

Webinar on

Career pathways in **AYUSH**

Date: 20th September 2025, Saturday

Organised By

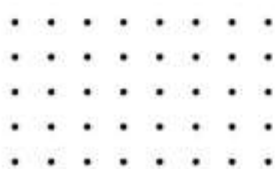
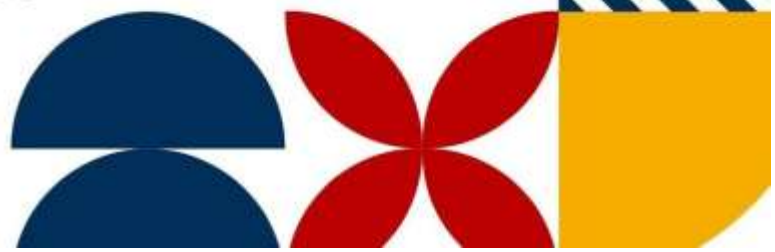
**Directorate of Higher
Secondary Education (DHSE)**

In Collaboration with

UNICEF Odisha

Technical Partner

Identity Foundation Trust



About the Collaboration:

The **Directorate of Higher Secondary Education (DHSE)**, under the Department of School & Mass Education, Government of Odisha, in collaboration with **UNICEF Odisha** and its technical partners, conducts career guidance webinars for students in higher secondary schools and colleges. These sessions are designed to empower students to make informed and confident career decisions. The initiative plays a vital role in strengthening the transition from school to higher education and the world of work through structured and meaningful career guidance.

About the Webinar:

Following this practice, the seventh (7th) session of the career webinar series Academic Session 2025-2026 was organised by the Directorate of Higher Secondary Education (DHSE), Odisha, on **20th September 2025, Saturday, at 12:00 pm** on the topic of **“Career Pathways in AYUSH”** at the DHSE conference hall. The webinar was attended by **127 higher secondary schools** where the faculties and students of grades 11 & 12 were, along with the officials from DHSE, Odisha. The Director of DHSE Ms. Niyati Pattnaik, along with the Deputy Director of DHSE, Mr. Jitendra Nayak, gave the welcome note by welcoming the resource person, moderator, students, and faculties for joining the webinar. The Director also emphasised that these webinars are organised for the students to learn more about different career options so that they can make informed career decisions. The faculties can also guide the students at the school’s level following the information shared during the webinar.

Descriptions	Boys	Girls	Total
No. of Class XI students who attended the webinar session	3,271	5,019	8,290
No. of Class XII students who attended the webinar session	2,789	4,723	7,512
Number of faculties who attended the webinar session	410	413	823
No. of students & schools attended the webinar session	15,802		127

About the Resource Person:

Dr. Sonalika Jena is an Associate Professor in the PG Department of Kayachikitsa at Gopabandhu Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya, Puri, with over ten years of extensive teaching experience across various clinical fields. She excels in curriculum development, clinical studies, and medical education within Ayurveda and is recognised for her contributions to both academic and community spheres. Dr. Jena is actively engaged in professional development through CME training, specialised HIV/AIDS programmes, and regular participation in rehabilitation initiatives as an NSS worker. Her dedication extends to international platforms as a delegate at the Shree Jagannath International Peace and Harmony event.

Alongside her teaching, she has practised privately for five years and served as in charge of the physiotherapy and geriatric units at her institution. Dr. Jena holds a BAMS, MD (Kayachikitsa), and PhD from Utkal University, with distinctions including the JIVAKA Award and several certificates of appreciation. She



has over 40 publications in national and international journals and is a prolific guest lecturer at seminars and CME events.

Welcome Note from the Moderator:

Mr. Jasobant Narayan Singhlal, Founder and Director of Identity Foundation Trust, moderated Session 7 of the Career Webinar Series by warmly welcoming students and faculty members from various institutions. 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 make informed career decisions, particularly in the field of skill-based sectors. He highlighted that gaining clarity about career paths 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. His remarks set a motivating tone for the session, aiming to inspire students to take charge of their future career choices.

Introduction of AYUSH:



The resource person shared that AYUSH stands for **Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, and Homoeopathy**. It represents a group of traditional and natural medical systems that focus on holistic health and preventive care. Unlike MBBS, which refers to a Bachelor of Medicine and a Bachelor of Surgery and is based on modern allopathic methods, AYUSH emphasises natural therapies, lifestyle management, and the body's own healing capacity. These systems have ancient roots in India and continue to play a vital role in healthcare, offering safe and cost-effective treatments for chronic and lifestyle-related diseases. While most students are aware of MBBS as a career path, AYUSH provides equally promising opportunities for those interested in natural sciences and traditional medical knowledge. Together, both allopathy and AYUSH contribute to building an integrated healthcare system that addresses diverse patient needs and expands access to affordable, culturally relevant, and sustainable healthcare solutions.

Discussing about each element of AYUSH, The Resource Person explained that

Ayurveda:

Ayurveda is an ancient Indian system of medicine that focuses on balancing the body, mind, and spirit to maintain health. It uses natural remedies like herbs, oils, and diet, along with therapies such as panchakarma for detoxification. Based on the theory of three doshas—Vata, Pitta, and Kapha—Ayurveda aims to restore harmony and prevent illness. Treatments address root causes instead of just symptoms, making it highly effective in chronic conditions. It emphasises lifestyle management, seasonal routines, and holistic wellness for long-term health.

Yoga

Yoga is a holistic discipline originating from ancient India that combines physical postures (asanas), breathing techniques (pranayama), meditation, and mindfulness. It promotes physical strength, flexibility, and inner calm, while reducing stress and fostering overall well-being. Beyond fitness, yoga is considered a philosophy of life, guiding practitioners toward balance, self-awareness, and spiritual growth. Recognised globally, yoga is effective for managing lifestyle disorders, improving mental health, and preventing many chronic ailments. It is both a preventive and therapeutic system of wellness.

Unani

Unani medicine has its roots in ancient Greek healing traditions, later enriched by Arabic and Persian scholars. It stresses the balance of four humours—blood, phlegm, yellow bile, and black bile—for maintaining health. Diagnosis is based on temperament, lifestyle, and environment, while treatments include natural remedies like herbs, dietary adjustments, cupping, and massage. Unani is known for managing chronic conditions, digestive issues, and metabolic disorders effectively. It combines scientific observations with natural therapies and remains a widely practiced traditional system in India.

Siddha

Siddha medicine originated in South India and is among the world's oldest systems of healing. It emphasises harmony between the body, mind, and environment to achieve wellness and longevity. Based on the principles of three life forces, or humours – Vata, Pitta, and Kapha – Siddha incorporates herbs, minerals, diet, and lifestyle modifications. It also values yoga and meditation for spiritual development. Siddha is particularly known for treating skin diseases, liver disorders, and chronic illnesses. The system aims to cure ailments and enhance vitality.

Homeopathy

Homoeopathy is a natural system of medicine founded in Germany by Dr. Samuel Hahnemann, based on the principle “like cures like”. It uses highly diluted substances to stimulate the body's self-healing mechanism. Homoeopathic remedies, made from plants, minerals, or animal sources, are safe, non-toxic, and prescribed in minimal doses tailored to the patient's symptoms and constitution. It is widely used for treating allergies, respiratory issues, skin problems, and mental health concerns. Homoeopathy emphasises personalised treatment, aiming for holistic, long-lasting recovery.

Courses in AYUSH:

Discussing about the available courses in AYUSH, the Resource Person shared that the Bachelor-level AYUSH courses in India include

- BAMS - Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery
- BHMS - Bachelor of Homeopathic Medicine and Surgery
- BUMS – Bachelor of Unani Medicine and Surgery
- BSMS - Bachelor of Siddha Medicine and Surgery
- BNYS - Bachelor of Naturopathy and Yoga Sciences

These are full-time professional degrees, each spanning 5.5 years, which includes a one-year mandatory clinical internship. Admission requires 10+2 (science stream: Physics, Chemistry, Biology) and a qualifying score in NEET-UG. The curriculum blends traditional medicinal theory, diagnostic methods, practical skills, and modern clinical exposure. Graduates become licensed practitioners, eligible for clinic practice, research, higher education, and wellness sectors. These courses strengthen India's traditional healthcare, offering holistic and preventive medicine along with modern therapeutic knowledge.



Non-science stream students can pursue the following courses in AYUSH:

Non-science stream students are not eligible for bachelor's degrees like BAMS, BHMS, BUMS, BSMS, or BNYS, which generally require a science background with physics, chemistry, and biology at the 10+2 level. However, several AYUSH sector courses are accessible to non-science students:

1. **Certificate and Diploma Courses:** Many institutes offer short-term certificate and diploma programmes in areas like Ayurveda fundamentals, Panchakarma therapy, Ayurveda beauty care, Sujok therapy, and alternative medicine.
2. **Distance Learning and Online Courses:** Some certificate programmes and diplomas in alternative medicine, holistic therapies, and yoga are offered online or via distance mode and may only require a class 10 or 12 pass in any stream.
3. **Ayurveda/Yoga Lifestyle Courses:** Students from non-science backgrounds can also enrol in courses that focus on basic Ayurvedic principles, lifestyle management, diet, and wellness for healthy living.

These programs provide foundational knowledge, practical skills, and entry into the wellness industry without a scientific prerequisite.

Careers in AYUSH for science background students:

The resource person shared that career options include clinical practice, research, teaching, healthcare consultancy, hospital administration, pharmaceutical industry roles, and wellness coaching. Graduates can also pursue postgraduate specialisations (MD/MS in AYUSH) or certifications to enhance their expertise. Opportunities exist in government and private healthcare, research institutes, wellness centres; and medical tourism. The sector is expanding with global recognition, integration with modern medicine, and government backing, offering stable and diverse career paths for science students.

Careers in AYUSH for non-science background students:

Non-science students are generally not eligible for bachelor's degrees in AYUSH, but they can pursue diploma, certificate, and short-term courses in Ayurveda fundamentals, Panchakarma, alternative medicine, yoga, and wellness therapies. Many programmes are available through distance learning or online formats, requiring only a pass in 10th or 12th from any stream. These courses provide foundational knowledge and skills suitable for wellness coaching, therapy assistant roles, beauty care, and community health work.



Government & private sector jobs & salary range in AYUSH:

Government Sector Jobs: AYUSH Medical Officer, Ayurveda Therapist, Research Officer, Lecturer, Pharmacist, Public Health Specialist, Multi-purpose Health Worker, and administrative roles in AYUSH institutions under the Ministry of AYUSH and National AYUSH Mission.

Private Sector Jobs: Ayurveda doctor, homoeopathy consultant, Siddha practitioner, yoga therapist, wellness coach, pharmaceutical industry roles, hospital consultants, and clinical research professionals.

Salary Range in Government Jobs: Starting salary for AYUSH Medical Officers typically ranges from INR 50,000 to 60,000 per month, rising to INR 100,000 or more with experience and promotions. Other roles, like lecturers and research officers, have salaries around INR 3–7 lakh per year, depending on position and experience.

Salary in the Private Sector: Average annual salary for Ayurveda doctors can vary from INR 3 to 5 lakh, depending on experience and location. Wellness therapists and consultants earn between INR 2 and 6 lakhs per annum, approximately.

Top AYUSH Institutes in India & Odisha:

Top AYUSH Government Institutes in India

- National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur
- Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar
- All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi
- Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) Institutes across India
- Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, New Delhi

Top AYUSH Private Institutes in India

- Dr. D.Y. Patil College of Ayurveda & Research Institute, Navi Mumbai
- Sri Sri College of Ayurvedic Sciences & Research, Bangalore
- SDM College of Ayurveda & Hospital, Karnataka
- Parul Institute of Ayurved, Gujarat
- Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Kerala

Top AYUSH Government Institutes in Odisha

- Gopabandhu Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya, Puri
- Government Ayurvedic College, Balangir
- Kaviraj Ananta Tripathy Sharma Ayurveda College, Akuspur, Berhampur
- Central Ayurveda Research Institute (CARI), Bhubaneswar (Research Focus)

Top AYUSH Private Institutes in Odisha

- Sri Sri University, Bhubaneswar
- Sri Sri Nrusinghnath Ayurveda College and Research Institute, Bargarh
- Indira Gandhi Memorial Ayurveda College & Hospital, Bhubaneswar

Challenges in pursuing a career in AYUSH:

The resource person highlighted that major challenges in pursuing a career in AYUSH include:

- AYUSH careers are less known or valued compared to allopathic medicine, leading to lower societal recognition and support.
- Admission to AYUSH undergraduate courses requires NEET qualification, making competition high despite fewer seats.
- Some AYUSH colleges lack modern infrastructure, clinical exposure, and research facilities, affecting education quality.
- Limited job openings and slower career progression, especially in government sectors, can restrict professional growth.
- Lack of integration and cooperation between AYUSH and allopathic practitioners may limit interdisciplinary opportunities.
- Insufficient scientific research and clinical trials restrict broader acceptance and innovation in AYUSH systems.



- Variations in course standards, curriculum, and practice regulation can affect credibility and mobility.
- The general public often prefers allopathic treatment for serious illnesses, challenging AYUSH practitioners' acceptance.

Advice for students regarding careers in AYUSH:

Advising students regarding careers in AYUSH, the Resource Person shared that for pursuing undergraduate AYUSH degrees, a strong foundation in science (physics, chemistry, and biology) at the 10+2 level is essential. Non-science students can explore diploma and certificate courses in wellness and therapy. The RP also suggested that students should select well-known AYUSH colleges or institutes that offer good hands-on experience, have good facilities, and are recognised by the government for quality education and better job opportunities. AYUSH complements modern medicine; understanding this integrative approach can broaden career pathways in healthcare and research.

If your aspiration is to become a doctor to serve humanity, remember that the true essence of the medical profession lies in healing patients, not merely in the prestige of an MBBS degree. The purpose of medicine, whether through modern or traditional systems, is to provide care and relief.



Do not feel disheartened if you are unable to secure an MBBS seat. The Ayurvedic systems – Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, Naturopathy, and Homoeopathy – offer equally rewarding careers where you can serve society while building a stable livelihood. These fields are expanding rapidly, and with dedication, you will not only earn well but also find deep satisfaction in helping people lead healthier lives.

She also added for the parents that every year of a child's life is precious. Do not allow them to waste valuable time by repeatedly pursuing only an MBBS degree. Instead, guide them towards the diverse and promising opportunities within AYUSH and allied healthcare. By encouraging them to explore alternatives, you relieve unnecessary pressure and open pathways where their talents can flourish.

Beyond MBBS and engineering, there are multiple fulfilling options. After today's session, we urge you to explore them seriously. With the right choice, your children can achieve their goals, contribute meaningfully to society, and build a successful future.

Conclusion:

Choosing a career in AYUSH offers a promising and impactful pathway in healthcare, rooted in ancient Indian systems of medicine like Ayurveda, yoga, Unani, Siddha, and homoeopathy. Natural and holistic healing methods are gaining global acceptance, supported by strong government initiatives and expanding research, which contributes to a vibrant sector with diverse opportunities. Graduates can pursue clinical practice, research, teaching, wellness coaching, and entrepreneurship, contributing to integrative health solutions. Despite challenges, ongoing initiatives to strengthen education quality,

infrastructure, and public awareness are enhancing the sector's credibility and reach. For students passionate about preventive and holistic healthcare, AYUSH provides rewarding professional growth and the chance to make meaningful contributions to community well-being in India and beyond. Early preparation, informed choices, and continuous learning are key to success in this evolving field.

Attendees Details:

District	No. of Schools	Class XI		Class XII		Faculties		Students Total
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Male	Female	
Grand Total		8,290		7,512		823		
Total	127	3271	5019	2789	4723	410	413	
Angul	7	231	208	212	208	14	19	859
Balasore	5	69	109	72	95	8	3	345
Baragarh	3	72	131	54	157	14	11	414
Bhadrak	5	115	194	128	197	15	10	634
Bolangir	17	333	553	328	559	55	28	1773
Cuttack	7	94	309	100	301	23	33	804
Deogarh	3	86	93	81	123	7	8	383
Dhenkanal	3	160	170	55	86	14	6	471
Gajapati	4	129	142	64	96	14	13	431
Ganjam	8	215	282	136	293	34	28	926
Jagatsinghpur	5	100	226	99	227	27	74	652
Jharsuguda	3	55	72	87	80	5	9	294
Kalahandi	5	147	173	168	192	27	9	680
Kandhamal	5	172	380	149	414	12	12	1115
Kendrapara	1	5	20	6	23	2	3	54
Keonjhar	6	127	257	107	218	14	11	709
Khurda	7	242	234	173	164	18	32	813
Koraput	3	25	242	18	102	5	9	387
Malkangiri	1	34	48	39	41	3	3	162
Mayurbhanj	7	334	402	272	373	29	16	1381
Nabarangapur	1	75	50	42	31	3	2	198
Nayagarh	2	30	102	28	101	4	10	261
Nuapada	2	25	58	28	60	10	3	171
Puri	1	89	63	39	27	2	12	218
Sambalpur	5	48	109	28	114	8	11	299
Sonepur	1	75	120	94	160	15	3	449
Sundargarh	10	184	272	182	281	28	35	919
Total	127	3271	5019	2789	4723	410	413	15,802
Grand Total		8,290		7,512		823		16,625

Queries from the Students:

Attendee Questions	Answers
Is it possible to become an Ayurvedic doctor without following the Science stream?	It is not possible to become an Ayurvedic doctor (i.e., do a Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery, or BAMS) without the science stream. Eligibility for BAMS in India strictly requires having completed 10+2 (or equivalent) with Physics, Chemistry, and Biology (PCB) as core subjects,

	with at least 50% marks for the general category (and slightly lower for reserved categories). NEET-UG qualifications are also mandatory for entry into a BAMS program. However, non-science background students can pursue other career options in healthcare and wellness, though not as licensed doctors. These include: • Short-term and diploma courses in Ayurveda—subjects such as Ayurvedic beauty therapy, Ayurvedic pharmacy, or certificate programs in holistic health—are offered by various institutes without the need for science in the 12th. • Allied and healthcare diplomas include medical office management, hospital administration, health records and IT, community health work, pharmacy assistance, healthcare customer relations, yoga instruction, and nutrition; specific eligibility requirements may vary. • Certificate courses in naturopathy, yoga, wellness coaching, or health communication are sometimes available to students from all streams. • Graduates from arts or commerce backgrounds may be accepted for non-clinical health roles such as public health educator, hospital administration support, and healthcare digital/media jobs. While direct patient care or physician/doctor roles require science at 10+2, numerous health sector support, therapy, wellness, and administrative careers remain open for non-science students
What are the eligibility criteria and entrance exams (like NEET) for getting into these courses?	For admission into Allied & Healthcare courses in India, the typical eligibility is completion of 10+2 with Physics, Chemistry, and Biology (PCB), usually with a minimum of 50% marks, though some colleges may require higher grades and English as a subject. Age criteria commonly require students to be at least 17 years old, with some colleges having an upper limit (like 23 years for certain programs). Most Allied & Healthcare undergraduate (UG), diploma, and certificate courses do NOT require NEET. Instead: • Many colleges offer admission based on merit in 10+2 (PCB) for diploma/certificate courses. • Some reputed universities conduct their entrance exams, such as the Amrita Entrance Examination (AEEL), the SRMIST Health Sciences Test, and HITSCAT for Allied Health. • Government and top private institutions use major national-level exams like the Global Allied Healthcare Entrance Test (GAHET) and AIIMS Paramedical Entrance for entry. • Only MBBS, BDS, and AYUSH require NEET, while most Allied Health/Paramedical courses do not.
What are the qualifications required	The qualifications and age limit required to appear for NEET (National Eligibility cum Entrance Test) 2025 in India are as follows:

to appear for NEET and what is the age limit?	Qualification Requirements: Candidates must have passed or appear in the 10+2 (or equivalent) examination from a recognised board. The subjects required are physics, chemistry, biology/biotechnology, and English as core subjects. Minimum aggregate marks required: ● General category: 50% ● SC/ST/OBC category: 40% ● PwD category: 45% Age Limit: ● The candidate must be at least 17 years old as of December 31, 2025. ● There is no upper age limit for appearing in NEET as per the latest regulations.
Which stream of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, or Homoeopathy) offers the most career opportunities and jobs?	Physiotherapy is not formally recognised as a part of AYUSH by the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India. AYUSH includes Ayurveda, yoga & naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and homoeopathy as its main health systems, but physiotherapy is treated as an independent allied healthcare profession and not as an AYUSH discipline. However, the Ministry of AYUSH and various national AYUSH programmes increasingly promote integrative care for musculoskeletal disorders and rehabilitation, which can include physiotherapy and yoga as part of broader health services, especially in joint outreach or at AYUSH Wellness Centres. So, while physiotherapy is not officially under the AYUSH umbrella, there are collaborative efforts for rehabilitation, community health, and prevention programmes that involve physiotherapists and AYUSH practitioners working together.
Is physiotherapy included in the periphery of AYUSH in any way?	The Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India, does not formally recognise physiotherapy as a part of AYUSH. AYUSH includes Ayurveda, yoga & naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and homoeopathy as its main health systems, but physiotherapy is treated as an independent allied healthcare profession and not as an AYUSH discipline. However, the Ministry of AYUSH and various national AYUSH programs are increasingly supporting combined care for muscle and joint problems and recovery, which can include physiotherapy and yoga as part of wider health services, especially in community outreach or at AYUSH Wellness Centres. So, while physiotherapy is not officially under the AYUSH umbrella, there are collaborative efforts for rehabilitation, community health, and prevention programs that involve physiotherapists and AYUSH practitioners working programmes

Is there any difference in the medicinal value of wild herbs and cultivated herbs?	There is a recognised difference in medicinal value between wild herbs and cultivated herbs, primarily due to environmental, biological, and phytochemical factors. • Wild herbs often grow in natural, diverse, and sometimes harsher conditions, which can cause them to produce higher levels of secondary metabolites (such as flavonoids, tannins, and antioxidants) that contribute to their medicinal properties. These environmental stresses promote the production of bioactive compounds that may be less abundant in cultivated varieties. • Cultivated herbs are usually grown under controlled agricultural conditions, which may lead to faster growth but sometimes lower concentrations of certain active ingredients compared to wild counterparts. However, cultivation allows for quality control, a steady supply, and sometimes enhanced yield of specific desirable chemical traits through selective breeding and agronomic management. • Specific phytochemical profiles can vary depending on the species, method of cultivation, soil, climate, and other ecological factors. Some cultivated herbs may match or even exceed the medicinal qualities of wild herbs if grown under optimal conditions. Market preference often favours cultivated herbs because of their consistency, sustainability, and certification possibilities (e.g., organic), although wild-harvested herbs may be prized for their potency or traditional value.
How can we convince someone about the benefits of AYUSH treatments compared to modern Why do most people prefer modern medicine over AYUSH?	To persuade someone about the advantages of AYUSH treatments over modern medicine, we should emphasise several key points: • Holistic Approach: AYUSH treatments focus on the overall well-being of the individual by addressing physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual AYUSH focuses on overall health and wellness, rather than merely managing symptoms as modern medicine does. This helps promote long-term wellness and disease prevention. • Natural and Fewer Side Effects: AYUSH uses natural herbs, therapies, and lifestyle modifications which generally have fewer side effects compared to synthetic drugs used in modern medicine. Many patients prefer this for chronic health issues and improving immunity. • Complementary Role: AYUSH therapies can safely complement modern treatments. For chronic diseases like diabetes, arthritis, and stress-related disorders, AYUSH can improve quality of life and assist in managing symptoms better. • Prevention and Immunity: AYUSH emphasises prevention through diet, daily routines, detoxification, and natural remedies that enhance immunity, potentially reducing the incidence of disease.

	• Accessibility and Affordability: AYUSH is more accessible and affordable, especially in rural or resource-limited settings where modern healthcare facilities may be scarce. • Growing Scientific Evidence: Though more research is needed, emerging studies support the efficacy of specific AYUSH therapies and herbal medicines in managing various conditions, boosting credibility. • Personalised Care: Treatments in AYUSH are often customised based on an individual's unique nature (constitution or dosha), allowing personalised healing. A respectful approach is to present AYUSH as a complementary or integrative care option—not necessarily a replacement—emphasising balance, natural healing, and prevention alongside evidence and safety considerations. Sharing success stories, official recognition by government bodies, and ongoing scientific research can reduce scepticism and build trust
How many governments medical seats are available in Odisha (MBBS)	• Odisha has a total of 2,675 MBBS seats across 19 medical colleges. • Out of these, approximately 1,675 seats are in government medical colleges (including AIIMS Bhubaneswar). • Key government medical colleges and their MBBS seat capacity include: ○ SCB Medical College, Cuttack: 250 seats ○ MKCG Medical College, Berhampur: 250 seats ○ Veer Surendra Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Burla: 200 seats ○ Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhubaneswar: 250 seats ○ Bhima Bhai Medical College & Hospital: 100 seats ○ Fakir Mohan Medical College & Hospital: 100 seats ○ Government Medical College Sundargarh: 100 seats ○ Government Medical College, Keonjhar: 100 seats ○ Government Medical College, Jajpur (JKMC): 50 seats ○ AIIMS Bhubaneswar: 125 seats ○ Plus, other govt colleges ranging from 50 to 125 seats each Thus, the authentic count of government MBBS seats in Odisha for 2025-26 is approximately 1,675 seats.
Are there any scholarship facilities available in AYUSH colleges?	Scholarship facilities are available for AYUSH students, primarily through government schemes. The Government of India, via the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and Ministry of AYUSH, offers scholarships to both domestic and foreign students pursuing undergraduate, postgraduate, and Ph.D. courses in Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, Homoeopathy, and Yoga.

Any source links or official websites for fundamental research?	You can directly visit the NCISM website www.ncism.nic.in to access comprehensive details on courses, entrance examinations, cut-offs, and affiliated colleges. Additionally, individual colleges' websites provide specific information on admissions, postgraduate programs, and research opportunities. For instance, the official website of Gopabandhu Ayurveda, Puri, offers complete details regarding admissions, PG courses, and ongoing research activities.
What entrepreneurship opportunities exist after becoming an AYUSH doctor?	After completing your studies, you can explore diverse career opportunities, such as establishing your own clinic, wellness centre, Panchakarma Centre, or herbal product enterprise. There is also immense scope in research and development of plant-based products. In cities like Bhubaneswar, several successful wellnesses and Panchakarma centres already attract tourists and residents. Additionally, you may venture into medicine production, plantation, business development, and final product innovation, creating sustainable and impactful career pathways.
How can we convince people about AYUSH treatment benefits compared to modern medicine, since most people prefer modern medicine over AYUSH?	Modern allopathic treatments are essential for emergencies and acute conditions requiring immediate surgical intervention. However, synthetic medicines often cause side effects affecting kidneys, liver, and other organs, especially in chronic patients like those with diabetes and hypertension. In contrast, AYUSH systems use natural healing methods that do not harm normal cells. Ayurveda, for example, promotes holistic healing without destroying the body's balance. It incorporates Rasayana therapy, which is regenerative and renovates new cells, enhancing immunity and vitality. Rasayana therapies support tissue nourishment, delay ageing, and maintain long-term health without adverse effects when used properly. This natural, daily-use approach ensures the body remains intact while curing ailments, making it a sustainable alternative to synthetic drugs.

Photos from Ground:



