

**Five-Day Awareness Workshop-cum-Training on
MIND, BLIND BELIEF AND SCIENTIFIC TEMPER
for School Teachers and Administrators**

3-7 June, 2019

Organized by

Centre of Excellence for Tribal Studies (CoETS)

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

National Institute of Technology, Rourkela

About the Centre of Excellence for Tribal Studies (CoETS)

The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Institute of Technology, Rourkela, has been declared as a Centre of Excellence for Tribal Studies by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India, since October 2016. As per the Ministry's guidelines the objective of identifying organizations as Centers of Excellence is to involve them in working out long-term and policy oriented research studies for the development of tribals of the country.

Research Focus

Health and Education
Tribal Languages and Culture
Migration, Displacement, Resettlement and Rehabilitation
Tribal Minor Forest Produce Rights
Impact of Tribal Sub-Plan Schemes on Tribal Communities
Tribal Identity, Livelihood Development
Women Rights in the Vth Scheduled Areas
Tribal Art and Artifacts

Theme of the Workshop

The process of socialization and rational thinking is what distinguishes human beings from other animals. The perennial fight between instinct and reason had made people use one of the important cognitive faculties i.e. thinking. It is for our thinking and imagination that we achieve whatever we have achieved so far in terms of security of life, comfort and happiness. All these have been possible by applying science to predict and control the events happening in and around us. But, when the mind is not trained to think rationally, the individual becomes a slave of his or her own belief to an extent that there remains virtually no difference between an animal and a human being.

The Five-Day Awareness Workshop-cum-Training on Mind, Blind Belief and Scientific Temper aims at demystifying and directing the thought processes that are counterproductive to humanity and the very existence of human being. The workshop specifically targets to the unfounded belief system that exists and prevails in our society, in order to examine their scientific basis.

Science is a process of distinguishing facts from fiction and discovering truth. Educational Institutions, teachers and administrators play a vital role in propelling and promoting scientific temper among the young minds. Nevertheless, the current system of education seems to derail from its primary objective. Instead of establishing an evidence based practice, we are engaged in belief-only based practices. If this continues for long, such practices going to ruin the entire education system sooner than later. In addition to this, public apathy towards Government Institutions for the lack of infrastructure in terms of science labs and sophisticated equipment in schools and colleges is a major bottleneck in demonstrating science to the young minds. Through this workshop, the teacher would be able to perform very simple science tricks to trigger the thinking and questioning skills in the young minds with a very nominal investment, thus, popularizing science education and inculcating scientific temper.

The topic that are going to be covered during the entire workshop duration include-: What is science and scientific thought, Tribal Perspectives of Development, Educating the girl child, Role of Teachers and Administrators in Developing a Scientific Temper, Myth, Superstition and Propaganda, Science of Consciousness etc. along with practical demonstration classes and hands on experiences for efficient and effective learning.

Who should attend?

The awareness-cum-training workshop on “Mind, Blind Belief and Scientific Temper” is suitable for teachers and educational administrators who are working for the development of the tribal people on a day-to-day basis and having a sound knowledge about tribal culture and practices. This workshop is limited to 30 participants only.

Resource Persons

Resource persons for this course comprises of Professors and Researchers from Reputed Institutes and Universities of India, Action Researchers and Practitioners who are working very closely with the tribal communities of India.

Registration and Course Fee

There would be no registration or course fee for the awareness-cum-training workshop. However, filled-in application forms should be mailed to mbst.coets19@gmail.com on or before 25th May 2019. The Final list of participants will be announced on 28th May 2019.

Travel and Accommodation Details

Board and Lodging will be provided to the pre-registered participants by the Centre. Depending on the availability of funds, travel cost on shortest routes (for non-ac train and bus travels ‘to’ and ‘from’ Rourkela only) will be reimbursed on production of valid travel documents by the participants.

Certificate

After successful completion of the workshop participants will receive a certificate from the Centre of Excellence for Tribal Studies, NIT Rourkela.

How to Reach NIT Rourkela

Rourkela is one of the well connected city by rail, road and air network with other parts of India. Daily bus service is available with almost all the Districts of Odisha. The NIT campus is about 6 km from Rourkela railway station and 2 km from the bus stop. The major cities of Bhubaneswar, Ranchi and Kolkata are well connected to Rourkela.

About Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, NIT, Rourkela

The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, has been functioning as a full-fledged department catering to both undergraduate and postgraduate students since the inception of the institute. The faculty has wide experience in teaching and research and in communicating with students of diverse background and of widely differing abilities. The students understand that today’s challenges are global and interdisciplinary; and they are required to reflect more towards social responsibility, flexibility, resourcefulness and creativity. The courses taught tries to inculcate all these and much more. The Department offers a full-time PhD programme in the disciplines of English, Psychology, Economics, Anthropology, Sanskrit and Sociology, an MA Programme in Development Studies and also offers general purpose courses from all the above mentioned disciplines, as Open Electives for B-Tech and Post-Graduate students of the Institute.

Convener

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Important Dates

Date of Workshop: **3 – 7 June, 2019**

Last Date to receive application from participants: **25 May, 2019**

Date for sharing the final list of participants: 28 May 2019

Further information including place of stay, registration and training schedule will be shared with the final list of participants by **31 May 2019**

Registration Form
Five-Day Awareness Workshop-cum-Training on
MIND, BLIND BELIEF AND SCIENTIFIC TEMPER

Centre of Excellence for Tribal Studies
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
National Institute of Technology, Rourkela
3-7 June, 2019

(To be filled in and sent to: mbst.coets19@gmail.com on or before 25th May 2019)

Name of the Applicant:

Age:

Gender:

Category: General/SC/ST:

Official Address for Correspondence (with Contact number and e-mail):

Highest Educational Qualification:

Designation:

Reporting Authority:

Total Experience (in Years):

Experience in Years (in Tribal Areas):

Accommodation Required: YES NO

Signature of the Applicant:

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Recommended by:

Name and Designation:

Organization:

Signature with Date: