He explained in detail about various mathematical modellings which are used in the current scenario in various fields. Further he explained the subtle variation between the ancient mathematics and new mathematical techniques employed now. The researchers from various fields like Biology, Computer Science, Physics etc use mathematics for finding solutions to the existing problems. He also asked the researchers to give equal importance to research in pure and applied mathematics.

Earlier, Dr. N.Anbalagan, Professor and Head, Department of Mathematics welcomed the gathering. Dr. S.Amudha, Assistant Professor, proposed a vote of thanks.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

Professor Attends Leadership for Academicians Programme (LEAP)

Dr. K. Sankaranarayanan, Professor of Physics, Alagappa University, was nominated for Leadership for Academicians Programme from Alagappa University; and he was selected for LEAP training programme by the MHRD. It was a three-week orientation cum training programme held during December 2019 - January, 2020. He underwent training at IIT, (BHU) and also at JBS, University of Cambridge, UK and he successfully completed the training. It may be recalled that Dr. G. Ravi, Professor and Head, Department of Physics, underwent LEAP training at the Central University of Hyderabad and Monash University, Australia in Jan 2019.

Invited Talk Delivered at International Conference

Dr. G. Ravi, Professor and Head, Department of Physics, delivered an Invited Talk on the research finding entitled “Tailoring optical data storage characteristics by Mn doping in different compositions of Lithium Niobate single crystals” at the International Conference on “PHRONESIS” organized by the World Congress on Lasers, Optics and Photonics held from 23rd to 25th September 2019, in Barcelona, Spain.



Scholar Selected for a Meeting with Nobel Laureates at Lindau, Germany

Once in every year, around 30-40 Nobel Laureates gather in Lindau, Germany, to meet the next generation of leading scientists: This year 660 young scientists from 101 countries have been invited to the 70th anniversary of the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings taking place from 28th June to 3rd July 2020 in Lindau, Germany. Ms.B. Jansi Rani, Research Scholar, Department of Physics, doing her research under the guidance of Dr.R.Yuvakkumar, Assistant Professor and Co-guidance of Prof.G.Ravi, Head of the Department of Physics, has been selected to participate in the 70th anniversary of the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings. She has published 30 research articles in highly reputed SCOPUS indexed journals within a short duration of 3 years. Of the 30 candidates selected from India, Ms. B. Jansi Rani, Alagappa University, is the only candidate selected

from Tamilnadu as a Young Researcher. Her transportation expenditure to attend the meeting is to be met by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), India. Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, Prof. H. Gurumallesh Prabu, Registrar, Prof. G. Ravi, Head of the department of Physics and all the staff members from Alagappa University congratulated her on her selection.

Alagappa University Scholars Undergo Training in Institutions Abroad

Mr.P.Sakthivel and Mr.P.Rajkumar, Research Scholars at the Physics Department, underwent training in Nanyang Technological University, Singapore and National Taiwan University of Science and Technology, Taiwan respectively under Student Exchange Programme during January 2020. They got intensive training in the field of Perovskite solar cells and Lithium ion batteries for alternate renewable energy sources.

CSIR-NET/GATE Coaching Classes

The Department of Physics organized a series of CSIR-NET/GATE coaching classes during January-February 2020. Experts from various institutions were invited to conduct training and coaching classes for the aspirants. A special emphasis was given to solve problems in the afternoon sessions. Dr. S.S. Naina Mohammed, Government Arts College, Udumalpet, delivered a special lecture on Mathematical Physics, Dr. A. Basheerudin Mahmud Ahmed, Assistant Professor of Physics, Madurai Kamaraj University, delivered a special lecture on Quantum Mechanics, Dr. P. Philominathan, Professor, AVVM Sri Pushpam College delivered a special lecture on Statistical Mechanics, Mr. R. Kapilan, Nehru Memorial College, Thiruchirapalli delivered a special lecture on Electromagnetic Theory, Dr. C. Raja

Mohan, Gandhigram Rural University delivered a special lecture on Quantum Mechanics. The Coaching Classes were organized by the coordinator Dr. M. Ramesh Prabhu, Assistant Professor of Physics, Alagappa University, Karaikudi.



Special Lecture by Eminent Scientist

Dr. Parasuraman Padmanabhan, Head of Operation, Cognitive Neuroimaging Centre, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore delivered a special lecture on “Opportunities and Advancement in Cognitive Neuroimaging – An overview” on 13.12.2019 in the Seminar Hall of the Department of Physics.

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY

Nobel Excellence Theme Talks -2019 (AcT NExT-2019) Conducted

The Department of Industrial Chemistry, Alagappa University, conducted the Nobel Excellence Talks -2019 (AcT NExT-2019) on 13th March 2020. Prof. G. Paruthimal Kalaigan, Senior Professor & Head, Department of Industrial Chemistry, welcomed the gathering and explained the importance of organising “Nobel Excellence Talks” titled AcT NExT-2019 every year at the University by various Departments of Study Prof. S. Karuthapandian, Dean, Faculty of Science, explained the role of some Nobel Prize winners and their contribution to the research on Lithium

-ion batteries. The guest speaker at the event Prof. A. Vadivel Murugan, Professor and Head, Centre for Nano Science & Technology, Pondicherry University, Puducherry narrated his research work experience with Nobel Laureate John B. Goodenough of USA. who developed the Lithium -ion battery materials during his research in Nobel Laureate Lab at University of Texas, Austin, USA.

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2019 was awarded to three eminent scientists -- John B. Goodenough, Stanley Whittingham and Akira Yoshino. The distinguished guest speaker said that foundation of the lithium-ion battery was laid during the oil crisis in 1970s. Stanley Whittingham from UK worked on developing methods that could lead to fossil fuel-free energy technologies for the development of prototype lithium-ion battery.



Akira Yoshino, Japan created the first commercially viable lithium-ion battery in 1985. Lithium-ion batteries have revolutionized our lives since they first entered the market in 1991. They have laid the foundation for a wireless, fossil fuel-free society, and are of great benefit to humanity. Four invited lectures were arranged on that occasion. The first lecture was delivered by Dr. A. Vadivel Murugan and he spoke on Challenges and Opportunities of Electrical Energy Storage Technologies. The second lecture was delivered by Prof.C.Gopinathan, Professor and Head, Department. of Solar Energy, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai

on Solar Energy Utilization. The third and the fourth lectures were delivered by Dr.R.Sindhuja and Dr.R.Venkatesan, Senior Scientists from CSIR-CECRI, Karaikudi on Simulating Lithium ion Battery Behaviour for Different Applications and Hydrogen Fuel Cells - A Transition from Conventional to Renewable Energy Sources respectively.

At the end of the event, Dr.T.Stalin, Assistant Professor, proposed a vote of thanks.

DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY

Notable Publications



- Dr. A. Arun, Associate Professor and Head (i/c), Department of Microbiology, published three book chapters -- two in Springer Nature, Switzerland and one in Scrivener Publishing, Wiley, USA.
- Professor Iyyam Pillai, Coordinator, Student Empowerment Cell (STEM) Alagappa University, interacted with M.Sc Microbiology students on 12.02.2020 and provided coaching for the preparation of NET and JRF exams on 12.2.2020.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF LIFE LONG LEARNING

Senior Citizens Day Celebrated

The Department of Life Long Learning, Alagappa University, Karaikudi conducted the Senior Citizens Day on 3.2.2020.



Presiding over the function Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, said that the current scenario of increasing old age homes indicated that most of the youth focus only on earning money and accumulating wealth and they have neglected their duties to their aged parents. They should remember to treat their aged parents with love and affection and they should consider it as their prime responsibility which would ultimately give them inner peace and happiness. According to studies conducted by psychologists, showing kindness, concern and empathy and extending support to senior citizens would help them get quick relief from physical and mental stress and ailments.

Prof. Rama. Ramanathan, Former Professor of Tamil, Alagappa University, delivered the keynote address. Attributing the reason for his continuing happiness till date, he said that he remained always grateful to his parents and teachers and revered them at all times; and he exhorted the youth to treat their parents, teachers and all aged people with love, care and concern. He advised the students to follow good teachers as their role models for reaping success.

Mr. William Durairaj, Retired Headmaster, Alagappa Model Hr. Sec. School, gave the special address. He asked the youth to learn from rich experiences of elders and senior citizens and seek their guidance for leading a successful and ethical life.

An enlightening debate on “Social and Personal Problems of Senior Citizens and Remedial Measures” was conducted in which ten students representing the Departments of Education, Special Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, Journalism and Mass Communication and Skill Development participated. Thiru. Tokyo Ramanathan acted as the moderator.

Prof. H. Gurumallesh Prabu, Registrar, Alagappa University distributed the certificates to the participants of the debate.

Earlier Prof. P. Paul Devanesan, Dean, Faculty of Education, welcomed the gathering. Dr. N. Johnson, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Life Long Learning, proposed a vote of thanks.

**DEPARTMENT OF
SPECIAL EDUCATION AND
REHABILITATION SCIENCE**

**Resource School Students Participate
in District Level Differently Abled
Sports Competitions**



- Students from the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Science and more than 30 Students of Alagappa University Resource School for Differently Abled enthusiastically participated in the District level Differently Abled Sports Competitions conducted by the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu at the Open Air Stadium in Sivagangai on 14.02.2020. Students of the Resource

School -- V.Sowmiya, R.Akshaya, M. Muthu Karuppaiah, R. Rajagopalan, R. Rajapandi, M. Manogar and P. Kabin Sindhu and V. Neelakandan M.Ed (VI sem) Special Education -- won prizes in various sports events. The Sivagangai District Collector Thiru. J. Jeyakanathan distributed the prizes to the Students and delivered a motivational talk.

Awareness Programme on Nutrition & Dietics



- An Awareness Programme on Nutrition & Dietics was organised on 12th March 2020 by the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Science in collaboration with Muthumeenakshi Hospital, Pudukkottai. Dr. Shobana, Senior Dietician and Dr. Shankar from Muthumeenakshi Hospital, Pudukkottai, gave Special Lectures on Balanced Diet and Healthy Food Habits. They stressed on the importance of balanced diet and advised the students to cultivate it as a habit to eat balanced and nutritious diet to lead a healthy life and to get immunity from diseases.

Two-Day National Workshop on Universal Design for Learning

A Two-Day National Workshop on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Embedded with Assistive Technology for Children with Special Needs was organized by the Department



of Special Education and Rehabilitation Science of Alagappa University, Karaikudi, on 9.3.2020.

Vice-Chancellor Prof. N. Rajendran, Alagappa University, who presided over the inaugural session of the workshop, said that special educators have to be highly dedicated teachers for handling children with special needs. These teachers should be “patience personified” and committed to teaching learners of diverse needs. The curriculum should be designed based on the needs of diverse learners. When the curriculum is designed with the base of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) it would effectively meet the needs of diversified population. Assistive Technology helps to design the UDL based curriculum in a more effective way. The technological advancements have made the teaching-learning process innovative and assist all children in inclusive set up. He said that this technology could be used for teaching as well as training purposes. He noted that the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Science is contributing to a significant level by incorporating innovative technological devices to teach children with visual disabilities. The assistive and adaptive devices available in the Department are serving the students with visual disabilities. He added that this workshop would provide a hands-on experience to the special educators working in the field to implement UDL based teaching embedded with assistive technology effectively.

In his inaugural address Dr. S. Rajaguru, Former Principal, Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya College of Education, noted that Universal Design for Learning is significant in meeting the needs of all the children in a regular classroom. This workshop on Universal Design for Learning embedded with Assistive Technology for Children with Special Needs is the need of the hour to implement inclusive education successfully.

Dr.R.Sree Priya, Regional Director, National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities, Regional Centre, Chennai, delivered the keynote address. She made a significant point to design normal curriculum to be a universal design for learning based curriculum to meet the needs of children with special needs. She stressed on the importance of UDL principles in the implementation of inclusive education.

More than 200 participants consisting of special educators, prospective teachers and research scholars from Sivagangai District, CSI College of Education, Madurai and the students from various Departments of Alagappa University attended the workshop.

The valedictory function was held on 10th March. Prof. H. Gurumallesh Prabu, Registrar, Alagappa University, presided over the function and distributed the certificates to the participants. The valedictory address was delivered by Prof. P. Jeyachandran, Director, Vijay Human Services, Chennai. Dr.K.Gunasekaran, proposed a vote of thanks.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- Students of B.Ed (IV sem), B.Ed (ID) and M.Ed (IV sem) Programmes of the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Science visited Valliammai

Montessori School in Pudukkottai on 09th January 2020. They learnt about Montessori and Pre-vocational Training Programme.

- In the Pongal celebrations held on 10.01.2020 at the department, the students of Alagappa University Resource School for Differently Abled enthusiastically participated in various competitions and games.
- All the Students of the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Science visited on 27th January 2020 the Mental Illness Rehabilitation Centre in Ariyakudi run by the "Brothers of Charity" and gained knowledge about various activities of the centre.
- Students of First Year M.Ed (II sem) Special Education and M.Sc (Psychology) visited Anugraha Institute of Social Sciences, in Dindigul on 31st Jan 2020. Students could gain practical knowledge about Counselling Techniques.
- Students from the Department of International Business visited the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Science and Alagappa University Resource School for Differently Abled. They learnt about various activities like Artificial Limb Production, Braille Machines and Assistive Technology Devices available at the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Science.

ALAGAPPA INSTITUTE OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Two-Day International Conference on Skills for Clothing Sector – Transforming the Training Functions

The inaugural function of a “Two-Day International Conference on Skills for Clothing Sector – Transforming the Training Functions” sponsored under RUSA Phase 2.0 Scheme and organized by the Alagappa Institute of Skill Development of Alagappa University, Karaikudi was held on 22.1.2020.

Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor of Alagappa University, in his presidential address said, “Clothing sector is one of the oldest industries contributing greatly to Indian economy. India is the world's second largest exporter of textiles and clothing. History shows that Indian textile export has a long tradition dating back to several centuries. Export of garments and accessories from India are routed to all corners of the world and 70% of the exported clothing products go to USA, European Union and Canada. The remaining 30% goes to Africa, East Europe, Australia, New Zealand and countries in the Pacific Ocean”.

He further said that, in India, the clothing sector is the second largest employer after agriculture. According to a recent statistics, the overall employment in the sector which is estimated at 35 million currently would increase to 62 million by 2022. Clothing sector is one of the largest sectors in India that adopts recent technological advancements on a large scale. Owing to unprecedented technological transformations, shortage of skilled workforce and a mismatch between education and the needs of the industry are considered as the

matters of great concern for the textile industry. As such this would affect India's competitiveness in the global market.

Clothing Sector -- A Major Contributor to GDP

As clothing sector is one of the major contributors to GDP growth of our country, shortage of skilled labour in this sector would affect the economic growth of our country. Since, our educational system changed in several ways during the colonial period, so far our training functions are concentrated on equipping students with Reading, Writing, Arithmetic and some sort of Soft skills. It is the right time to focus on this issue to create an effective policy framework towards offering quality vocational training to the students at their graduation levels that would be beneficial for both the employees as well as the employers.

Alagappa University is planning to bring a few schemes under RUSA 2.0 scheme to offer both technical and financial support to the youth of this region in order to create budding entrepreneurs and skilled workforce in the clothing sector.

Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe, Former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Vocational Technology, Sri Lanka, inaugurated the conference. In his address, he explained the modern trends and techniques used in global clothing sector. Further, he urged the students to hone their research interest even at the graduation level itself to become good product developers so as to become successful entrepreneurs.

Prof. K. Murugesh Babu from the College of Textile and Clothing Engineering, Soochow University, China, delivered the keynote address. In his address, he illustrated how the modern technological trends like, Computer Aided Design (CAD), Artificial Intelligence, Virtual Reality have changed the very working of the clothing sector.

Mr. S. Periasamy, CEO of Atal Incubation Centre - NIFT-TEA for Textiles and Apparels, Tirupur, delivered the special address. Dr. P. Paul Devanesan, Dean, Faculty of Education, Alagappa University, offered felicitation. Earlier Prof. B. Dharmalingam, Director (i/c.), Alagappa Institute of Skill Development, welcomed the delegates. Dr. G. Mahesh, Assistant Professor, Alagappa Institute of Skill Development and the Organizing Secretary of the Conference presented the thematic introduction.

Modern Methods of Training Needed

In this International Conference, eminent resource persons from various institutions and industries of national and international repute delivered invited talks on topics such as, 'Challenges for textile and apparel sector from the disruption of Fourth Industrial Revolution, Skills for apparel professionals, IOT-AI- Moving towards smart textiles, Skills for fashion - industry 4.0, Modern methods of training for clothing sector, Medical textiles - scope and challenges ahead, Emerging trends and opportunities in clothing industry for fashion students, Stages in design thinking and its application in skill development, Forecasting skill needs in clothing industry and Emerging trends and opportunities in clothing sector.



As part of this Conference, Alagappa Institute of Skill Development signed MoUs with Anugraha Fashion Knitwear, a leading export industry in Tirupur; and Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Career Hub of Alagappa University with Atal Incubation Centre - NIFT-TEA, Tirupur. Initiatives are being taken to sign MoUs with Central Silk Board, Bengaluru and Apparel MadeUps and Home Furnishing Sector Skill Council, New Delhi.

For presentation in this conference, 101 research papers were received on the theme of recent trends and issues pertaining to clothing sector from Foreign and Indian Institutions and Industries.

GRAND FACON FEST-2020 CONDUCTED



Alagappa Institute of Skill Development organized the grand Facon Fest-2020 on 04.3.2020. This fete was conducted with a view to gauging the creative talents of students. Different competitions like Designer Contest, Mehandi, Fashion Illustration, Wealth from

Waste, Saree Draping, Face Painting etc. were conducted in which nearly 500 students from various colleges of Thanjavur, Trichy, Affiliated Colleges of Alagappa University and the Departments of Alagappa University participated. The students pursuing Fashion Technology Programme exhibited their immense talents in the designer show which was the prime attraction of the fashion festival. The overall championship was won by Bharath College of Science and Management, Thanjavur in this festival.

Alagappa University Vice-Chancellor Prof. N.Rajendran delivered the presidential address and spoke about the importance given to fashion designing in recent times and referred to the popularity it is gaining among the modern youth. He said that India is known for its heritage of traditional textiles and people are still giving importance to traditional wear. Textile and clothing sectors contribute substantially to the world's second biggest economic activity and account for 7% of world exports. This sector accounts for 14 percent of industrial production, 4% of GDP, 27% of country's foreign exchange inflows. It provides direct employment to over 45 million people and it is the second largest provider of employment after agriculture in India. Most of the Indian manufacturers are exporting textile goods to the European countries. History shows the talent of the weavers of ancient India and how the merchants of other countries showed keener interest in buying cloth designed and woven by these weavers. It is documented in history that the Romans had shown their preference to the textile materials made in South India.

The special address was delivered by Mr.K.S. Yuvaraj, Head-Design and Development, GK Groups, Project Consultant, YSAP Consultancy, Coimbatore. He spoke

about the sustainable fashion and its impact on the current fashion trends. He said that women entrepreneurs are actively participating in textile and apparel business in the past three years. He urged the students to visit showrooms and malls which display different brands of apparels and textile products. They should also make a critical review of the most preferred brands and designs meant for different seasons and the designers' creativity. They must study the famous designer collections and fabric preferences so as to imbibe inspirational ideas. He also referred to the huge employment opportunities available in the field of fashion designing.

Professor T. R Guruumoorthy, Member of the Syndicate, Alagappa University, delivered the felicitation address and he said that it is the very best field for women to showcase their creativity. Earlier, the Department Director Prof. B. Dharmalingam welcomed the gathering and Dr.G.Mahesh, Assistant Professor, proposed a vote of thanks.

ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Workshop on Cognition and Teaching Competency

The inaugural ceremony of the national level Workshop on "Cognition and Teaching Competency" organized by Alagappa University College of Education was held on 05.03.2020 at Alagappa University. Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, presided over the function and delivered the presidential address. He said that "Education is the backbone of the nation" because education plays a pivotal role in innovations and helps in the socialization process. Teaching competency contributes to cognitive learning which would enhance the standard of education. Further, he classified the concept of study, learning and joyful learning. The exceptional knowledge one

gets in life is when the teacher communicates in a proper way. Good teaching of concepts synchronize the mind and the heart of a listener. Blended classroom is one where the students and teachers learn co-operatively with the help of ICT and this triggers the cognition in the learner. He asked the students to make use of MOOCs platform for enriching their knowledge and evince keen interest in personalized learning which will lead to lifelong learning.

Professor A. Jahitha Begam, Professor and Head, Dept. of Education, Gandhigram Rural Institute, Dindigul, delivered the inaugural address. In her address, she emphasized the importance of cognition and explained how cognition takes place in the Artificial Intelligence.

Dr. Sankaranarayanan Paleeri, Head, Dept. of Social Science Education, NSS Training College, Ottapalam, explained the nuances of cognition which could convert teaching into a dynamic process.

Earlier Dr. A.Balu, Principal, AUCE welcomed the gathering. At the end, Dr. M. Shanmuga Revathi, Assistant Professor of Education and Organizing Secretary of the Workshop proposed a vote of thanks.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH SCIENCE

Fit India Movement

Seminar on “Natural Food – A Necessity”

As part of the “Fit India Movement” initiated by the Prime Minister of India, the Department of Physical Education and Health Science, Alagappa University, organized a seminar on the theme “Natural Food – A Necessity” on 06.03.2020.



Presiding over the inaugural session of the seminar, Prof. H. Gurmallesh Prabu, Registrar, Alagappa University, said that the balanced diet opted by our ancestors gave them enormous physical strength to do hard work besides giving them excellent immunity power. They preferred to eat “navathaniyangal” (nine types of grains) and they were really refreshing to their body and mind and also helped them maintain sound health. In the changed scenario of today, a vast majority of people eat fast food without caring for their health; and at the same time many health-conscious people, understanding the significance of natural food for nourishing their health, have started searching for natural food. He said that this kind of seminars would help to create an awareness among the youth on the need for and necessity of natural food.

Dr. P. Sathiyarajewaran, Director i/c, Siddha Medical Research Centre, said that the topic of the seminar is highly relevant in the present scenario. Quoting profusely from *Thirukkural* he referred to the views and advice given by Thiruvalluvar about healthy eating habits and how they enriched nutrient value in the human body. He highlighted the need for natural food and explained how natural food is being compared to medicine in the Tamil Sangam Literature.

Earlier, Prof. K. Balasubramanian, Professor and Head, Department of Physical Education and Health Science, while welcoming the gathering, elaborated on the main purpose of the seminar. Dr. D. Maniazhagu, Assistant Professor, proposed a vote of thanks.

ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

AUCPE Team Wins Second Place in 4th Annual State Level Handball Tournament



Alagappa University College of Physical Education (AUCPE) team won the second place in the Fourth Annual State Level Men's Handball Open Tournament held on 20th and 21st February at Selvam Physical Education College in Namakkal District.

A total of 54 teams comprising various college teams and other special teams participated in the mega event.

In the knock-out, AUCPE team defeated Madurai Thiyagaraja Engineering College team by securing 22 points whereas the defeated team secured only 10 points. In the second match Alagappa University Team defeated Muthiah Ammal Arts College team by a margin of 8 points. The final score was 25-17.

In the quarterfinals of the tournament AUCPE team beat Bharathiar University team with a score point of 17-10; and in the semi-

finals the AUCPE team beat the strong South Zone Police team by scoring 35 points and the SZP team secured 30 points.

In the final match Dindigul GTN College team won the first place and AUCPE team finished second with the final score points of 39-33.

Mr.T.Sathishkumar, a second year B.P.Ed student of Alagappa College of Physical Education was adjudged the best athlete (player). The members of the AUCPE team met Vice-Chancellor Prof. N.Rajendran on 25.02.2020 and sought his blessings. Dr.M.Sundar, Principal, AUCPE and Assistant Professor P.Yoga were present on the occasion.

FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT

ALAGAPPA INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT

National Level Management Meet "Samrajaim 2020"



A National Level Management Meet "Samrajaim 2020" was organized by the students of Alagappa Institute of Management, Alagappa University, on 07.02.2020 at the University Auditorium.

The purpose of the event was to provide a platform to the budding managers from the B-schools of the country to showcase their creativity, analytical, technical and inter personal skills in four distinct events such as Best

Manager Identification, Business Plan Contest, Business Quiz and Ad Zap. Students from 24 B-Schools participated in the mega event.

Presiding over the programme, Prof. N.Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, said that institutions are made great by great men. Class rooms are, indeed, laboratories where great men are trained, who in turn, make their alma mater great by bringing vibrancy and visibility to them. Emphasising the passion for learning, he said that students should evince keen interest in mastering the concepts and whatever they learnt should be put into practice and that will bring definite success; and this should be borne in mind as mantra by every B-School student. He added that success does not come in a day and easily and it is not a lottery but it requires lot of hard-work. He added that students should focus not only on books but also equip themselves to meet the challenges in the society in a most pragmatic way . Continuous hard work, unstinted perseverance and total dedication are secrets that are essential for attaining success. In this context, he quoted the example of the life of Jack Maa, CEO of Alibaba Group of Companies, who has achieved remarkable success in his business.

Mr. U. Peter Sagayaraj, Co-Promoter & Director of Jayam Academy, Chennai, delivered the inaugural address. He spoke about the business acumen of Vallal Dr. Alagappa Chettiar and referred to his philanthropy which helped the rural society to get education. He asked the student-community to develop a right vision and ability to execute their plans.

Mr.V.S.Sasikumar, Creative Director, PraanhaMarcomm Solution, Chennai, delivered

the special address and invigorated the students by giving them the "FORMULA" to become number 1 in their life.

Prof.T.R.Gurumoorthy, Dean, Faculty of Management, delivered the felicitation address. Mr.Gopinath Ramachandran, Director, Business Development, WCC Advanced Network, North America - Altran and Mr.R.S.Ramsaravana, Co-Founder – Organic Square in (IIM-Lucknow) were among those who spoke on the occasion.

Dr. S.Chandramohan, Professor of Alagappa Institute of Management, Alagappa University and Event co-ordinator - Samrajaiim-2020, welcomed the gathering.

Mr. M.Abdulrahman, the student coordinator-Samrajaiim-2020, proposed a vote of thanks.

DEPARTMENT OF LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT

Visit of Adjunct Faculty to the Department



Dr. Nachiappan Subramanian, Professor of Operations and Logistics Management and Supply Chains from the Department of Management, University of Sussex, Brighton, United Kingdom, visited the Department of Logistics Management under RUSA 2.0 Scheme.

He delivered a series of Special Lectures to the Students of the Department for 4 days from 20th and 23rd January 2020. The topics dealt with included: Global Logistics, Principles and Practices of Logistics Management, Logistics and SCM, Frontiers in Management Research, Strategies for Citation Metrics, Transportation Modes, IT and Its Use in Logistics and SCM. Interesting and Informative Interactive sessions were also conducted on latest developments like Block Chain Technology, Outsourcing and Off shoring, Hyper Customization, Sensitivity Analysis and Reverse Logistics. Dr.P.Rajan Chinna, Assistant Professor, DoLM, coordinated the visit of the adjunct faculty.

Professor Honoured with Amity Excellence Award



Dr.M.Senthil, Professor & Head, Department of Logistics Management, Alagappa University, was conferred with the Amity Excellence Award for “Best HOD in the Area of Operations Management” during INBUSH ERA World Summit 2020 on 19th February, 2020 at Amity University, Noida, U.P., India.

It may be noted that Amity Academic Excellence Awards are given every year to selected academicians and administrators for their expert guidance, keen involvement and strategic approach.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

One Day Seminar on “ACT NEXT: Nobel Prize in PEACE – 2019



The Department of Commerce in association with other Departments of the University organised a One Day Seminar on “ACT NEXT: Nobel Prize in PEACE – 2019” on 11th March, 2020 at the Management Block Seminar Hall.

Prof.N.Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, in his presidential address, stated that peace is the most important and basic need for the socio-economic development of a nation. Tolerance is the base for peace; and intolerance is a violation of human rights. He added that peace is the source of all developmental activities and for enjoying the development non-violence is absolutely essential. Non – Violence is not cowardice, according to Gandhi. The Vice-Chancellor dwelt on the contributions of Mr.Abiy Ahamed Ali, Prime Minister of Ethiopia, who was honoured with the Nobel Prize for Peace in the year 2019. He was given this award for promoting love, peace and harmony in the neighbourhood of his country, he added. All developments of a country will be destroyed in a few seconds by the war. The ill-effects of modern war will continue to affect people generation after generation. War, in fact, originates in the minds of the people. Horrendous ill-effects of war should be perceived by all and the concept of peace is to be promoted for the welfare of the people of the world. Wars could be prevented only by world peace.

Mr.K.M.Natarajan, Secretary, Gandhi Museum, Madurai, in his inaugural address, highlighted how world leaders like Martin Luther King.Jr and Nelson Mandela advocated and followed Gandhian principles to ensure peace and prosperity for the people of the world. These followers of the principles of Mahatma Gandhi were honoured with the Nobel Prize for Peace. It is a victory to Gandhian ideals of peace. He highlighted various facts regarding wars with historical evidence and narrated their worst consequences which led to the cruel destruction of millions of people.

Dr.K.R.Murugan, Dean, Faculty of Arts welcomed the gathering. Dr.T.R.Gurumoorthy, Professor and Head, Department of Commerce, delivered the thematic address and highlighted the significance of peace for the prosperity of a country. Dr.A.Balu, Principal i/c, College of Education, offered felicitations. Dr.A.R.Saravanakumar, Head i/c, Department of History proposed a vote of thanks. Professors and Students from the Faculty of Management, Arts and Education attended the seminar. Dr.G.Kanagavalli, Assistant Professor organised this event.

**DIRECTORATE OF
DISTANCE EDUCATION**

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Two-Day International Conference on Mahatma Gandhi's Contribution to Education, Culture and Society



The inaugural function of a Two-Day International Conference on “Mahatma Gandhi’s Contribution to Education, Culture and Society” organised by the Education Department of the Directorate of Distance Education, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, was held on 26.02.2020 at the Seminar Hall of the Convocation Auditorium. The seminar was sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research and RUSA 2.0 Scheme.

Presiding over the inaugural function, Vice-Chancellor .Prof.N.Rajendran accentuated the fact that the Gandhian philosophy of non violence would be the only logical and moral approach to the solution of racial and many other social problems encountered in the modern world. He also asserted that it was Gandhi’s conviction that a new social order could be evolved based on the solid pillar of truth and universal love. He also referred to Gandhian way of imparting education to the students. Gandhiji’s basic education focuses on preparing the young learners to become morally sound, individually independent, socially constructive, economically productive and responsible future citizens. His insistence on skill training would solve the problem of unemployment among the youth making them self-employed. Further the Vice-Chancellor said Mahatma Gandhi has influenced many international leaders around the world. His non-violent struggle certainly became an inspiration for many leaders like Martin Luther King Jr., James Beve, James Lawson, Nelson Mandela and LanzadelVasto.

Prof.Mustafizur Rahman, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of City University, Bangladesh, delivered the inaugural address. In his speech he said that Gandhiji fought for the people belonging to the marginalized sector as they lacked social fabric and support essential for proper social and economic growth. Prof.Diana

Lea Baranovich, University of Malaysia, in her keynote address, described Mahatma Gandhi as a unique personality and a compelling social innovator whose humanity transcended national and international boundaries.

A Souvenir containing research articles was released by the Vice-Chancellor and the copies were received by the distinguished guests. Earlier, Dr.P.Sivakumar, Head of the Department of Education, DDE welcomed the gathering. Dr.D. Baskaran, Assistant Professor, proposed a vote of thanks.

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA CENTRE FOR HIGHER RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

NATIONAL YOUTH DAY CELEBRATED



The National Youth Day (NYD-2020) was celebrated at Alagappa University, in commemoration of the 158th Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. The function was organised by Swami Vivekananda Centre for Higher Research and Education (SVCHR&E) functioning at the University.

Prof. K.R.Murugan, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Coordinator, SVCHR&E, in his welcome address said that this year's theme of National Youth Day is "Channelizing Youth Power for Nation-Building". Vivekananda had absolute faith in the youth power which he thought would contribute immensely to the nation's development. Hence his focus was mainly to educate and empower the youth. And this

year's theme is very appropriate as India with its enormous youth potential could emerge as a great leader among the comity of nations.

Action - Vivekananda's Message to Men

Presiding over the function, Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, said that Swami Vivekananda was "energy personified" and "action was his message to men". Highlighting the significance given by Swamiji to physical activities, the Vice-Chancellor said that physical labour could help greatly in getting relief from stress and tension. Swamiji rightly believed that a nation's progress and glory are in the hands of the youth. Hence the youth have to be guided properly for the betterment and prosperity of the family, the society and the nation at large, he added. Vivekananda reiterated the ideals of man-making education which would offer self empowerment to an individual. Swamiji's Chicago Address created a remarkable impact; and the attention of the entire world turned to him owing to his ideologies that were acceptable to entire humanity. It is always refreshing to read his speech and he has been adored all along as an icon of secularism by the people practising various religious faiths.

What Distinguishes Vivekananda from other Monks ?

Mr. S. Senthil Kumar of Vivekananda Cultural Academy, Tamil Nadu, quoting many incidents from Vivekananda's life illustrated the patriotism of Swamiji and it is this patriotic fervour that distinguished Swami Vivekananda from other renowned monks and savants. The sincerity of every word uttered by Swami Vivekananda in his Address to the Parliament of Religions on 11th September 1893 echoed in the hearts of the listeners. His eloquent and powerful utterances would surely fascinate the readers at all times.

In his special address, Swami Tatprabhananda Maharaj, Sri Ramakrishna Math, Madurai, referred to the struggles Vivekananda encountered during his tumultuous voyage to America and said that Swamiji was not at all deterred or disheartened by hardships. With determination he could convey in powerful language to the western world “what India stood for”

Vivekananda’s Pragmatic Advice

Swami Narayanananda Maharaj, Sri Ramakrishna Math, Coimbatore, said that Vivekananda not only took the spiritual heritage of India to the west but also gave pragmatic advice to the youth and asked them to “arise, awake and stop not till the goal is achieved”. He exhorted the students to translate Swamiji’s thought into living action. He concluded his speech by saying that Vivekananda’s message to the world is indeed the universal gospel.

Elocution, Quiz and Essay-Writing competitions were conducted in connection with the celebrations and the winners of the competitions from affiliated colleges and university departments were awarded prizes by the Vice-Chancellor.

Dr.M. Vasimalairaja, Deputy Co-ordinator, proposed a vote of thanks.

ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR VIVEKANANDA CADET CORPS (VCC) CO-ORDINATORS AND VOLUNTEERS OF AFFILIATED COLLEGES CONDUCTED

Swami Vivekananda Centre for Higher Research and Education, Alagappa University, organized an “Orientation Programme for Vivekananda Cadet Corps (VCC) Co-ordinators and Volunteers of Affiliated Colleges” at S.S.A. College of Arts & Science, A.Thekkur,



on 12th February 2020. The Centre has planned to organize Orientation Programme for Vivekananda Cadet Corps (VCC) Co-ordinators and Volunteers of Affiliated Colleges in a phased manner and the affiliated colleges have been categorized into five clusters. 60 members of the Second Cluster participated in the first meeting held on 12th Feb 2020. Dr. M. Hemamalini, Principal, S.S.A. College of Arts & Science, A.Thekkur, welcomed the gathering. Prof. K.R. Murugan, Co-ordinator, SVCHR&E, spoke about the activities of the Centre and said how Swami Vivekananda's ideas and thoughts play an important role in the development of youth. He also quoted the scintillating words of Swami Vivekananda and asked the students to get inspired from his noble thoughts. He added that Swami Vivekananda was proud of our culture, spirituality and heritage. Students should borne in mind the greatness of our culture and act accordingly to uphold our culture. Dr. M. Vasimalairaja, Deputy Co-ordinator, SVCHR&E said Swami Vivekananda was an icon of bravery; we must learn courage, valour and virtues from Swamiji. Everyone must train his mind to look at things with balance and with mindfulness. Mr. V. Lakshmanan, Programme Officer, SVCHR&E, spoke about Swami Vivekananda's faith on the power of youth. Swami believed that youngsters with the right mind-set working tirelessly will be successful in all times. Mrs. S. Nooriya Begam, VCC Co-ordinator, S.S.A. College of Arts & Science, proposed a vote of thanks.

The next orientation programme was held on 18th Feb 2020 at P.T.M.T.M College, Kamuthi. Dr. K. Jeyakalai, VCC Co-ordinator of the College, welcomed the gathering. Prof. V. Arunachalam, Principal, delivered the presidential address. He said that Vivekananda was one of the most influential spiritual leaders who propagated the ideals of the Vedanta philosophy. Dr. M. Vasimalairaja, Deputy Co-ordinator, SVCHR&E, said Swami Vivekananda during the English rule, acted as a beacon light in the gloomy India. His effective pearl-like words and splendid speech evoked a sense of nationalism among the people of India. Mr. V. Lakshmanan, Programme Officer, SVCHR&E, spoke about the nobility of Vivekananda and recalled the practical wisdom embedded in Swamiji's ideas. He said that Vivekananda believed that purity, perseverance and patience are essential for the success of the youth. He said he reads Vivekananda's texts daily to gain self-confidence and get peace of mind. Dr. Vagai.M. Pandian, Assistant Professor of History, P.T.M.T.M. College, proposed a vote of thanks.

Massive Energy Needed to Bring Social Change

The fourth orientation programme was held on 21st Feb 2020 at Mohamed Sathak Hamid College of Arts and Science for Women, Ramanathapuram. 110 members of the fourth cluster participated in the first meeting held at this college. Mrs. K. Meharunnisha, VCC Co-ordinator of this College, welcomed the gathering. Dr. A.R. Nadira Banu Kamal, Principal of the College, delivered the presidential address. She said that Swami Vivekananda once said, "whatever you think, that you will be. If you think yourselves weak, weak you will be; if you think yourselves strong, strong you will be." Dr. M. Vasimalairaja, Deputy Co-ordinator,

SVCHR&E said today's youth need enormous perseverance to come up in life and to overcome multifaceted challenges they face in society. With real perseverance they should understand the socio-political and ethical-moral issues and contribute to nation's development by their hard work. Mr. V. Lakshmanan, Programme Officer, SVCHR&E, said Swami Vivekananda believed that working for social changes required massive energy. Hence, he exhorted the youth to amplify both their mental energies and physical fitness. What Vivekananda wanted from the youth were 'muscles of iron' and 'nerves of steel' and he also wanted them to act steadfastly to achieve greater things. Today, the youth are exceptionally responsive and they just need to be encouraged in their quest for justice. Mrs. Anwar R Shaheen, Head, Department of Computer Application, Mohamed Sathak Hamid College of Arts and Science for Women, proposed a vote of thanks.



The fifth Orientation Programme for Vivekananda Cadet Corps (VCC) Co-ordinators and Volunteers of Affiliated Colleges" was held on 25th Feb 2020 at Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.M.G.R Arts & Science College for Women, Uchipuli. 90 members of the Fifth Cluster participated in the first meeting held at the College. Mrs. I. Hussain Ameena Beevi, VCC Co-ordinator of the Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.M.G.R Arts & Science College for Women, welcomed the gathering. The Principal of the College Mrs. A. Dheeba presented the presidential address recalling the precious life history of Swami Vivekananda and advised the students to follow his thoughts and

ideas in their lives to lead a noble and useful life. The Chief Guest Dr. M. Vasimalairaja, Deputy Co-ordinator, SVCHR&E addressed the gathering by highlighting the moral values and spiritual thoughts of Swamiji. V.Lakshmanan Programme Officer, SVCHR&E referred to the significant events in the life history of Swami Vivekananda. The Chief Guest gave certificates to the Co-ordinators and Volunteers of VCC. Miss. T. Priyadharshini, Assistant Professor of Physics, Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.M.G.R Arts & Science College for Women, proposed a vote of thanks.

PANDIT DEENDAYAL UPADHYAY CHAIR

One Day National Level Symposium on Unearthing Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay's Economic and Political Ideologies



In commemoration of the death anniversary of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay, a One Day National Level Symposium on “Unearthing Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay’s Economic and Political Ideologies” organized by the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Chair of Alagappa University, was held on 11th Feb 2019 at the L.C.T.L. Palaniappa Chettiar Memorial Auditorium of the University.

In his presidential address, Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, said, “Research studies reveal that among the 26 great ancient civilizations of the world, only the Indian and Chinese civilizations are the surviving ones in the contemporary period. Among these two, Indian civilization is considered to be the best and the

strongest one. The ancient India was considered the knowledge capital as the oldest Universities like Nalanda, Takshashila, Kanchipuram etc with their erudite teachers attracted students from the neighbouring countries. Our traditional educational and political ideologies and wisdom have helped many nations in formulating their basic economic and political principles”, he added.

Need for Developing India-Centric Developmental Models

“Owing to the colonial impact, our supreme traditional educational, economic and political values lost their strength and importance; and the European ideas and ideologies replaced them retarding the progress and as a result today we are in a position to rejuvenate the glory of our traditional, educational, economic and political values in order to make our country a superpower in the world. Keeping this view, the Central and State governments have brought several India-centric developmental models and are earnestly implementing them”, he stated.

The Vice-Chancellor said : “Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay proposed many India-centric development models through his ‘Integral Humanism’. He visualized a decentralized polity and self-reliant economy with the village being at the core. He propagated the idea that the growth of the individual should be the focal point in a nation’s development. As an unparalleled social philosopher, his ideologies are highly suitable and socially relevant for the contemporary situation of our country”. He exhorted the youth to follow the principles and ideologies enunciated in the Integral Humanism of Panditji, for building a progressive society.

Dr. Anirban Ganguly, Director, Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation, New

Delhi, in his inaugural address, said, "The ancient Indian tradition and cultural ethos have laid a strong foundation for our economic and political stability. Inscriptions found in Uttaramerur and other places show that, for thousands of years, we have followed an organized structure of economic and political models suitable to our nation. But the alien rule and western ideologies imposed in different spheres of administration in India erased the time-tested Indian ideologies. Several countries, which followed European models, have failed to sustain their economic and political progress. Now the time has come for us to follow and practice the India-centric economic development models as propagated by Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay for sustainable development of our nation. Our younger generation should be diligent enough to learn the ideologies of Panditji for the future glory of India; indeed it is the need of the hour", he added.

Dr.S.Iyampillai, Former Professor, Dept. of Economics, Bharathidasan University, Thiruchirapalli, delivered a talk on 'The Relevance of Deendayal Upadhyay's Views on Economic Policy Making'. He said that economic democracy was the most significant concept of Upadhyay. By economic democracy, Upadhyay meant giving means of livelihood to every person that too as per the choice of the person. When Upadhyay spoke about the ideal economic system, he said that economic system must help in the development of every human being.

Mr. H. Raja, former Member of the Legislative Assembly of Karaikudi, Auditor R. Sundaram, National Convenor, Swadeshi Jargan Manch, New Delhi and Dr. Ashwini Mahajan, Associate Professor of Economics, P.G.D.A.V. College, New Delhi, offered felicitation.

Prof. B. Dharmalingam, Chair Professor, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Chair, welcomed the gathering and Dr. C. Balakrishnan, Assistant Professor, Alagappa Institute of Skill Development, proposed a vote of thanks.

A Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Study Circle comprising 36 Professors and a Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Youth Cadets comprising 50 students of Alagappa University were initiated at this function to perpetuate the values and principles of Panditji.

At the start of the programme, the dignitaries and the participants paid floral tributes to the portrait of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay. More than 500 students from various Departments of Alagappa University and its affiliated colleges, participated

In this symposium, Dr. Anirban Ganguly, Director, Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation, New Delhi, delivered a talk on 'Philosophy of Integral Humanism and Development'. Dr. P.Sakthivel, Professor, Dept. of Political Science & Public Administration, Annamalai University, spoke on 'Revisiting Political Ideology of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay' and Dr.Ashwani Mahajan, Professor of Economics, P.G.D.A.V College, Co-Convenor-Swadeshi Jagran Manch, New Delhi, delivered a special lecture on 'Integral Humanism: A Solution to the Present Economic Problems'.

ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY PLACEMENT CELL

Placement Orders Presented to the Selected Students

Online Students Interactive Placement Portal of Alagappa University was launched by the District Collector of Sivaganga on February 10th 2020. Many recruiters have logged in the portal for the recruitment of University students



Placement Cell of Alagappa University conducted the campus drive for the second year students of the Faculty of Management. Ms. Integrated Enterprises India Pvt. Ltd visited the Management Campus on 18.2.2020 conducted the interview. 47 Students of the Faculty of Management successfully placed out of 80 students. Vice-Chancellor Prof. N.Rajendran presented the appointment orders to the selected candidates. 12 students were recruited by WICE as Soft Skills Trainers. 152 students appeared for the interview. An Exclusive Job Fair for the Girl students of Alagappa University (FEMFAIR 2020) was organized on the eve of International Women's Day March 8th 2020. Registrar Prof.H.Gurumullesh Prabu, University Placement Cell Coordinator Dr.A.Morarji and Department level Coordinators of the Faculty of Management viz, Dr. K.Ganesamurthy, Dr.V.A. Anand, Dr. G.Kanagavalli and Dr.S.Gopalsamy were present on the occasion.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY CELL

Two-Day Training Programme "Barclay's – Connect with Work"

A Two-Day Training Programme "Barclay's – Connect with Work" was conducted by the Equal Opportunity Cell in collaboration with Global Talent Track, India on March 5th & 6th, 2020. It was sponsored by Barclay's under corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative. The training programme was conducted at the Faculty of Management for the outgoing MBA



students and help them get placements in companies of repute.

Around 300 MBA students participated in this training programme from six departments coming under the Faculty of Management such as Banking & Insurance Management, Corporate Secretaryship, Commerce, International Business, Logistics Management, Management (General). The management students got exposed to the working environment in firms and organizations and also learnt how they could hone their skills and acquire expertise from practical experience.

The inaugural ceremony was presided over by Vice-Chancellor Prof. N. Rajendran. In his presidential address, he said that the University encourages all the management students on the campus to pursue quality higher education and it also helps them acquire excellence in their academic and professional career. He asked the Coordinator to extend and expand the activities of Equal Opportunity Cell to other schools in the University.

In his inaugural address, Dr. M. Senthil, Dean, Faculty of Management, referred to the statements of the World Bank and said that the educational quality influences the economic growth of a nation. He disclosed the extreme use of artificial intelligence and machine learning in organizational set up which can challenge the human expertise and skills in the next decade. The resource person, Mr.

Kathiresan from Global Talent Track, India, edified the management students with his industrial experience and expertise. He infused in students the salient features of Barclay's – Connect to work initiative and explained the edge of the work environment and its relevance in personal and professional growth. In his special address Dr. T.R. Gurumoorthy, Member of the Syndicate and Senior Professor, advised the students to grasp thoroughly all the practical guidance and direction given by experts from Global Talent Track, India. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. A. Muthusamy, EOC Coordinator, and Professor, Department of International Business, Alagappa University. He said that the Equal Opportunity Cell at Alagappa University was established in 2012 under the UGC Scheme with the aim to ensure non-discrimination at the institutional level and to promote diversity and inclusive practices in the university campus. In his vote of thanks Dr. S. Nagarajan, Professor, Alagappa Institute of Educational Science, expressed gratitude to Barclay's for their commendable CSR initiative and the Global Talent Track team for their training given to the University students.

ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY STUDY CIRCLE

Events of Importance

- Coaching Classes were conducted by AU Study Circle for the following competitive exams during the period under review (Jan-March 2020)
 1. TNPSC Group Examination – General Studies
 2. SSC/RRB/BANKING Examinations – Aptitude and Reasoning
- Coaching Classes for writing competitive examinations like UGC / NET were

conducted in Affiliated Colleges and the University Departments of Alagappa University .

- 17 Free Model Tests were conducted through E-mail and Whatsapp Group. 300 students were the beneficiaries.
- Civil Service and other higher service aspirants were continuously motivated through telephonic conversations.
- “Enhancing Development Administration of Tamil Nadu” was the most important topic taken up for discussion.

PHOTO GALLERY



The Vice-Chancellor accepting the guard-of-honour given by students at the 71st Republic Day Celebrations

The Vice-Chancellor and Syndicate Members with the AU Staff Members at the Pongal Celebrations



Hon'ble Minister for Khadi and Village Industries Thiru. G. Bhaskaran declaring open the new buildings on the campus



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