



**SOPAN's**  
**Suvidya College of Special Education**  
**University of Mumbai**

in collaboration with

**Department of Special Education**  
**SNDT Women's University**  
**Mumbai**

invites you to

**International Conference**  
**Embracing Neurodiversity:**  
**Focus on Autism**

International Level RCI - CRE Offline Program

**February 06 - 08, 2026**

**The Orchid Hotel**

Nehru Road, Near Domestic Airport,  
Vile Parle East, Mumbai, Maharashtra  
400099

**Patrons**

Shri Atul Bhatkhalkar,  
MLA Maharashtra

Prof. Ujwala Chakradeo,  
Vice Chancellor,  
SNDT Women's University

# Program Schedule

## Pre Conference: February 06, 2026

Time	Workshop 1	Workshop 2	Workshop 3	Workshop 4
9.30 - 10.30am	Registration and Refreshments			
10.30am - 12.30pm	Art Therapy Ms. Vanashree Ghate MA, ABT	Management of Behaviour Ms. Mable Lai YQ BCBA, MCBA	Augmentative and Alternative Communication Ms. Sneha Saula M A SLP	Sensory Integration Therapy Dr. Anjali Joshi M.Sc. (OT), SI Specialist
12.30 - 1.30pm	Lunch			
1.30 - 3.30pm	Art Therapy Contd.	Management of Behaviour Contd.	Augmentative and Alternative Communication Contd.	Sensory Integration Therapy Contd.
3.30 - 5.30pm	Paper Presentation		<b>Moderators:</b> Mrs Sunanda Chakraborty Mrs Reshma Gaikwad	

## Conference - Day 1: February 07, 2026

9.00 - 10.00am	Registration		
10.00 - 10.30am	Inauguration Ceremony		
	Plenary Session I	Resource Persons	Chairperson
11.00 - 11.45am	Neurodiversity: Pathologizing to Confirmation <u>Conference Keynote</u>	Prof. Karen Guldberg Ph.D.	Ms. Dinaz Wadia
11.45am - 12.30pm	Autism Theories: Implications for Intervention	Prof. Rubina Lal Ph.D.	
12.30 - 1.30pm	Lunch		
	Plenary Session II	Resource Persons	Chairperson
1.30 - 2.15pm	Developing Life Skills: An Early Start	Dr. Shoba Srivastava Ph.D.	Dr. Pranjal Sathe
2.15 - 3.30.pm	High Functioning Autism: Strategies for Management & Self - Regulation	Dr. Jeremy Tang M A Clinical Psychology, PG Dip. Psychology	
	Refreshments		
	Plenary Session III	Resource Persons	Chairperson
3.30 - 4.15pm	Autism at Work: Towards a Positive Life	Dr. Sushma Nagarkar Ph.D	Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay
4.15 - 5.00pm	Autism Intervention: Guidelines for Selection & Evaluation	Dr. Vrajesh Udani MBBS, M.D. (Pediatrics)	
5.00 - 6.00pm	Paper Presentation	<b>Moderators:</b> Ms Hemali Gada Ms. Yukti Gupta	

## Conference - Day 2: February 08, 2026

8.45 - 9.15am	Refreshment		
	Plenary Session IV	Resource Persons	Chairperson
9.15 - 10.00am	Family Based Interventions for Autism and Related Developmental Disabilities	Prof. Petrus de Vries Ph.D	Mrs. Rashna Sadri
10.00 - 10.45am	Socio-emotional Learning for Neurodivergent Children	Prof. Karen Guldberg Ph.D.	
10.45 - 11.30am	Management of Children with Intellectual Disability: Empowering Parents and Families	Ms. Meera Ramani M.S., BCBA IBA QBA	
11.30- 11.45am	Refreshment		
	Plenary Session V	Resource Persons	Chairperson
11.45am - 12.30pm	Neurodivergent Learners: Strategies for Comprehensive Evaluation	Dr. Apoorva Panshikar Ph.D.	Ms. Sampada Sheude
12.30 - 1.30pm	Lunch		
1.30 - 2.15pm	NEP: Teacher Competencies for Diversity in Classrooms	Dr. Nishat Imam Ph.D.	Ms. Sampada Sheude
2.15 - 3.00pm	Collaborative Models: Supporting Neurodiversity	Dr. Radhika Misquita Ph.D	
3.00 - 3.15pm	Refreshments		
	Plenary Session VI	Resource Person	Chairperson
3.15 - 4.00pm	Neurodiversity and Adulthood: Promoting Mental Wellbeing	Dr. Kersi Chauda MBBS, DPM, FIPS, FIAPP, FAPA	Ms. Sunanda Chakraborty
4.00 - 4.45pm	Evaluation and Feedback		
4.45 - 5.15pm	Valedictory	Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay	