



Directorate of
Higher Secondary Education
Government of Odisha



Webinar on Career Selection & How to Prepare for Higher Education & Work Transition After Class 12th

21st June 2025, Saturday

Organised by;

Directorate of Higher Secondary Education (DHSE, Odisha)

In collaboration with; UNICEF Odisha

Technical Partner;

IDENTITY Foundation Trust

About the Collaboration:

The Directorate of Higher Secondary Education, Department of School & Mass Education, Govt. of Odisha, in collaboration with UNICEF Odisha and its technical partners, organise career guidance webinars for students across higher secondary schools and colleges. These sessions aim to empower young minds to make informed and confident career choices. The initiative aims to strengthen the school-to-work and higher education transition through structured career guidance.

About the Webinar:

Following this practice, the first webinar of the 2025-26 Academic Session was organised by the Directorate of Higher Secondary Education (DHSE), Odisha on 21st June 2025, Saturday at 12:00 pm on the topic of "Career Selection and How to Appear for Higher Education & Work Transition after Class 12th" at the DHSE conference hall. The webinar was attended by 53 higher secondary schools where the faculties and students of grade 12 along with the officials from DHSE, Odisha. The Joint Director of DHSE Ms. Sasmita Mali gave the welcome note by welcoming the resource person, students, and faculties for joining the webinar after the summer vacation.

No. of higher-secondary schools / colleges attended the webinar session	53
No. of Class XI students who attended the webinar session	203
No. of Class XII students who attended the webinar session	1,989
No. of faculties who attended the webinar session	390

About the Resource Person:

Mr. Jasobant Narayan Singhlal, renowned career coach and motivational speaker joined the webinar as the resource person to address the audience. Mr. Jasobant is a dedicated professional with a strong commitment to youth empowerment and education. With extensive experience in implementing career guidance initiatives and life skills programs, he has been actively working with government bodies and development partners to bridge the gap between education and employability.

Welcome Note by the Resource Person:

Mr. Jasobant Narayan Singhlal warmly welcomed all attendees, including students, faculty members, and officials from the Directorate of Higher Secondary Education (DHSE). He informed the gathering that this career awareness webinar marks the third edition of the series, which has been consistently conducted over the past three years. Despite being a continued initiative, this edition brings **new insights and discussions** to the table. He encouraged active participation from students and faculty throughout the session by responding to questions and sharing queries. Mr. Singhlal also announced that a series of webinars will be organised by DHSE in the coming days.



Each session will feature different expert resource persons who will share valuable information on diverse career paths, aiming to build **comprehensive career awareness** among the youth. He urged everyone to stay engaged and make the most of these learning opportunities.

Time to take Decisions:

Mr. Jasobant Narayan Singhal shared a personal reflection on his own journey, highlighting the challenges he faced in choosing a career path due to the limited access to information and guidance during his time. In contrast, he emphasised that today's generation has the advantage of information readily available at their fingertips, making it more important to make informed and timely career decisions. Citing that the average age of an entrepreneur in India is 26, he noted the growing trend of young individuals transforming their ideas into enterprises through various government-supported programs and by opting for an entrepreneurial journey. He urged students, especially those in Grade 12, to take bold and proactive steps toward shaping their careers. He further stressed the need for today's youth to equip themselves with market-relevant skills such as communication, artificial intelligence, information technology, finance, and management, which are essential for thriving in a rapidly evolving professional landscape.

Current scenario of students:

In today's competitive world, many students progress through their academic journey without having a clear vision of their career goals. This lack of direction often leads to confusion, where students spend considerable time and energy experimenting with various career options without a structured plan. As a

result, they may end up choosing paths that do not align with their interests or strengths, leading to dissatisfaction and lost opportunities.

One of the common patterns observed is students spending an entire year or more preparing for multiple entrance exams without understanding their true interests or the scope of those careers. Such trial-and-error approaches not only delay professional growth but also affect their

confidence and motivation. It is therefore crucial for every student to have access to proper career guidance early on, enabling them to make informed decisions about their future. With clarity and a well-defined career plan, students can utilise their time effectively and move confidently toward their goals.

Designing your Career Path:

During the discussion, students from **22 districts** participating in the webinar shared their diverse career aspirations, including becoming doctors, engineers, civil servants, teachers, lecturers, investment bankers, and more. In response, the Resource Person (RP) emphasised that while **envisioning a successful career is easy, staying committed and consistently working towards it can be challenging**, especially in today's highly competitive world. This intense competition often leads students to abandon their aspirational goals



midway. The RP further advised that rather than stepping back in the face of challenges, students should take a pause to **re-evaluate their career choices**. They should ask themselves meaningful questions such as: **“Who am I?”, “What am I currently doing?”, “What are my true strengths?”, and “Where can I truly excel?”**. Reflecting on these questions can guide them to realign their goals, gain clarity about their future, and pursue career paths that match their abilities, interests, and potential for long-term success.

Improving Communication Skills – A significant milestone towards a successful career:

Communication skill, especially the ability to speak in English along with strong knowledge of the mother tongue, is a vital asset that every individual should begin developing early in their career journey. It is essential to be fluent in languages that are widely used in professional and corporate environments, which plays a key role in shaping one’s career growth. However, many students from vernacular-medium backgrounds often struggle with confidence due to their fear of speaking in English. This hesitation becomes a barrier to expressing their ideas effectively and limits their opportunities. To overcome this, students are encouraged to practice speaking in English regularly, starting with conversations among peers. Additionally, **reading English literature, newspapers, or simple storybooks, listening to the speakers on TEDx platforms** can help enhance vocabulary and fluency. Gradual practice not only improves language skills but also builds self-confidence. By strengthening their communication skills, students can open doors to broader academic and professional prospects in an increasingly globalized job market.

Financial Constraints should not be a challenge!

While discussing the aspirations of students—whether aiming for immediate employment or opting for higher studies—the Resource Person (RP) emphasised that every individual has unique goals and choices. For those seeking jobs right after their studies, the RP suggested exploring opportunities through competitive exams and relevant skill-based courses. On the other hand, students interested in advancing academically can pursue higher education to deepen their knowledge and expertise. Addressing concerns around financial constraints, the RP strongly stated that finance should not be seen as a barrier. Students who perform well have access to numerous scholarships and financial aid opportunities. Additionally, he recommended that those unable to pursue studies immediately due to financial or personal reasons could consider starting a job to gain experience and later continue their education. The RP encouraged students to carefully align their decisions & commitment with their personal goals, interests, and long-term career vision for sustained growth.

Identify a Mentor:

A mentor plays a vital role in shaping a student’s career journey, offering guidance, support, and clarity in decision-making. Every student should seek a mentor whether it’s a teacher, friend, or professional—someone who provides unbiased advice based on an honest assessment of their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges. A mentor helps navigate confusion, explore options, and make informed career choices. The Resource Person (RP) strongly encouraged students to utilise the Odisha Career Guidance website: Ama Bruti, where they can access expert mentoring and career counselling, helping them



align their aspirations with the right opportunities and pathways for success.

Re-introducing the Odisha Career Guidance Website:

During the webinar, the Resource Person, in collaboration with officials from the Directorate of Higher Secondary Education (DHSE), engaged participants, both students and faculty in a reflective discussion about their usage of the **Odisha Career Guidance Website**. Upon inquiry, it was revealed that only 50% of attendees had actively begun referring to the website to explore suitable career pathways. Acknowledging this, the Resource Person took the opportunity to reintroduce the Odisha Career Guidance website; accessible at www.odishacareerguidance.com and underscored its significance as a comprehensive tool for career exploration.

He elaborated on the extensive resources available on the website, encouraging both students and institutions to regularly download and utilise various career collaterals, including **activity posters, Ama Bruti booklets, career calendars, interactive worksheets, and personality development activity books**. He also highlighted that there is a Career Guidance YouTube channel updated with 60+ videos on different career path-ways for the reference of the students as well. These resources, he emphasised, are instrumental in enhancing career awareness and guiding students toward informed decision-making.

Further reinforcing this message, the Ms. Sasmita Mali, Joint Director, DHSE urged all attendees to actively engage with the materials, advising them to regularly practice the activities and utilize the portal's query and feedback features for any doubts or suggestions. To facilitate more personalised guidance, the Resource Person also introduced a dedicated email support channel info.careerguidance2024@gmail.com inviting participants to **write in with their career-related concerns**. He assured that every query would be addressed within 24 to 48 hours, fostering a responsive and supportive ecosystem. In response, numerous students and faculty members committed to leveraging this email support, acknowledging its value in resolving individual doubts and gaining clarity on career prospects.

Additionally, the Resource Person made a significant appeal to all participating institutions to prominently display the website's resources and the support email ID on their school and college notice boards. This, he emphasised, would serve as a constant visual reminder, **fostering a culture of career readiness and awareness among students**. The initiative was well-received, reflecting a collective commitment to empowering the youth with the right tools for their future.

Right Approach to Career Planning:

The Resource Person also introduced a structured approach to career planning begins with **Understanding Self**, which is the foundation of making informed career choices. It involves introspection to recognise one's **interests, values, personality traits, and aspirations**. Self-awareness enables individuals to choose careers aligned with their inner motivations, ensuring satisfaction and long-term growth.

Equally vital are the **Career Defining Factors**, which include personal interests, skills, market demand, financial goals, and family expectations. A balanced consideration of these factors helps in filtering viable



career options that are both fulfilling and sustainable.

The next crucial step is **Awareness of Different Career Options**. In today's evolving world, opportunities extend beyond traditional careers. Exploring various industries, emerging job roles, vocational pathways, and entrepreneurship options allows individuals to make diversified and informed choices.

Goal Setting plays a pivotal role in career planning. Setting **SMART goals—Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound** helps create a clear roadmap toward a chosen career path. Whether aiming for higher studies, skill development, or competitive exams, goal clarity drives focused efforts.

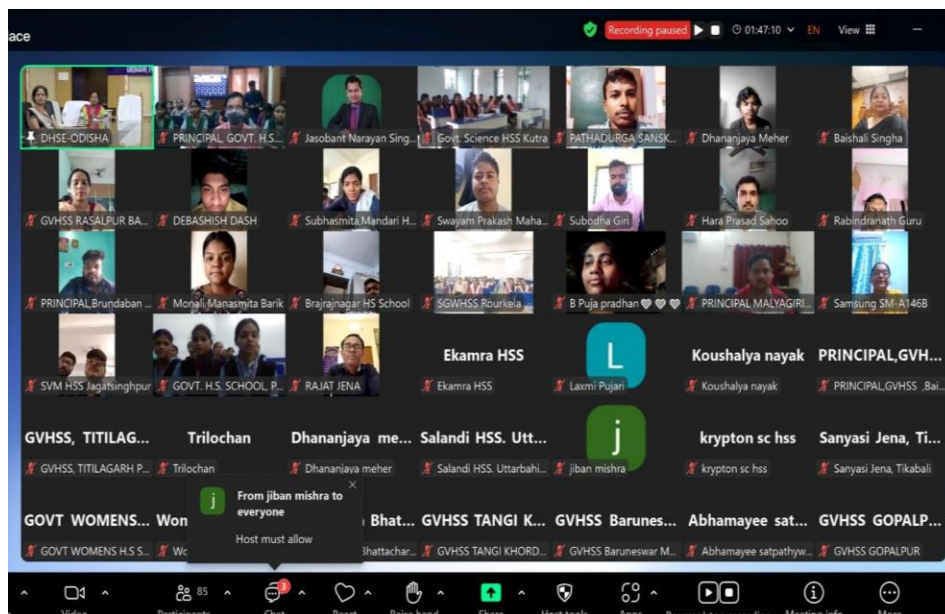
Lastly, the **Analysis of Strengths and Weaknesses** is essential for personal growth. Understanding one's strengths helps leverage them effectively, while recognizing weaknesses provides an opportunity for improvement through targeted learning or skill-building.

Adopting this structured approach, combining self-awareness, informed choices, and actionable goals—empowers individuals to navigate the complex career landscape with confidence. This process not only minimizes trial and error but also leads to career satisfaction, growth, and resilience in a competitive job market.

Factors should you keep in mind while choosing your Career (LIFE):

Ability/Aptitude: Our aptitude reflects natural strengths whether in numerical, linguistic, etc. Aligning your career with your core abilities ensures better performance, confidence, and long-term success.

Personality: Our personality traits, whether you are an introvert, extrovert, analytical thinker, or creative mind; greatly influence career satisfaction. For example, extroverts may thrive in sales or public relations, while introverts might prefer research, analytics, or technical roles.



Quiet – Introvert	Staying alone mostly or speaking to limited people only
Strong-resilient-calm	Ability to recover and fightback from failure or challenges in less time
Easy going-impulsive	Spontaneous, action without thought or analysis
Practical- realistic	Aware of the realities of life, planning
Tough- competitive	Strong desire to win or be the best at something

Social- extrovert	Good at expressing self, Comfortable in many situations
Sensitive – anxious - nervous	Become more emotional during a failure or stressful situation
Focused – organized	Detail- oriented, efficient, organizing skills
Imaginative-experimental	Accepts changes and keeps trying new things
Generous- Cooperative	Helpful, kind

Interest: Genuine interest drives motivation. A career aligned with what excites you ensures enthusiasm, resilience, and fulfilment. Ignoring interests may lead to dissatisfaction, burnout, or lack of growth.

Dynamic Careers: Some industries are dynamic, constantly evolving with trends—like technology, digital marketing, and finance. They require continuous learning and adaptability. Dynamic careers suit those who enjoy change, innovation, and fast-paced environments.

Stable/Static Careers: Stable careers—such as teaching, government services, or law—offer predictable roles, job security, and steady growth. These are ideal for individuals who prefer consistency and lower risk.

Long-Term Education: Careers like medicine, research, and law demand extensive education and specialization. They suit those willing to invest years in academics for deep expertise and higher rewards.

Short-Term Education: Vocational courses, certifications in digital marketing, graphic design, IT support, or finance enable individuals to enter the workforce quickly with specialized, job-ready skills.

Diverse Career options:

Science		Commerce
Mathematics Branch	Biology Specific	Management & Finance
Engineering (Degree)	Allied Medical	Actuarial Science
Diploma / Polytechnic	Medical	Chartered Accountant
Pure science & Research Scientist	Pure science & Research Scientist	Company Secretary
Architecture	Para Medical	Cost Management Accountant
Astronomy	Biotechnology	Chartered Financial Analyst
NDA	Agriculture	Certified Financial Planner
Commercial Pilot	Forensic Science	Banker
Merchant Navy		Stock Broker
Neutral Careers		
Law	Design	Hospitality Management
Aviation	Travel & Tourism	Hospital Management
Journalism & Mass Communication	Event Management	Sports Management
Cinematography	ITES (BPO)	Career Counsellor
Teacher & Professor	Trainer & Coach	

Attendees List:

School / College Name	SAMS Code of School	District Name	No of Students attended : Class XI	No of Students attended : Class XII	No of Faculties attended
Total			203	1,989	390
Government Higher Secondary School, Kanchuru	11261101	Ganjam	0	57	4
Govt Vocational H S School, Tumudibandha	16081801	Kandhamal	0	27	1
PM Shri Janata Government Higher Secondary School, Laimura	08031101	Deogarh	0	3	3
Khallikote Higher Secondary School	11071102	Ganjam	0	0	20
Scs Hss Puri	26151101	Puri	56	0	25
Gvwhss, Sambalpur	28141804	Sambalpur	0	10	1
Jiral Higher Secondary School, Jiral	09062101	Dhenkanal	0	30	3
Govt Women's H S School Keonjhar	18171202	Keonjhar	8	0	2
Ladugaon Higher Secondary School	15152102	Kalahandi	0	15	6
Kudei Women's Higher Secondary School	02109201	Balasore	0	50	18
Banamalipur Higher Secondary School	19029101	Khurda	20	25	5
Gwhss,Sambalpur	28141202	Sambalpur	0	20	5
Darwin Memorial Higher Secondary School, Kudumulugumma, Malkangiri	107	Malkangiri	0	105	12
Gvhss Bonaigarh	30011802	Sundargarh	0	5	1
Remunda Hss Remunda	03062103	Baragarh	0	23	8
Ugm Hss, Sector 20, Rourkela	30109102	Sundargarh	0	45	8
R.T .Bidyapeeth Higher Secondary School, Pratappur	11311101	Ganjam	0	16	6
Women's Higher Secondary School, Khandapada	24099201	Nayagarh	0	31	7
Kalyaniray Hs School Rourkela	30109101	Sundargarh	0	32	7
Govt.Hss Boripadar	11021102	Ganjam	0	25	5
Ravenshaw Higher Secondary School Cuttack	07181101	Cuttack	0	31	5
Govt.Higher Secondary School, Bandhugam, Koraput	20081101	Koraput	0	26	7

School / College Name	SAMS Code of School	District Name	No of Students attended : Class XI	No of Students attended : Class XII	No of Faculties attended
Satchidananda Higher Secondary School, Indipur Dhenkanal	09039103	Dhenkanal	0	72	6
Satyabadi Meher Higher Secondary School, Madhapur, Angul	01059101	Angul	0	46	3
Radhashyam Anchalik H.S School Bilaisarda	05069103	Bolangir	0	21	1
Maa Markamahigher Secondary School,Bissamcuttack	27012101	Rayagada	0	80	4
Maa Markama Higher Secondary School, Bissamcuttack	27012101	Rayagada	0	80	4
Baripada Higher Secondary School, Baripada-2, Mayurbhanj	22112101	Mayurbhanj	0	23	8
Pm Shri Higher Secondary School Khuntagaon	30081102	Sundargarh	119	0	7
Kamala Kishori Rout Mahila Higher Secondary School, Kusunnagar, Barapada,Bhadrak	04029201	Bhadrak	0	10	6
Svm H S School,	12092101	Jagatsinghpur	0	42	8
Pratapsàsan Higher Secondary School, Balakati	19012101	Khurda	0	80	5
Govt.Vocational Hs School Balangir	05071807	Bolangir	0	6	2
Government Vocational Higher Secondary School, Khuntagaon	30081801	Sundargarh	0	21	6
Gvhss Rasalpur Balasore	02021	Balasore	0	34	1
Science Higher Secondary School Pudamari	11069101	Ganjam	0	120	16
Gvhss Pssj Hss Banarpal Angul	01021801	Angul	0	21	6
Sridhar Higher Secondary School Borosingi	11181104	Ganjam	0	60	5
Govt Womens H S School Titilagarh	05181201	Bolangir	0	61	7
Sarbamangala Higher Secondary School Golamunda Kalahandi	15112101	Kalahandi	0	75	20
Gangadhar Meher Higher Secondary	28141101	Sambalpur	0	10	20



School / College Name	SAMS Code of School	District Name	No of Students attended : Class XI	No of Students attended : Class XII	No of Faculties attended
School					
Govt Science Higher Secondary School Kutra	30141101	Sundargarh	0	35	8
Anantanarayan Higher Secondary School, Dharakote	11159101	Ganjam	0	200	6
K C.Pipilli H.S.S.	02032101	Balasore	0	25	4
Panchanan Jena Higher Secondary School	19055125	Khurda	0	30	8
Sri Gupteshwar Higher Secondary School Gopapur	11281102	Ganjam	0	30	6
Brajrajnagar Higher Secondary School, Brajrajnagar	14072101	Jharsuguda	0	12	3
Br Higher Secondary School Karamtala	05141101	Bolangir	0	54	6
Binayak Acharya College, Binayak Acharya College, Berhampur	11071101	Ganjam	0	41	4
Sanjaya Memorial Govt.Women's Higher Secondary School Phulbani	16141202	Kandhamal	0	36	3
Govt.Higher Secondary School Phulbani	16141101	Kandhamal	0	50	15
B J B Higher Secondary School	19051101	Khurda	00	06	25
Govt Science Higher Secondary School, Ayeba, Kendrapara	17041101	Kendrapara	0	38	8
Total			203	1,989	390
Grand Total			2,582		

Questions asked by the attendees:

School / College Name	Questions Asked
Govt Women's H.S School, Titilagarh	How can we develop our entrepreneurial skills to become an entrepreneur
Principal Itamati HSS of Education & Tech	How to develop communication skill during my studies?
S. K. C. G Higher Secondary School	Is there any website where I can develop my skills and certificate for free
Subhalaxmi Dash	I want to study more but finance condition of my family is not good so I want



School / College Name	Questions Asked
	to earn. How can I manage?
Subhalaxmi Dash	is there any job after 12th with MBBS study
SCS HSS PURI	How to take right decision
Koushalya Nayak	What is the salary of lawyer?
Amrita Sahoo	what is the scope for microbiology and biotechnology?
Dhananjaya Meher	In the line of Art. when one does not get selected in a year and at that time one year is left what should one do at that time
Koushalya Nayak	Sir I have three preferences. I want to become an income tax inspector, ASO IN MEA then IPS. Can you guide, help or some hint me after 4 yrs graduation?
Ekamra HSS	Sir my sub physics chem bio no math can I appear iser niser
Hara Prasad Sahoo	Sir actually I want to go in Management and finance

Photo Gallery:

