



**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**

**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,**  
**Hon'ble Vice Chancellor,**  
**SNDT Women's University**

## About Us

**Society of Parents of Children with Autistic Disorders (SOPAN)**, a registered Public Trust providing services to individuals and families with autism and related developmental disabilities for nearly 25 years in Mumbai Suburban and Raigad districts of Maharashtra.

**SOPAN's Suvidya College of Special Education** runs the B.Ed. Special Education Program (ASD) affiliated to University of Mumbai and recognized by Rehabilitation Council of India. The NAAC Accredited College also runs several short-term training programs that are aimed to develop capacity of professionals working in education and allied fields.

**SNDT Women's University (SNDTWU)**, recognised as the **first women's university in India and in South Asia**, was founded in 1916 by Maharshi Dr. Dhondo Keshav Karve with the noble vision of advancing women's education. Re-accredited by NAAC with an A+ grade, the University continues to uphold its legacy of academic excellence and empowerment. **The Department of Special Education at SNDTWU is the first in the region to offer degree-level training** in Special Education exclusively for women graduates, preparing them to teach and support children with diverse exceptionalities. In addition to disability-specific teacher training programs, the department offers master's and doctoral degrees, as well as a range of short-term courses designed to develop skilled professionals for inclusive education.

## About the Conference

Neurodevelopmental conditions such as Autism, ADHD, Learning Disability and Intellectual Disability affect millions of individuals globally. Traditional frameworks often emphasize deficits and interventions.

The neurodiversity paradigm shifts focus towards recognizing and respecting neurological differences as any other human variation, advocating inclusion, dignity, and equal opportunities.

This Conference aims to develop a sustainable action plan for educational and social inclusion of persons with autism and associated conditions. It is an effort to bring together parents, students and professionals to raise awareness and share research based practices in the same direction.

Eminent international experts from United Kingdom, South Africa, Malaysia, Singapore and Dubai along with experienced resource persons from within India will share their best practices during this conference.

The Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) has awarded Continued Rehabilitation Education (CRE) status to the conference.

## Scope of the Conference

The conference, emphasizes the UN Sustainable Development Goals which cannot be fully realised without the participation and empowerment of Neurodivergent individuals.

The sub-themes of the conference identify with the core principle of SDG, of 'No One Left Behind'.

### Sub-themes

- Therapeutic Intervention
- Early Childhood Intervention
- Teaching Strategies
- Social Inclusion and Inclusive Education
- Technology in Education
- Adulthood Issues
- Skill Development and Employment
- Human Resource Development

## Our Eminent Speakers



**Prof. Karen Guldberg**

Ph.D. Education and Autism Studies  
University of Birmingham, UK



**Prof. Petrus de Vries**

MBChB, FRCPsych, PhD  
University of Cape Town, South Africa



**Mr. Jeremy Tang**

MA Clinical Psychology  
KidSTART, Singapore



**Ms. Mable Lai Yue Qin**

BCBA, MCBA  
Miles Autism Academy, Malaysia



**Prof. Rubina Lal**

Ph.D. Special Education  
Director, Sopan's Suvidya College of  
Special Education, Mumbai



**Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay**

Ph.D. Education  
Ex - Chairperson, Rehabilitation Council  
of India



**Dr. Sushama Nagarkar**

Ph.D. Special Education  
Yash Charitable Trust, Mumbai



**Dr. Kersi Chauda**

MBBS; Dip. In Psychological Medicine  
Hinduja National Hospital, Mumbai



**Dr. Vrajesh Udani**

Pediatric Neurologist  
P. D. Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai



**Dr. Shoba Srivastava**

Ph.D. Education  
Managing Trustee SOPAN, Mumbai



**Dr. Apoorva Panshikar**

Ph.D. Special Education  
Head, Dept. of Special Education  
SNDT Women's University Mumbai



**Dr. Nishat Imam**

Ph.D. Education  
I/C Principal,  
Sopan's Suvidya College of Special Education,  
Mumbai



**Ms. Meera Ramani**

M.S., BCBA IBA QBA  
Behaviour Enrichment, Dubai



**Dr. Radhika Misquitta**

Ph.D. Special Education  
Gateway School of Mumbai



**Ms. Vanashree Ghate**

MBA, Art Based Therapy Educator  
Holistic Abilities & Expression for Living  
Foundation Mumbai



**Dr. Anjali Joshi**

M.Sc. (O.T.) FAIOTA, S. I. Certified  
Advisor Forum for Autism, Mumbai



**Ms. Sneha Savla**

M.A.S.L.P.  
SPARKLE Multi-Disciplinary Intervention Centre,  
Mumbai

## Pre-Conference Workshops

1. Art Therapy
2. Management of Behaviour
3. Augmentative and Alternative Communication
4. Sensory Integration Therapy

## Registration

The registration fee for the entire conference includes conference kit, conference proceedings, lunch and refreshments.

**Early bird registration up to Jan. 09, 2026**

**Last date of registration: Jan. 27, 2026**

### Indian Delegates

1. Conference and Pre-conference workshop:	Rs. 5500.00	Early Bird: Rs. 4700.00
2. Two-day Conference:	Rs. 4500.00	Early Bird: Rs. 4200.00
3. Pre-conference workshop:	Rs. 2000.00	Early Bird: Rs. 1800.00

### International Delegates

Conference and Pre-conference workshop:	\$ 150.00	Early Bird: \$ 140.00
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**Registration Link: <https://sopan.org/conference-2026-registration/>**

### Payments to be made to:

**Bank Account: SOPAN**

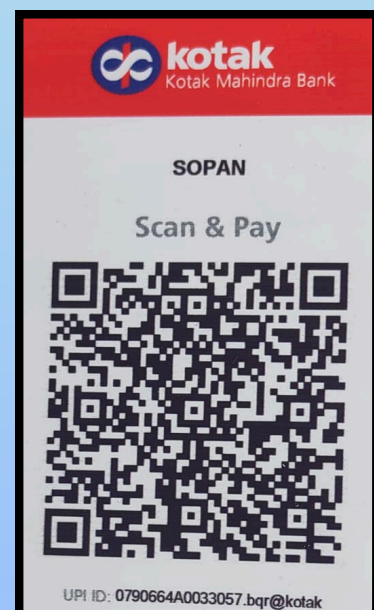
**Account Number: 06640020000066**

**Account type: Savings**

**Bank: Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited**

**IFSC Code: KKBK0000664**

**Address: Moreshwar Building, Hanuman Road,  
Vile Parle East, Mumbai - 400057**



**Note: It is mandatory to fill the registration form and upload the payment receipt via the link given above**

## **SOPAN**

Natwar Nagar BMC School Building,  
R.K. Singh Marg,  
Andheri East, Mumbai – 400069.  
Tel.: 9136013172

### **SOPAN's Suvidya College of Special Education**

Shanay, Plot No. B-18, Khanda  
Colony, Sector No. 7, Near Pillai  
Global Academy, New Panvel  
410206,  
Tel: 022-27469550-52

### **Department of Special Education**

SNDT Women's University,  
Juhu Campus,  
Mumbai 400049  
Tel: 9082265703

### **Contact**

Conference Secretariat  
Tel.: 9820866776; 7021190510  
Email: [int.conf@sopan.org](mailto:int.conf@sopan.org)  
[www.sopan.org](http://www.sopan.org)

### **For details visit**

<https://sopan.org/conference2026/>  
[www.dsesndtwu.in](http://www.dsesndtwu.in)

## **Call for Papers**

We are happy to invite abstracts of scientific papers for the conference. Professionals, practitioners and students pursuing research may send abstracts of research based papers on any of the subthemes.

### **Guidelines for Abstract Submission:**

Abstracts should include objective, method, result and conclusion along with name, address, email and affiliation of the presenter/s.

Word Limit: Title - 25 words, Abstract - 200 words

Last date for submission: **Jan. 06, 2026**

Intimation of acceptance: **Jan. 10, 2026**

Abstracts will be reviewed by Scientific Committee where the selection will be final.

### **Guidelines for full Paper Submission**

Word Limit: 1500 to 2200 words (5 – 6 pages) including all figures, tables and references.

Font: Times New Roman 12, Headings – 14 Bold,

Line Spacing – 1.5

Format: M.S. Office.

Full paper of selected abstract must be submitted by  
**Jan. 15, 2026**

**All accepted papers will be published in Peer Reviewed (Single-blind / Double-blind review), Refereed & UGC listed, journal No. 47100 'GENIUS' ISSN 2279-0489 with impact factor 7.508.**

Only Paper Presentation and / or Publication: Rs. 2000/- (single author); for every additional author - Rs. 1000/-

**Registration Link for Ph.D Scholars only:**

**<https://forms.gle/FnR48jrWM5uLBiWt6>**