

CRISP

March 2025 Edition

MAASAM

Monthly Account of Achievements,
Successes and Memories

Content

ExpertSpeak

Understanding India's Land Administration
System: Record of Rights and Deed Registration

BK Agarwal IAS Retd.
Founding Member- CRISP

FellowSpeak

Major Developments in CRISP

CRISP in Action





ExpertSpeak

UNDERSTANDING INDIA'S LAND ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM: RECORD OF RIGHTS AND DEED REGISTRATION



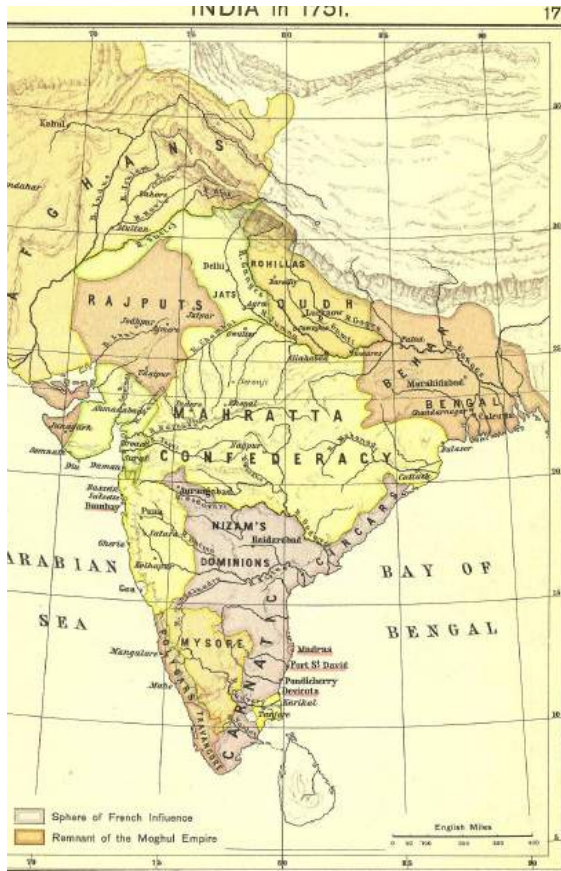
BK Agarwal IAS Retd.
Founding Member- CRISP

"An effective land administration system treats land as a functional economic asset, enabling smooth transfers, access to land-based credit, and comprehensive record-keeping. The ideal scenario involves registration of all land transactions and accurate reflection of ownership changes in the Record of Rights (ROR). **However, India's land administration faces significant hurdles like the lack of a robust ROR system in urban areas**, inadequate record formats, cumbersome title verification processes, absence of a centralized litigation tracking system, and complex registration procedures."

The present system of land administration in India was established by the British about 250 years ago. Though the Indian registration system is classified as a deed registration system, it has certain unique features that give it an edge over a classical deed registration system. This article provides a brief overview of the land administration system in India.

Land is a crucial factor for all economic activities in a country, such as agriculture, industrialization, urbanization, housing, and infrastructure development. It also plays a key role in strategies for poverty alleviation, food security, and social justice. Therefore, a good land administration system is essential for economic growth and for providing social justice to the weaker sections of society.

Land administration is defined as the process of determining, recording, and publishing information about people's rights to land. It includes cadastral surveys, documentation of land rights, registration of land transactions, and resolution of disputes.



Historical Context

Historically, land administration has been a vital function for rulers because most of their revenue came from taxes on agricultural land. The collection of land revenue was the main incentive for rulers to establish land administration systems. Control over land was also a significant source of political power. For example, the real political power of the East India Company began when it got the rights to collect land revenue in Bengal, Bihar, and Odisha from the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II after his defeat in the Battle of Buxar in 1765. This power to collect land revenue led to the gradual increase of financial resources and political power of the East India Company, which ultimately resulted

in British rule over the whole of India.

With this background, let us discuss the present land administration system in India. In India, there are two subsystems of keeping records of ownership and other rights in land viz. the Record of Rights and the Registration of Deeds. With this background, let us discuss the present land administration system in India. In India, there are two subsystems for keeping records of ownership and other rights in land: the **Record of Rights** and the **Registration of Deeds**.

Record of Rights

Record of Rights is actually an Indian Cadastre, though the term 'cadastre' is not commonly used in India. It was introduced by the British in 1822 in the United Provinces. After that, it was adopted in all the provinces under British rule.

This record is maintained by the state Revenue Departments under the provisions of state-specific land revenue laws. These laws follow a similar pattern throughout the country with minor variations from state to state. Unfortunately, in the past 200 years, hardly any change has been made in land revenue laws.

The Revenue Department has a hierarchy of officials such as Patwari (or Talati), Kanungo, Tehsildar, (or Talukdar, Mauzadar), Sub-divisional Officer, Collector, Commissioner, etc. They perform various functions relating to land administration as per the provisions of the relevant laws.

The Record of Rights consists of two parts: a cadastral map and a set of registers documenting land rights and other land-related details. Cadastral maps prepared by the revenue department are different from topographical maps of the Survey of India. A topographical map shows only point locations of geographical features, but a cadastral map shows the boundaries of each parcel of land. With the help of a cadastral map, the boundaries of a land parcel can be demarcated on the ground. Every parcel of land is given a unique identity number, and rights are recorded in the registers with reference to this unique identity number. The register,

which documents ownership and other land rights, is known by different names across various states, such as Jamabandi in Punjab, Adangal in Andhra Pradesh, Khattian in West Bengal, and Khatauni in Uttar Pradesh.



Thus, rights over a particular land parcel can be easily identified through the Record of Rights. Further, the boundaries of land parcels can be demarcated on the ground with the help of cadastral maps. The Record of Rights, thus, serves as a title register for all practical purposes. However, entries in the Record of Rights are not conclusive proof of title as they are in Title Registration Systems of some countries.

Updating of Record of Rights

This record is regularly updated following procedures laid down in the law. Whenever there is a change in rights due to sale, gift, or inheritance, a rightsholder is required by law to inform a designated official about the acquisition of a right by them. The designated official holds a quasi-judicial inquiry and records the names of new right-holders. This process is known as mutation.

Legal Standing of Record of Rights

The Record of Rights is a crucial document for determining ownership and other rights to a parcel of land. Legally, the entries in the Record of Rights are presumed to be true until proved wrong. Therefore, the Record of Rights is considered good evidence of ownership and other rights over land. However, an aggrieved person can challenge an entry before designated authorities of the Revenue Department or in a civil court. The Record of Rights is corrected as per the decision of such authorities or the court.

Purpose of Record of Rights

The main purpose of introducing the Record of Rights was to maximize the collection of land revenue, which formed 60% of the total revenue of the British government. Now, land revenue makes a very insignificant contribution to the state exchequer, and therefore, there is no justification for maintaining the Record of Rights for this purpose alone. Presently, the Record of Rights is maintained as a service to people. It helps landowners in the sale and purchase of land, demarcation of boundaries of their lands, resolving land disputes, and obtaining bank loans. Further, the Record of Rights provides very useful data for implementing many government programs, such as granting ownership rights to tenants on agricultural land, distributing land to the landless, estimating agricultural production, providing subsidies on agricultural inputs to farmers, crop insurance, and housing grants to houseless people.

Deed Registration

Now let us talk about deed registration which is done under the provisions of the Registration Act of 1908. Under this act, deeds relating to transactions in immovable property, such as sales, gifts, mortgages, and long-term leases, are registered in the office of a registrar or a sub-registrar.



Civil Courts

After discussing the Record of Rights and the deed registration, I'd like to touch on the role of civil courts in land administration. As discussed earlier, ownership and other land rights are recorded in the Record of Rights after an inquiry by the revenue officer. An entry in the Record of Rights is presumed true unless proven otherwise. However, the final adjudication of land rights can be done only by a civil court.

Conclusion

To summarize, land administration includes cadastral surveys, documentation of land rights, registration of land transactions, and resolution of disputes. India has two sub-systems for maintaining land records: Record of Rights and deed registration. The Record of Rights gives a more comprehensive picture of people's rights over land. Entries in the Record of Rights are presumed true until proved wrong. Deed registration creates evidence of transactions but is not conclusive proof of transfer of title. Civil courts have the final authority to adjudicate in cases of dispute over rights in land. Records are corrected as per the decision of the civil court.

FellowSpeak



Shaping Policy, Shaping Perspectives: My Fellowship Journey at CRISP

Akhil Ravella

Research Fellow, CRISP Telangana

My fellowship at the Centre for Research in Schemes and Policies (CRISP) has been an enriching experience, significantly shaping my growth as a public policy professional and deepening my understanding of India's social development landscape. Having previously worked in consulting roles for the departments of Finance, Social Welfare, Industries, and Tourism, my time at CRISP presented a unique opportunity to engage in policy research and implementation from a different perspective. The blend of mentorship, hands-on learning, and exposure to real-world policy challenges has made this one of the most impactful phases of my professional journey. The structured yet dynamic nature of the fellowship allowed me to not only enhance my technical expertise but also develop a deep understanding of governance mechanisms, institutional frameworks, and policy execution strategies.

As part of the fellowship, I had the privilege of working in the Higher Education vertical at CRISP (Telangana) under the mentorship of Shri. R. Subramanyam and State Lead Dr. K. Rama, both of whom have played pivotal roles in shaping India's higher education policies. Under their guidance, I am grateful to have gained deep insights into the functioning of higher education institutions (HEIs), stakeholder engagement, systemic challenges, and the evolving policy landscape. The fellowship equipped me with technical expertise in Institutional Development Planning (IDP), National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) assessments, accreditation processes such as NAAC, and policy recommendations for HEI improvements. One of the most significant aspects of this experience was the field visits across the state, enabling me to study the strengths and limitations of different HEIs from all parts of the state firsthand. These on-ground learnings were invaluable in understanding how policies translate into action and identifying the key factors that determine the success or failure of educational interventions.

Beyond the technical knowledge, CRISP fosters a culture of open dialogue, strategic thinking, and solution-driven policymaking. The leadership actively encouraged me to conceptualize ideas and contribute to the design and execution of large-scale policy initiatives. One of the most profound experiences during the fellowship was the field immersion in a tribal hamlet, which offered deep insights into the social development progress of marginalized communities. This experience underscored the importance of inclusive policymaking and the role of governance in bridging developmental gaps.

As I reflect on my journey at CRISP, I take away not just a refined understanding of higher education policies and governance, but also a broader perspective on India's socio-economic development framework. The fellowship has reinforced my commitment to evidence-based policy research and strategic governance interventions. Moving forward, I aspire to leverage these learnings to contribute to effective policy formulation, institutional development, and impactful governance initiatives as a public policy professional.





My journey with CRISP

Ibankyntiewlin Rynjah

Consultant, CRISP, Meghalaya

As I reflect on my one-year journey with CRISP, I feel deeply honoured and incredibly grateful for the opportunity. This year has been a transformative period in my career—one filled with growth, invaluable learnings, and enriching experiences.

One of the most significant opportunities I had was working on a project focused on Universalizing Access to Quality ECCE (Early Childhood Care and Education) in Meghalaya. Just three months into my role, I had the privilege of joining the team on a field visit to 100 Anganwadi Centres and several schools. Following that, we undertook a comprehensive data collection from all 6,162 Anganwadi Centres in the state to assess their functioning and gain a clearer understanding of the ground realities before making recommendations. ECCE is such a crucial area, especially since the 3-6 age range is vital for brain development. Being able to contribute to this field will be one of my greatest achievements.

The journey is surely not an easy one. There have always been many ups and downs, challenges faced, and hardships but accepting and ready to face it all. What gives me confidence and strength is the guidance, mentorship and support from all the esteemed, incredible & remarkable Mentors and the State Lead - Sir Subrahmanyam, Sir Julania, Ma'am Sandhya & Dr Minnette. They have always pushed me to do my best and been my guiding light which has enriched me both in my professional and my personal growth. Additionally, my colleagues have been my constant support, contributing valuable insights and collaborating along the journey.

One of the most important lessons I've learned during my time here is the importance of time management and striking the right balance between fieldwork and policy-level contributions. It's about being an all-rounder in the project, and this is a lesson I will carry forward. Coming from a Rural Development background, this journey has reshaped and strengthened my commitment to contributing to rural communities. It has instilled in me a renewed dedication, passion, and belief that I can excel in any role, making a real difference.

I am thankful to CRISP for this incredible one-year journey and look forward to many more years of learning, growing, and contributing to the greater cause together.



Major Developments in CRISP

Meghalaya Approves Women-Led Apex Financial Cooperative Society



Pla Tangka Cooperative Society (PTCS)

A Specialized Women-Led Apex Financial Cooperative Society for SHGs in Meghalaya- Designed by CRISP



Dept. of Community & Rural Development,
Government of Meghalaya

In a groundbreaking achievement, the Meghalaya Government has officially approved the formation of the Pla Tangka Cooperative Society (PTCS) – a Specialized Women-Led Apex Financial Cooperative Society for Self-Help Groups (SHGs), designed by CRISP. This pioneering initiative is set to transform the financial landscape for women-led SHGs, providing enhanced access to credit and fostering economic self-reliance. The PTCS initiative is poised to increase credit availability for women SHGs by tenfold, offering new opportunities for sustainable livelihoods and socio-economic advancement.

PTCS aims to address the financial barriers faced by women-led SHGs by providing tailored financial products, capacity-building support, and a robust institutional framework. This cooperative model is designed to empower women economically, promote financial literacy, and enhance the sustainability of SHG enterprises.

CRISP acknowledges the relentless efforts of all partners who played a crucial role in making this vision a reality. The establishment of PTCS represents a major milestone in advancing women's financial inclusion and strengthening the rural economy in Meghalaya, paving the way for a more equitable and prosperous future.

Inspiring Start to CRISP's Fellowship Orientation Program



On 6th February, CRISP concluded an inspiring 4-day Fellowship Orientation Program, designed to equip future leaders with the knowledge, skills, and networks required to drive meaningful change in the public sector. This intensive program brought together a diverse cohort of fellows, offering them a comprehensive introduction to key policy areas, field visit methodologies, and public service dynamics.

Participants were also introduced to the practical aspects of fieldwork, including data collection methodologies, stakeholder engagement strategies, and the use of evidence-based approaches to inform policy decisions. The program fostered a collaborative learning environment, encouraging fellows to share perspectives, challenge assumptions, and co-create innovative solutions.

CRISP Signs MoU to Strengthen Panchayat Raj System in Telangana

In a landmark move to enhance local governance and empower rural communities, CRISP has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Telangana. This collaboration focuses on the 'Revitalizing and Strengthening Panchayat Raj Ecosystem in Telangana (RESPECT)' project, a comprehensive initiative designed to improve the efficacy and responsiveness of the Panchayat Raj system.

The MoU signing ceremony was held in the esteemed presence of Ms. Dansari Anasuya Seethakka, Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development, Panchayat Raj, and Women's Welfare. This partnership reflects a shared commitment to strengthening grassroots governance and fostering sustainable development across rural Telangana.



The RESPECT project aims to modernize and revitalize the Panchayat Raj framework by improving administrative efficiency, promoting participatory governance, and enhancing the delivery of public services at the local level. Key focus areas include capacity building for elected representatives and administrative staff, digitization of governance processes, and the development of monitoring and evaluation systems to ensure transparency and accountability.

Bihar Approves CRISP's Apprenticeship-Embedded Degree Program Initiative

CRISP had the honor of presenting at the state-level meeting on higher education reforms held on 11th February 2025 at Sachivalaya, Patna. The meeting was presided over by the Hon'ble Minister for Education, Government of Bihar, and brought together a distinguished assembly of senior officials from the Department of Higher Education, representatives from Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), SAMARTH e-Governance, Vice Chancellors from all universities across the state, and other key stakeholders.

A highlight of the meeting was CRISP's presentation on the Apprenticeship-Embedded Degree Program (AEDP), a forward-looking educational initiative aimed at bridging the gap between academic learning and industry requirements. The Hon'ble Minister for Education recognized the potential of AEDP and approved its implementation in a pilot phase. This program seeks to enhance student employability by integrating structured apprenticeships within the traditional degree curriculum, allowing students to gain practical skills while pursuing academic studies.



CRISP in Action

▶ RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Tamil Nadu

Innovative Solutions for Affordable Housing: A Training by CRISP Tamil Nadu

The CRISP Tamil Nadu team recently organised an insightful training session on alternative construction technologies on 24th February in the Tiruvallur district. The session was attended by engineers and overseers and was led by our Honorary consultant, Mrs. Gayatri Ratnam (Retd. Manager, HUDCO), who shared her expertise on innovative and cost-effective building methods. The primary objective of this training was to equip participants with the knowledge and practical skills needed to implement alternative technologies in the construction of houses under key government schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), and Kalaingar Kanavu Illam. The training focused on modern, sustainable techniques like precast concrete technology, floor slabs, and rat trap bond construction.



Strengthening Village Finances: CRISP Tamil Nadu's Field Study on Own Source Revenue Augmentation

The CRISP Tamil Nadu team recently conducted a field visit as part of a study aimed at improving Own Source Revenue (OSR) in Gram Panchayats. The primary objective was to identify the gaps and challenges in tax collection, focusing on tax avoidance, tax evasion, and revenue leakage within the Panchayats. The study covered 10 Gram Panchayats across 5 districts, strategically selected based on their income classification into high, moderate, and low-income villages regarding OSR. This

classification allowed the team to capture a wide range of financial practices and better understand the diverse challenges faced by Panchayats at different economic levels. The field visit focused on assessing the effectiveness of existing tax collection mechanisms, exploring the reasons behind non-compliance and evasion, and identifying revenue leakage points. The team observed innovative practices adopted by high-income Gram Panchayats to enhance their revenue streams.

Empowering Youth for Rural Development: Sairam College Hosts Symposium on Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

Under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) initiative, Sairam institution organized a Symposium on Rural Development to inspire students to actively engage in grassroots initiatives and contribute meaningfully to rural transformation. A key highlight of the event was an insightful lecture given by Dr Vijayaraghavan, National Lead of GIST who emphasized the role of educational institutions in fostering students' understanding on rural challenges and solutions. His address shed light on how academic institutions, through UBA, can bridge the gap between theory and practice by encouraging students to work closely with village communities, identify local issues, and develop innovative, low-cost solutions. The idea of collaboration between higher education institutions and rural communities is crucial for sustainable progress, aligning with UBA's mission to include the power of youth for nation-building.



Meghalaya

Pla Tangka Cooperative Society

After signing an MOU with the Government of Meghalaya (GoM) in 2022, the CRISP team conducted field visits to study Meghalaya's SRLM institution. The team's research focused on the organization's structure, functions, processes, and financial arrangements, including funding and mechanisms. The team also studied its impact on SHGs and found that while SHG members are interested in availing loans, the lack of livelihood-related loans, lack of awareness about financial products, high transportation charges, and the cost of maintaining an account often outweigh the benefits due to low transaction values. Additionally, SHG women face barriers such as limited bank branches in rural areas, ever-changing policy regulations, complex KYC guidelines, slow loan processing times, unsuitable financial products, and a lack of priority toward small loans.



Based on the findings, CRISP felt that the Stree Nidhi model could be adapted for Meghalaya state as community-owned financial services for SHGs to improve financial linkages. The SHG bank linkage would lead to an increase in members' loan sizes and bring desirable changes in income and productive asset holdings, reaching even the poorest. The team presented the idea of establishing an SHG Women's Financial Institution to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Shri Conrad K Sangma, and offered support at all stages, which was agreed upon on 5th May 2023. This aligns with the Government of Meghalaya's SHG Unicorn (\$1 billion) Vision, which aims to empower women to become 'Lakhpati Didis' (women earning a minimum of ₹1 lakh annually) and enable them to scale their income to the level of millionaires through multiple livelihood sources—generating revenues of ₹10 lakh and beyond.

► HIGHER EDUCATION

Telangana

CRISP Telangana team collaborates with Osmania University & Kakatiya University for the CHEQUE Project

CRISP Telangana has collaborated with Osmania University, Hyderabad, and Kakatiya University, Warangal, to implement the Centre for Higher Education Quality Upgradation and Excellence (CHEQUE) project. This initiative aims to strengthen affiliating universities by enabling them to provide academic mentorship to their unaccredited affiliated colleges. Through this project, CRISP will adopt 20 unaccredited colleges under each university, providing continuous guidance and support to help them achieve institutional accreditation, revise their curriculum, enhance academic outcomes through educational technology (EdTech), improve employability, and foster innovation and outreach activities. To drive this initiative, Academic Mentors (AMs)—renowned



academicians—will be engaged to provide structured mentorship and expertise to these institutions.

On a pilot basis, the Telangana team will work with 40 colleges to implement these quality enhancement strategies. By fostering institutional excellence, this initiative will contribute to transforming unaccredited colleges into hubs of quality learning and innovation. Through CHEQUE, CRISP remains committed to empowering higher education institutions across Telangana, ensuring sustainable institutional progress and enhanced learning experiences for students.



Driving Institutional Excellence: CRISP Telangana's NIRF Workshop and Strategic Support for HEIs

On December 30, 2024, CRISP Telangana, in collaboration with Government City College, successfully organized an online workshop titled "NIRF Ranking Decoded: A Strategic Approach for Institutions." The event brought together 75 Principals and IQAC Coordinators from 46 Government Degree Colleges across Telangana. Led by Dr. K. Rama, State Lead of CRISP Telangana, the workshop focused on demystifying the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) by addressing key parameters such as Teaching, Learning & Resources, Research & Professional Practice, Graduate Outcomes, Inclusivity, and Perception.

Participants were guided through practical strategies for data management, evaluation, and targeted approaches to enhance institutional quality and recognition. A dedicated session was conducted to address queries related to data submission and management for NIRF applications, ensuring participants left with greater clarity and confidence in navigating the ranking process.

In addition to the above, CRISP Telangana team has prepared an NIRF calculator for various categories i.e., colleges, universities, engineering. Through this, a detailed analysis was done for around 25 institutions/universities and recommendations were made in a systematic manner to fare in NIRF rankings. The institutions include general degree colleges and Osmania University, Meerut University, Central University of Bihar.

Institutional Development Plan (IDP)

CRISP Telangana has conducted 2 IDP workshops at MALD Government Degree College, Gadwal and Methodist College of Engineering and Technology, Hyderabad. These workshops saw the participation of around 130 faculty including the Principal and directors of the college. These workshops are aimed at enabling Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to achieve long-term growth, academic excellence, and sustainability by aligning institutional goals with better outcomes for all the stakeholders.



To date, CRISP has conducted hands-on workshops in around 30 HEIs, engaging over 750+ faculty members on IDP preparation, covering vision and mission framing, goal setting, strategic objectives, action planning, and resource optimization. These sessions received enthusiastic support from institutional leadership and faculty, with participating HEIs committing to mentor at least an additional 150 institutions. Draft IDPs of the cluster mentor colleges are currently being reviewed by the CRISP Telangana team.



Faculty Development Programme (FDP) at Keshav Memorial Institute of Commerce and Sciences, Hyderabad

On 3rd & 4th February, CRISP Telangana contributed as a resource person for the Faculty Development Program (FDP) at Keshav Memorial Institute of Commerce and Sciences. Our Fellow, Akhil Ravella, led insightful sessions on:

1. IDP-Shaping Tomorrow: A Strategic Approach towards Institutional Development Plan for HEIs
2. NIRF Ranking Decoded: A Strategic Approach for Institutions"

Conducted in hybrid mode, the FDP witnessed participation from 110 faculty members across 20 HEIs. Faculty were sensitized on the significance of Institutional Development Plans (IDPs), covering key aspects such as vision, mission, goal setting, strategy formulation, monitoring, and evaluation—emphasizing how strategic planning fuels institutional growth.

On NIRF rankings, faculty were provided with a deep dive into the framework, methodology, and key parameters influencing institutional rankings. Institutions also received strategic recommendations on quality enhancement and improving their standing in NIRF rankings.



Uttar Pradesh

An Exclusive Workshop on NAAC (Binary System) and AEDP at Khun Khun Ji Girls PG College.

The CRISP-UP team conducted an interactive workshop focusing on NAAC (Binary Accreditation System) and Apprenticeship Embedded Degree Programs (AEDP) under the able guidance of Prof. Balraj Chouhan-Team Lead, CRISP-UP. The workshop saw active participation from D.A.V PG College, Shashi Bhushan Girls Degree College, Nari Shiksha Niketan Degree College, and Mumtaz PG College, fostering discussions on accreditation processes and AEDP adoption. After the successful completion of this workshop, the team will continue to organize similar events with Khun Khun Ji Girls PG College as the nodal institute.



The sessions provided valuable insights, addressing key queries from principals and empowering institutions to make informed decisions regarding these initiatives.



Visit to ERA University for AEDP implementation.

Chandramani and Deepshikha introduced the AEDP program at Era University, discussing potential courses for implementation. The team provided insights into how AEDP can enhance skill development and student employability. The Registrar and VC responded positively, acknowledging the program's benefits. To facilitate execution, they appointed a Nodal Officer who will coordinate further discussions and oversee implementation.



Andhra Pradesh

The AP team organises training for 40 educators on Drug Education & Life skills in Vijayawada

The Navchetna Training for Drug Education & Life Skills was conducted from 11-13 February 2025 to address the growing concern of drug use among youth in Andhra Pradesh. With approximately 20 lakh individuals consuming alcohol problematically and around 1.8 lakh using opioids, the state faces a significant public health burden. Adolescents are increasingly vulnerable to substance use, including inhalants and sedatives, affecting 1.5% of the population. Given Andhra Pradesh's high ranking in substance use disorders and over 2,000 substance-abuse-related deaths in 2022, this training was an essential step toward prevention and education.



40 teachers, faculty, and student representatives from high schools and degree colleges in West Vijayawada Constituency participated in the training, which was conducted using the Navchetna modules developed under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Education. Facilitated by experts from Society for Promotion of Youth & Masses (SPYM), the sessions focused on equipping educators with life skills and strategies to identify early signs of substance use, implement evidence-based prevention techniques, and engage the wider community in creating a drug-free environment.

NISHE Highlights

February 2025 was an impactful month for CRISP under the National Initiative for Skill-Integrated Higher Education (NISHE) project. Our teams across multiple states engaged with key stakeholders, advanced Apprenticeship-Embedded Degree Programs (AEDPs), and secured vital support to implement these programs from the academic year 2025-26. Here are the key highlights from this month's activities:

Expanding AEDPs Across States: In Andhra Pradesh, the CRISP team visited 25 colleges, engaging with faculty, management, and students. The positive response from institutions signals a strong willingness to implement AEDPs starting from the academic year 2025-26.

The Karnataka team engaged with the Director of Collegiate Education and the Karnataka State Higher Education Council (KSHEC), securing support to extend AEDPs to private colleges. The team also visited private institutions to advocate for the program's implementation.

In Maharashtra, CRISP presented to the Principal Secretary of Higher & Technical Education, emphasizing AEDPs' role in enhancing employability. A virtual orientation for 165 Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) was conducted to guide them through the implementation process, gaining strong institutional interest.

In Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, teams conducted extensive outreach, visiting colleges to interact with students, faculty, and management. These visits reinforced the value of AEDPs in providing hands-on industry experience and improving employability outcomes.

Strengthening Partnerships and Stakeholder Engagement: In Telangana, the CRISP team engaged with AEDP students and faculty through college visits. On 12th February, they represented CRISP at the NGOs Consultation Meeting organized by the Department of School Education, showcasing initiatives under the HEIGHTS project and seeking support for AEDPs.

Work Readiness and Sector-Specific Collaboration: CRISP, in collaboration with Talerang, conducted two virtual Work Readiness Program sessions for faculty on 16th and 23rd February. These sessions equipped educators with tools to better prepare students for the workforce.

On 17th February, the CRISP-NISHE team visited the Aerospace and Aviation Sector Skill Council (AASSC) in Bengaluru. AASSC expressed strong interest in collaborating to address unemployment and offer specialized training in the aerospace and aviation sector.

Looking Ahead: CRISP remains dedicated to driving transformative change in higher education through strategic partnerships, continuous stakeholder engagement, and innovative program delivery. Stay tuned for visual highlights and more updates as we continue to shape the future of skill-integrated higher education across India.



CRISP | Centre for Research in
Schemes and Policies

Deliberate. Design. Deliver.

Address: B-38, First floor, Panchsheel Enclave, Malviya Nagar,
New Delhi-110017

Central Office: TSIIC Zonal office Building, Financial District, Nanakramguda,
Gachibowli, Hyderabad-500032

www.crispindia.net

