

Report on Participation of the Department of Economics

Sickle Cell Anemia Awareness Program for Tribal Students

Date: 14 July 2025

Venue: Seminar Hall, Department of Computer Science, VNSGU, Surat.



As part of the nationwide observance of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda under Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh, a special awareness programme titled "Sickle Cell Anemia Awareness Program for Tribal Students" was organized by the Gujarat Adivasi Research and Training Institute, Gandhinagar, in collaboration with the Department of Sociology, Social Work, Economics, and Rural Studies, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat.

The Department of Economics proudly participated in this socially impactful programme with active involvement from faculty members and postgraduate students.

The program focused on spreading awareness among tribal students about Sickle Cell Anemia, a significant genetic health issue prevalent among tribal communities. The sessions provided insights into early detection, medical support, and public health outreach.



Distinguished Resource Persons:

1. **Dr. Yazdi Italia** - Padma Shri Awardee, delivered the inaugural address and shared powerful insights into the importance of tribal health missions and community engagement.
2. **Dr. Bhavesh Raicha** - Highlighted the socio-medical impacts of sickle cell anemia and the need for collaborative institutional efforts.
3. **Dr. Ashwin Vasava** - Discussed medical approaches to treatment, challenges in tribal areas, and case studies from Gujarat.

4. **Dr. Kaushik Maheta** - Provided a detailed presentation on the biological and hereditary aspects of the disease and its management through awareness and timely diagnosis.



The event was graciously presided over by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Dr. K. N. Chavda, whose inspiring address emphasized the critical role of youth and academia in promoting public health awareness. Dr. Chavda encouraged students to actively engage in such initiatives, highlighting how awareness programs not only benefit communities but also enrich students' educational experience through real-world learning.



The seminar witnessed the enthusiastic participation of faculty members and students from multiple departments across the university. Notably, the Departments of Sociology and Rural Studies played a significant role, with their members contributing valuable insights into the socio-cultural dimensions of public health.

Notably, the Department of Economics, under the guidance of In-charge Head Dr. Yogesh N. Vansiya, was actively involved in the program. Accompanying him were faculty members Dr. Manish R. Patel, Dr. Dilip Chaudhari, Dr. Amit Valvi, Ms. Smita Naik, Dr. Merabhai K. Jamod, Ms. Vaishali Kharva, Dr. Ankita Nadiyadra, and Ms. Urvisha Mataliya.

Around 100 students from the Department of Economics were present and actively participated throughout the event. Their participation underscored the department's strong commitment to community-centered initiatives and interdisciplinary learning.

Visual exhibits, posters, and presentations explained the sickle cell disorder in easy-to-understand formats for students. The programme concluded with a Q&A session and a vote of thanks, followed by a group photo with all dignitaries.



Thank You