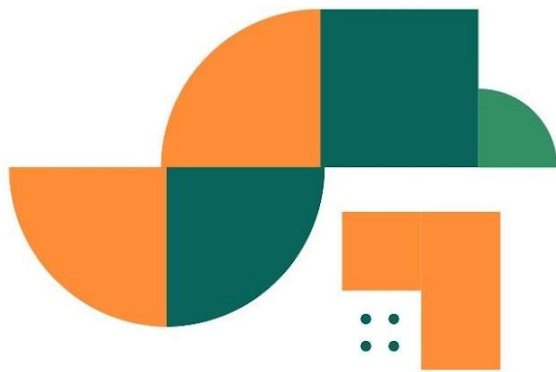




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Webinar on

# Career Pathways in Allied & Healthcare Profession

Date: 18th October 2025, Saturday

Organised By

Odisha School Education Programme  
Authority (OSEPA), Bhubaneswar

In Collaboration with  
UNICEF Odisha

Technical Partner

IDENTITY Foundation Trust



**IDENTITY**  
FOUNDATION



## About the Collaboration:

The **Odisha School Education Programme Authority (OSEPA)**, under the Department of School & Mass Education, Government of Odisha, in collaboration with **UNICEF Odisha** and Identity Foundation Trust, conducts career guidance webinars for secondary school students. These sessions are designed to empower students of grade 9 & 10 with the knowledge and confidence to make informed career decisions. The initiative focuses on strengthening the transition from school to higher education and the world of work through structured, student-friendly career awareness and guidance activities.

## About the Webinar Series:

As part of the ongoing career guidance initiative, the webinar was successfully organised by the Odisha School Education Programme Authority (OSEPA) on **18th October 2025, Saturday, at 10:30 am**. The session focused on the topic **"Career Pathways in Allied and Healthcare Professions"**. The webinar was conducted via YouTube Live and attended by students and faculty members from Grades 9 and 10 across the state of Odisha. The webinar aimed to provide students with comprehensive information about alternative career options beyond traditional MBBS degrees, especially for those interested in serving the healthcare sector through diverse professional pathways.

## About the Resource Person:

Dr. Chinmaya Kumar Patra is currently serving as the **Principal** at **Abhinav Bindra Sports Medicine and Research Institute**. With extensive experience in the field of physiotherapy and allied health sciences since 2006, Dr. Chinmay has established himself as a leading expert in sports medicine and rehabilitation services.

An alumnus of Odia medium government schools, Dr. Chinmaya understands the aspirations and challenges faced by students from rural and semi-urban backgrounds. His academic journey and professional achievements serve as an inspiration to students who aspire to build meaningful careers in healthcare.

Dr. Chinmaya's expertise spans across physiotherapy, sports medicine, rehabilitation sciences, and allied healthcare education. He has been actively involved in training and capacity building, frequently conducting sessions on career opportunities in allied health professions for students across Odisha.

His deep understanding of the healthcare ecosystem, combined with practical insights into job opportunities and skill development, makes him an ideal resource person for guiding students toward alternative healthcare careers.

Career Webinar Series, Session - 4  
**CAREER PATHWAYS IN ALLIED & HEALTHCARE PROFESSION**

Organized by  
**OSEPA**

**SATURDAY**  
18th October, 2025

**10:30 AM TO 11:30 AM**

YouTube Live on  
Odisha Career Guidance Channel

**DR. CHINMAYA KUMAR PATRA**  
(PHYSIOTHERAPIST)  
**PRINCIPAL,**  
ABHINAV BINDRA SPORTS MEDICINE & RESEARCH INSTITUTE

**IDENTITY FOUNDATION**

### Welcome Note by the Moderator:

Mr. Jasobant Narayan Singhlal, Founder and Director of Identity Foundation Trust, moderated the webinar session by warmly welcoming students and teachers from various schools across Odisha. He encouraged students to actively engage in the session by attentively listening to the resource person and thoughtfully absorbing the shared insights. Mr. Singhlal emphasised the importance of such sessions in helping students understand the diverse career



opportunities available beyond traditional medical education. He highlighted that gaining clarity about allied and healthcare professions requires curiosity and active participation. To that end, he urged students to not hesitate in asking questions during the session, as open dialogue is a key part of meaningful learning.

He stressed that with over 25 lakh students aspiring to clear NEET every year but only 1.78 lakh seats available in MBBS programs, it becomes crucial for students to explore alternative career pathways in healthcare. His remarks set a motivating tone for the session, aiming to inspire students to take charge of their future career choices with proper planning and awareness.

### Introduction to Allied and Healthcare Professions:

The Resource Person (RP) highlighted that traditionally, career options in India were limited to becoming a doctor, engineer, or government service. However, with the time passed, numerous new disciplines and career streams have emerged, offering students diverse opportunities to build meaningful careers.

Addressing the question of why Allied and Healthcare Professions remain overshadowed by MBBS, Dr. Chinmaya explained that these professions are not new. While MBBS gained popularity due to its immediate and visible impact through modern medicine and surgery, allied health professions have always played a crucial role in patient care. He emphasised that ancient Indian medical sciences like Ayurveda, Homeopathy, and Naturopathy have made significant contributions to healthcare. In today's context, modern hospitals are not run by MBBS doctors alone but by a comprehensive team of healthcare professionals working together.

### The Journey of Becoming an MBBS Doctor:

Dr. Chinmaya elaborated on the extensive timeline required to become a practicing MBBS doctor. He explained that the journey begins with at least 2 years of intense preparation and coaching to clear NEET. After securing a seat, students must complete a 5 to 6 years MBBS program, followed by 3 years of specialization (MD/MS), and then an additional 2 to 3 years for super-specialisation or fellowship programs.



This means that a student spends years in education and training before they can establish themselves as a practicing specialist doctor. During this period, students face immense academic pressure, financial burden, and uncertainty about securing jobs.

He questioned what remains of one's life expectancy after dedicating two decades solely to higher education. This is where Allied and Healthcare Professions offer a practical and fulfilling alternative, allowing students to enter the healthcare workforce much earlier while still making significant contributions to patient care.

### The Alternative - Allied Healthcare:

Dr. Chinmaya explained that a hospital is not run by MBBS doctors alone. Every healthcare facility relies on a dedicated team of professionals including laboratory technicians, nursing staff, pharmacists, physiotherapists, dietitians, radiographers, and many others.

He highlighted the critical role of laboratory technicians who conduct diagnostic tests and provide reports that doctors depend on for treatment decisions. If the lab report is incorrect, it can lead to wrong diagnosis and treatment. Therefore, the expertise and qualifications of lab technicians are as important as those of doctors.



Similarly, nursing professionals, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, and other allied health professionals contribute significantly to patient care, recovery, and rehabilitation. The quality of healthcare services depends on the combined efforts of all these professionals working as a cohesive

team. With the advancement of medical science, there is a growing need to formalize the education, certification, and licensing of all these healthcare professionals. This ensures quality standards, patient safety, and professional accountability.

### National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions (NCAHP):

Dr. Chinmay shared an important update that the Government of India has recently established the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions (NCAHP) as a statutory regulatory body. This is a landmark development that brings formal recognition, standardisation, and regulation to all allied and healthcare professions across India.

Previously, these professions were informally referred to as "paramedical," a term that lacked legal or statutory definition. However, NCAHP has now classified these professions into two distinct domains:

1. **Allied Domain:** Includes all certificate courses and diploma programs ranging from 6 months to 2 years in duration.

2. **Healthcare Domain:** Includes all degree programs starting from 3-year bachelor's degrees to 4, 4.5, and 5-year programs.

Currently, there are approximately 56 recognised courses available across India under these two domains, divided into 10 major categories. These courses have been developed based on market demand and public need, ensuring that students who pursue these programs have strong career prospects.

In Odisha, the state government regulates 27 courses under the allied and healthcare domain, conducting centralized counselling and admissions through the Directorate of Medical Education and Training (DMET) since 2020.

### **Allied and Healthcare Courses Available in Odisha:**

Dr. Chinmaya shared a comprehensive list of 27 courses regulated by the Odisha government under the DMET counselling process. These courses are categorized into three types:

#### **Undergraduate Degree Courses (8 Courses):**

1. Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPT) - 4.5 years
2. Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (BOT) - 4.5 years
3. B.Sc. in Optometry (BO) - 4 years
4. B.Sc. in Medical Laboratory Technology (BMLT) - 3 years
5. B.Sc. in Medical Radiation Technology (BMRT) - 3 years
6. B.Sc. in Operation Theatre Technology (BOTT) - 3 years
7. B.Sc. in Anaesthesia Technology (BAT) - 3 years
8. B.Sc. in Emergency Medicine Technology (BEMT) - 3 years

#### **Diploma Courses (5 Courses):**

1. Diploma in Pharmacy (D.Pharma) - 2 years
2. Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology (DMLT) - 2 years
3. Diploma in Medical Radiation Technology (DMRT) - 2 years
4. Diploma in Perfusion Technology (DPT) - 2 years
5. Diploma in Radiation Therapy Technology (DRTT) - 2 years

#### **Certificate Courses (14 Courses):**

1. Certified Ophthalmic Assistant (COA)
2. Certified Ophthalmic Surgical Assistant (COSA)
3. Certified Cath Lab Technician (CCLT)
4. Certified OT Technicians (COTT)
5. Certified Dialysis Technician (CDT)
6. Certified Neuro Technician (CNT)
7. Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT)
8. Certified Pre-hospital Trauma Technician (CPTT)
9. Certified ECG Technicians (CECGT)
10. Certified EEG Technicians (CEEGT)
11. Certified EMG Technicians (CEMGT)
12. Certified Ward Technician (CWT)

13. Certified Blood Collection Assistant (CBCA)

14. Certified Course in First Aid (CCFA)

These certificate courses range from 6 months to 2 years in duration and provide students with specialised technical skills for immediate employment opportunities.

### Educational Qualification and Eligibility:

Dr. Chinmaya clarified that the term "paramedical" has been officially abolished and replaced with "Allied and Healthcare Sciences." The educational qualifications required for admission vary depending on the course type:

- **For Bachelor's Degree Programs:** Students must have completed +2 (Class 12) with Physics, Chemistry, and Biology (PCB) as core subjects, with a minimum of 50% marks. Some courses may also consider Mathematics as an alternative subject.
- **For Diploma Programs:** Most diploma courses require +2 qualification in Science stream. Some courses may have flexible eligibility allowing students from other streams as well.
- **For Certificate Courses:** Many certificate courses of 6 months to 1 year duration can be pursued after completing Class 10. However, certificate courses of 2 years or more typically require +2 qualification.

Dr. Chinmay noted that while students from Arts and Commerce backgrounds may be eligible for certain certificate courses after Class 10, the majority of students enrolling in allied and healthcare programs come from science backgrounds. Additionally, there are lateral entry options where students who complete diploma programs can pursue bachelor's degrees.

### Admission Process and Entrance Examinations:

Addressing questions about entrance examinations, Dr. Chinmaya explained that currently, many allied and healthcare courses do not have a common national entrance test like NEET. However, significant changes are underway.

Starting from the 2026-2027 academic session, Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPT) admissions will be conducted through NEET eligibility criteria, bringing it at par with other medical courses. This reflects the growing recognition and importance of physiotherapy as a healthcare profession.

For other allied and healthcare courses, the Odisha state government conducts centralized counselling through DMET based on +2 merit. Students can apply for multiple courses by paying a registration fee of ₹600 per course. For example, if a student wishes to apply for three different courses, they can register for all three by paying the respective fees.

The counselling process follows a phase-wise approach where students are allotted seats based on their merit rank, preferences, and availability of seats in various government and private institutions across Odisha.





## **Career Opportunities and Job Prospects:**

Dr. Chinmaya provided comprehensive insights into career opportunities available in allied and healthcare professions, dividing them into public sector and private sector employment:

### **Public Sector Opportunities:**

India, being the most populous country in the world, has an ever-increasing demand for healthcare professionals. The government's vision to become a developed nation includes massive investments in the health sector.

Currently, every district in India is planned to have a medical college. Beyond medical colleges, there is an extensive network of government hospitals from PHC (Primary Health Centre) at the panchayat level to subdivisional hospitals, district hospitals, and super-specialty medical colleges.

While permanent positions are still being created at various levels, many healthcare professionals are currently employed under the National Health Mission (NHM) with attractive starting salaries. As the government's health infrastructure continues to expand, more permanent positions will be created for allied healthcare professionals.

### **Private Sector Opportunities:**

The private healthcare sector in India has grown exponentially over the past decade. Corporate hospitals, multi-specialty clinics, diagnostic centres, rehabilitation centres, and nursing homes are opening across the country, creating thousands of job opportunities.

Private medical colleges and hospitals seeking NAB (National Accreditation Board) accreditation must meet minimum staffing criteria, which includes employing qualified allied healthcare professionals such as laboratory technicians, physiotherapists, dietitians, and nursing staff.

The growing trend toward preventive healthcare, wellness centres, sports medicine clinics, and geriatric care facilities has further expanded employment opportunities for allied healthcare professionals.

### **Global Opportunities:**

Dr. Chinmay highlighted that the global healthcare expenditure stands at approximately \$63 billion USD, with a significant share in the Asian market. India is recognized as a major supplier of skilled healthcare workers to countries in Europe, the Middle East, and America.

Western countries face a shortage of skilled healthcare professionals and actively recruit qualified Indian professionals. Students who acquire strong clinical skills, maintain updated knowledge,

develop good communication abilities, and present themselves professionally have excellent opportunities for international employment with competitive salaries.

### Salary Expectations and Career Growth:

Addressing student concerns about salary packages, Dr. Chinmaya provided realistic expectations:

- **For bachelor's degree Holders:** Fresh graduates with bachelor's degrees (BPT, BOT, BMLT, etc.) can expect starting salaries ranging from ₹30,000 to ₹40,000 per month in both government and private sectors.
- **For Diploma and Certificate Holders:** Professionals with diploma and certificate qualifications can expect starting salaries ranging from ₹15,000 to ₹25,000 per month, depending on their specialization and skill level.



Dr. Chinmaya emphasised that salary growth depends on individual skills, experience, and continuous professional development. Private employers value skilled professionals and offer competitive compensation packages. As professionals gain experience and develop expertise in specialized areas, their earning potential increases significantly.

He gave an example of physiotherapists working with high-net-worth individuals such as professional cricketers like Sachin Tendulkar, who earn salaries exceeding ₹10 lakh per annum. Similarly, experienced professionals who establish their own clinics, diagnostic centres, or rehabilitation facilities can earn substantially higher incomes.

### Demand-Supply Gap in Healthcare Workforce:

Dr. Chinmaya shared important statistics highlighting the massive demand for healthcare professionals in India. He stated that according to healthcare workforce calculations, India requires approximately 1 physiotherapist per 10,000 population.

Currently, only about 50,000 to 60,000 physiotherapists are actively working across India. Based on population estimates, India needs approximately 1.5 lakh physiotherapists, indicating a shortage of nearly 1 lakh physiotherapists. Similar demand-supply gaps exist across other allied healthcare professions.

This significant workforce shortage ensures strong job security and multiple employment opportunities for students pursuing allied and healthcare courses. The demand is not limited to metropolitan cities but extends to rural and semi-urban areas as well, where healthcare infrastructure is rapidly expanding.

### Understanding Physiotherapy as a Career:

When asked to elaborate on physiotherapy, Dr. Chinmaya explained that physiotherapy is an emerging and high-demand profession globally. In the United States, physiotherapy ranks as the 4th most sought-after profession among all career options.

Physiotherapy has a history of over 60 years in India and continues to grow as a respected healthcare discipline. In simple terms, physiotherapists are movement specialists. The human body functions within a musculoskeletal framework, and whenever movement restriction occurs due to injury, surgery, neurological conditions, or age-related issues, physiotherapists help patients regain functional movement.



### **Specialisations in Physiotherapy:**

At the master's level (MPT - Master of Physiotherapy), students can specialize in various domains:

1. Orthopaedics: Treating bone, joint, and muscle injuries
2. Neurology: Rehabilitation for stroke, brain injury, and neurological disorders
3. Cardiopulmonary: Heart and lung rehabilitation
4. Sports Physiotherapy: Working with athletes and sports injuries
5. Geriatrics: Caring for elderly patients
6. Gynaecology: Women's health and maternal care
7. Oncology Rehabilitation: Cancer patient rehabilitation
8. Paediatrics: Treating children with developmental disorders

Dr. Chinmaya emphasised that physiotherapy is a lifelong needed service - from womb to tomb - as people of all ages require movement rehabilitation at various stages of life.

### **Scholarship Opportunities and Financial Support:**

Understanding the financial concerns of students from economically weaker sections, Dr. Chinmay provided information about various scholarship schemes available for allied and healthcare students:

#### **State Government Scholarships:**

The Odisha state government provides several scholarship schemes with specific eligibility criteria:

1. e-Medhabruti Scholarship: For students from OBC categories pursuing professional courses
2. SC/ST Category Scholarships: Dedicated scholarships for students from Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities, providing support ranging from ₹50,000 to ₹60,000 per annum based on course fees
3. Merit-based Scholarships: For students with excellent academic performance

### **Central Government Schemes:**

Students can also apply for various central government scholarship programs designed to support students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

### **Application Process:**

Scholarships are administered through a centralized window opened by the Higher Education Department. Students must apply at the institutional level, and after verification of eligibility criteria, scholarship amounts are directly credited to students' bank accounts. The selection process involves institutional-level screening to ensure deserving candidates receive financial support.

Dr. Chinmay shared that many students in his institution have received scholarships ranging from ₹30,000 to ₹60,000 annually, significantly reducing their financial burden and enabling them to focus on their studies.



### **Entrepreneurship Opportunities in Allied Healthcare:**

Dr. Chinmaya highlighted exciting entrepreneurship opportunities available for allied healthcare professionals who wish to establish their own ventures:

### **Rehabilitation Hospital Concept:**

He shared the example of his former students who have successfully established rehabilitation hospitals. This is an innovative concept where patients who have undergone surgery or suffered strokes

are provided comprehensive post-operative care in a dedicated facility instead of being sent home immediately.

Rehabilitation hospitals offer affordable alternatives to corporate hospitals while providing essential services such as nursing care, physiotherapy, pharmaceutical support, dietetics, and occupational therapy. These facilities bridge the gap between hospital discharge and complete recovery, especially for patients whose homes lack adequate facilities for post-operative care.

### **Educational Institutions:**

With the rapid growth of allied healthcare education, there has been an explosion in the number of colleges offering these courses. Dr. Chinmaya noted that while there were only 5 to 7 physiotherapy colleges a decade ago, Odisha now has 22 physiotherapy colleges. Similarly, over 300 to 400 nursing colleges and 200+ pharmacy colleges have been established due to high demand.

Entrepreneurs with healthcare education backgrounds can establish educational institutions, training centres, and skill development facilities. This not only creates employment opportunities but also contributes to building a skilled healthcare workforce.

### **Private Clinics and Diagnostic Centres:**

Qualified professionals can establish specialised clinics, diagnostic laboratories, physiotherapy centres, wellness clinics, sports medicine facilities, and preventive healthcare centres. With proper planning, these ventures require moderate initial investment and offer sustainable income potential.

### **Role of Allied Healthcare in National Missions:**

Dr. Chinmaya connected allied healthcare professions to national development initiatives, particularly the Fit India Mission launched by the Government of India. He explained that this mission aims to make every Indian citizen physically fit and healthy.

Allied healthcare professionals play a crucial role in achieving this national goal. With sports education becoming a mainstream subject instead of an ancillary activity, schools across India will need to appoint qualified physiotherapists, sports medicine specialists, and fitness professionals.

### **Olympic Value Education Programme (OVEP):**

The government has introduced OVEP in schools to promote sports culture and Olympic values among students. This initiative requires physical education teachers, sports physiotherapists, and fitness trainers at every school level.

### **India's Olympic Ambitions:**

With India aspiring to host the Olympic Games in the future, there will be an unprecedented demand for sports medicine professionals, athletic trainers, physiotherapists, nutritionists, and sports psychologists. Students entering these fields today will be perfectly positioned to contribute to India's sporting excellence in the coming decade.

### **Student Guidance and Career Planning:**

Throughout the session, Mr. Jasobant Singhlal emphasised the importance of career planning and decision-making. He stressed that students should not wait until after failing NEET to think about alternative options. Instead, they should proactively explore multiple career pathways and make informed decisions.

## Career Planning Hierarchy:

Mr. Singhlal outlined a hierarchical approach to career planning in healthcare:



He emphasised that students should have clarity about their interests, strengths, and career goals. **Having a backup plan is not a sign of weakness but a mark of practical wisdom.** Students who plan comprehensively and explore all available options make better career decisions and avoid wasting precious years in confusion.



## The Service Mindset:

Both Dr. Chinmay and Mr. Singhlal repeatedly emphasised that healthcare professions require a genuine service mindset. Students who are passionate about serving people, contributing to society, and making a positive difference in patients' lives will find immense satisfaction and success in allied healthcare careers.

The focus should not solely be on adding "Dr." before one's name but on the meaningful impact one can create in people's lives. Students who approach their careers with this mindset become respected professionals regardless of their specific designation.

## Resources Available for Students:

Mr. Singhlal informed students about various resources available for career guidance:

- **Official Website:** Students can access the official career guidance website where comprehensive information about all courses, admission processes, and career pathways is available. The website features a "Resources" section with downloadable career collaterals, booklets, and information guides.
- **YouTube Channel:** The Odisha Career Guidance YouTube channel hosts recordings of all webinar sessions, allowing students to revisit and review information at their convenience.

Students were encouraged to subscribe to the channel for regular updates and future webinar announcements.

- **Career Booklets:** Physical booklets have been distributed to schools across Odisha. Students who have not received the booklet can download it from the website. The booklet provides comprehensive information about career options for Class 9 and 10 students.
- **Email Support:** Students can send their queries and questions on feedback tab of the Odisha Career Guidance website i.e.; [www.odishacareerguidance.com/feedback.php](http://www.odishacareerguidance.com/feedback.php). The career guidance team commits to responding to all queries within 48 hours, ensuring that students receive timely assistance for their career-related questions.

### Queries from the Students:

| Questions                                                                        | Answers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Can students from Arts or Commerce backgrounds pursue allied healthcare courses? | Some certificate courses that can be pursued after Class 10 are open to all stream students. However, most diploma and degree programs require a Science stream with PCB subjects.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| What is the duration of pharmacy courses?                                        | Diploma in Pharmacy (D. Pharma) is a 2-year course, while Bachelor of Pharmacy (B. Pharma) is a 4-year degree program.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| I want to pursue B.Sc. Nursing, but my math is weak. Can I still do it?          | Nursing courses primarily require Biology as the core subject. Students should refer to the specific eligibility criteria published in the DMET counselling SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) to confirm subject requirements.                                                                                                                       |
| What are the minimum marks required for admission?                               | For courses like BPT and BOT, students need a minimum of 50% marks in +2 with PCB subjects. For other courses, passing the +2 examination may be sufficient. Different courses have different eligibility criteria that are detailed in the DMET admission guidelines.                                                                                |
| How can I get information about colleges offering these courses?                 | Students can visit the Odisha University of Health Sciences website (physically located at Sishu Bhawan Square, Bhubaneswar) or check the DMET (Directorate of Medical Education and Training) website. During counselling, the dropdown menu shows all available colleges for choice locking.                                                        |
| Is it possible to earn ₹10 lakh+ salary in allied healthcare professions?        | Yes, it is possible for highly skilled professionals who work with high-net-worth individuals or establish successful entrepreneurial ventures. However, students should have realistic expectations and focus on skill development. Success and high earnings come with experience, expertise, and dedication over 5 to 10 years of consistent work. |
| What are entrepreneurship opportunities with minimum investment?                 | Professionals can establish rehabilitation hospitals, private clinics, physiotherapy centres, diagnostic labs, or educational institutions. Many successful professionals manage teams of 100+ employees and run profitable healthcare ventures. The                                                                                                  |

|  |                                                                                                      |
|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | healthcare sector offers numerous entrepreneurship opportunities for those with vision and planning. |
|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### Information about Odisha University of Health Sciences:

Dr. Chinmaya provided important information about the Odisha University of Health Sciences, which is the apex body regulating all allied and healthcare courses in the state. The university is physically located at Sishu Bhawan Square in Bhubaneswar.

The university website provides comprehensive information about:

- List of affiliated colleges
- Course curricula and syllabus
- Eligibility criteria for different programs
- Examination schedules and results
- Admission guidelines and processes

Students interested in pursuing allied and healthcare courses should regularly visit this website for official and updated information.

### Message to Parents:

Dr. Chinmay delivered a powerful message to parents, acknowledging that many are unaware of the diverse career opportunities available beyond traditional paths like Medicine, Engineering, and Law. He stated that parents often guide their children based on societal perceptions rather than exploring contemporary career options that align with their children's interests and aptitudes.

He urged parents to:

- Educate themselves about emerging career fields
- Understand the strong demand for allied healthcare professionals
- Support their children's informed career choices
- Focus on career satisfaction and job security rather than just social prestige
- Recognize that allied healthcare careers offer respectable income, job stability, and meaningful work

Parents were encouraged to have open conversations with their children about career aspirations and explore multiple pathways instead of pressuring them to repeatedly attempt NEET if they are not genuinely interested or prepared for the intensive competition.

### Closing Message to Students:

Mr. Singhlal delivered a motivational closing message emphasizing personal responsibility for career decisions. He reminded students that:

- Career planning is your responsibility - Students must take ownership of their future
- The earlier you decide, the earlier you succeed - Procrastination delays success
- Have realistic expectations - Building a successful career requires time, effort, and dedication

- Create your own identity - Don't just rely on your parents' achievements; build your own reputation
- Service mindset is essential - Healthcare professions require genuine passion for helping people
- Don't waste time - Each year is precious; make informed decisions promptly

He encouraged students to maintain notebooks during career guidance sessions, actively participate in discussions, ask questions without hesitation, and utilize available resources like websites, YouTube videos, and email support.

His powerful message was clear: Success comes from hard work, informed decision-making, and timely action. Students who plan their careers comprehensively and explore all available options position themselves for success regardless of NEET results.



## Conclusion:

The webinar on Career Pathways in Allied and Healthcare Professions provided invaluable insights to students of Grade 9 and 10 across Odisha, equipping them with essential knowledge to make informed career decisions. The session comprehensively covered the range of 27 courses available in Odisha, educational qualifications, admission processes, career opportunities, salary expectations, and entrepreneurship possibilities.

Students learned that Allied and Healthcare professions offer rewarding careers with strong job security, competitive salaries, and opportunities for professional growth. The establishment of NCAHP as a statutory regulatory body marks a significant milestone in recognizing and formalizing these professions at par with traditional medical careers.

The webinar successfully dispelled myths about allied healthcare careers being inferior to MBBS and demonstrated that these professions offer meaningful, respected, and financially viable career paths. Students were encouraged to explore their interests, plan their careers proactively, and recognize that serving society through healthcare is not limited to becoming an MBBS doctor alone.

The program fostered awareness, and confidence, enabling young learners to embrace alternative healthcare careers while contributing to India's vision of becoming a developed nation with robust healthcare infrastructure.

### YouTube Engagement Analytics:

|                                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Total views during YouTube Live | 6,101         |
| Average view duration           | 15:09 minutes |
| Peak concurrent viewers         | 1,763         |

### Attendees Details:

| Districts     | No. of Schools | No. of Attendees for Class IX |        | No. of Attendees for Class X |        |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|--------|
|               |                | Boys                          | Girls  | Boys                         | Girls  |
| ANGUL         | 129            | 3456                          | 3261   | 3170                         | 3242   |
| BALASORE      | 22             | 493                           | 531    | 441                          | 484    |
| BHADRAK       | 22             | 583                           | 471    | 586                          | 442    |
| BOLANGIR      | 5              | 136                           | 182    | 109                          | 134    |
| BOUDH         | 14             | 495                           | 524    | 375                          | 525    |
| CUTTACK       | 57             | 1145                          | 1091   | 1064                         | 933    |
| DEOGARH       | 1              | 10                            | 12     | 12                           | 21     |
| DHENKANAL     | 13             | 256                           | 261    | 227                          | 222    |
| GAJAPATI      | 14             | 399                           | 281    | 370                          | 272    |
| GANJAM        | 66             | 1552                          | 2106   | 1546                         | 2109   |
| JAGATSINGHPUR | 136            | 2457                          | 2434   | 2290                         | 2179   |
| JAJPUR        | 18             | 426                           | 473    | 380                          | 429    |
| JHARSUGUDA    | 33             | 605                           | 602    | 582                          | 566    |
| KALAHANDI     | 2              | 20                            | 86     | 20                           | 77     |
| KANDHAMAL     | 7              | 162                           | 106    | 126                          | 127    |
| KENDRAPARA    | 35             | 890                           | 755    | 708                          | 664    |
| KEONJHAR      | 39             | 764                           | 857    | 727                          | 759    |
| KHORDHA       | 29             | 904                           | 957    | 864                          | 900    |
| KORAPUT       | 60             | 1857                          | 2072   | 1821                         | 1952   |
| MALKANGIRI    | 26             | 770                           | 787    | 769                          | 723    |
| MAYURBHANJ    | 5              | 59                            | 165    | 65                           | 162    |
| NABARANGAPUR  | 1              | 3                             | 30     | 8                            | 24     |
| NAYAGARH      | 129            | 3095                          | 2782   | 2823                         | 2712   |
| NUAPADA       | 17             | 411                           | 491    | 359                          | 394    |
| PURI          | 27             | 784                           | 653    | 664                          | 638    |
| RAYAGADA      | 43             | 1008                          | 1030   | 785                          | 1054   |
| SUNDARGARH    | 18             | 232                           | 387    | 211                          | 404    |
| Total         | 968            | 22,972                        | 23,387 | 21,102                       | 22,148 |
| Grand Total   |                | 46,359                        |        | 43,250                       |        |
|               |                | 89,609                        |        |                              |        |

Photos from Ground:

