



श्रीचित्रातिरुनाल आयुर्विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, तिरुवनन्तपुरम – 695 011, केरल,
भारत

**SREE CHITRA TIRUNAL INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES AND
TECHNOLOGY**

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – 695 011, KERALA, INDIA

(An Institute of National Importance under DST; Government of India)

(भारत सरकार के अधीन एक राष्ट्रीय महत्व का संस्थान)

www.sctimst.ac.in

Press Release

SCTIMST conducted a national 'webinar' on 'Human trafficking – why should we care?'

“The Covid 19 has increased the risk of women and children being trafficked” : Dr.PM Nair



As part of the “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav” to commemorate the 75 years of Indian independence, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST), an autonomous Institute in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, under Department of Science and Technology, Government of India-organized a national webinar on “Human trafficking – why should we care” on 8th Sep 2021.

‘There are different forms of human trafficking and during the COVID-19 pandemic children and women are more vulnerable to being trafficked’ said Dr PM Nair the main speaker of the event. Dr Nair is the Chairperson of CORAL (Centre of Excellence & Centre of Research & Learning) on Human Trafficking with Indian Police Foundation.

The webinar was attended by over 100 researchers and health activists from different parts of the country

During the webinar, Dr Nair reminded the constitutional responsibility of each of us in preventing human trafficking in our country.

Dr Nair spoke in detail about bonded labour, organ harvesting including skin grafts and forced marriages as part of trafficking and highlighted its various forms like the ‘**Arabi Kalyanam**’ in India especially in Kerala's northern districts, is a form of human trafficking.

‘Human trafficking’ is relatively less recognized as a public health issue in India and stressed the importance of raising awareness of this issue among researchers and the general public, said Dr.Manju R Nair, Scientist at SCTIMST and the main organizer of the event in her welcome address.

Sree Chitra desired to bring this issue for discussion and encouraged a public discourse on this topic to highlight the issues of various groups who have not yet been able to enjoy their freedom and human rights to the fullest extent said Professor (Dr) Ashalatha , the Chairperson of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav at SCTIMST.

Dr Raviparasd Varma said vote of thanks and thanked the eminent speaker and the participants who attended the webinar.

