

Mental Health Council for the State of Odisha



**WOMEN'S INDIAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**
www.wicci.in

Council Vision & Mission

Vision: We envision a society that would recognize mental health as an essential part of overall well-being. Mental illnesses, like physical illnesses, can be treated and to some extent can be prevented too. Our vision is to value the dignity of those affected population through empathy, compassion and respect.

Mission: To work as a team with other professionals including doctors, community health workers, alternative therapy practitioners, teachers, young student leaders for the creation of a happy and healthy society with no stigma attached to mental illnesses and where mental health issues are identified and treated with proper intervention and care provided to the individuals, families and entire community as a whole through education, support and advocacy.

*Welcoming
Council Members to
WICCI*

*President, Vice President
and Nominated Council
Members*

Dr. Nivedita Das

President, Odisha Mental Health Council WICCI

BIO :-

Dr. Nivedita Das (Ph.D.), a clinical psychologist, professional life skills trainer, and at present a faculty in The Department of Psychology, Utkal University has an impressive 23 years of work experience which includes experience in the social sector, teaching and research. She was nominated as the District member for the Odisha State Social Welfare Board's advisory committee which comes under the Women and Child Development Department and is the Director of GrassrootsIndia, an organization dedicated for women empowerment. In addition to her academic contributions, she has 2 books and more than 60 publications to her credit which include book chapters, articles in journals of International and National repute, peer-reviewed journals, and articles in popular magazines. She has served as a resource person for many awareness generation programs and is associated with many other Organizations. She handles mental health issues of women, children and adolescents at "The Feel-Good Centre".



Sweta Das

Vice President, Odisha Mental Health Council, WICCI

BIO :-

Sweta has completed her Masters in Industrial & Organizational Psychology and holds a Diploma in Guidance and Counselling from NCERT ,New Delhi.She also holds an Engineering degree in Electronics and Telecommunication from KIIT University ,Bhubaneswar and is an alumni of XLRI Jamshedpur.Prior to her venture into the mental health sector she has 12 years of work experience in the corporate sector both in India and UK.She has been an avid worker in the mental health sector since 2016 and has been rendering her services at “The Feel Good Center” ,Cuttack ,which provides counselling and guidance to mentally distressed people. She also works with schools in urban and rural areas of Odisha to help the young adolescents with their mental health issues and provides guidance and counselling to parents and teachers.

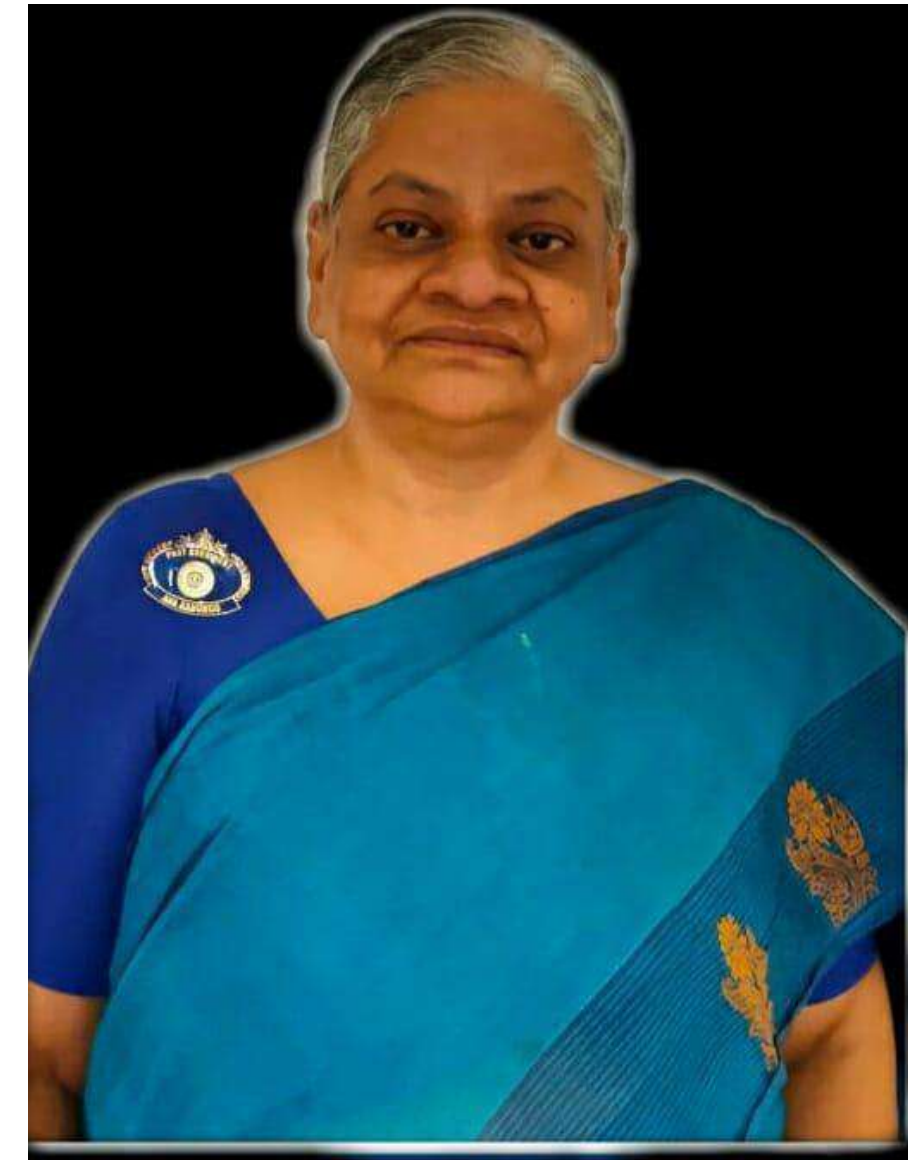


Ava Kanungo

Council Member, Odisha Mental Health Council WICCI

BIO :-

She holds a post graduate in English Literature from Ravenshaw College, Cuttack and M.Phil degree from Jyoti Vihar, Sambalpur University. Ava joined as a lecturer in English at Biren Mitra memorial Women's College and retired from there as Principal in November 2015. She encouraged NSS, YRC Self Defence Training amongst students, organized blood donation camps, Health awareness programmes, literary seminars. She is the member, Odisha Nari Sangha Sadan, life member, Alumni Association Department of English, Ravenshaw University and member of Odisha Researcher's Association. Ava joined IWC Cuttack in 2012-13 and has served the club as Treasurer and has been awarded by the Dist.



Pragati Mohanty

Council Member, Odisha Mental Health Council WICCI

BIO :-

Pragati is currently working as District Child Protection Officer (DCPO), Cuttack under Women & Child Development Department, Govt. Of Odisha. Her team is involved in implementing various government schemes and policies for child welfare including rehabilitating in case of any man made or natural disasters or in case the child has been exploited at home or has been abandoned. She is a vocal spokesperson for child rights.



Puspita Bharati Samantaray

Council Member, Odisha Mental Health Council WICCI

BIO :-

Currently pursuing Masters in psychology at Utkal University, Bhubaneswar and has interned at Fortis Mental Hospital. She aspires to become a clinical psychologist/counselor and help people find joy when everything seems dark. She wants them to know that there is someone whom they can talk to and can help them.



Megha Narula

Council Member, Odisha Mental Health Council WICCI

BIO :-

She is currently pursuing her Masters of Psychology, Utkal University. This is her second Master's degree, the previous one being in HR in 2014. After working as a Technical Recruiter for 3 years for a Fortune 500 company, she realized this is not her true calling. She found her passion for Psychology 6 years later and is excited to start her new career as a counsellor



Mandakini Jema

Council Member, Odisha Mental Health Council WICCI

BIO :-

Mandakini Jema is the Chairperson of Child Welfare Committee (CWC), Cuttack since 2018. Previously she has been an Advocate for 15 years in the different courts of Odisha being the member of High court Bar Association. She was also the Project coordinator for CHILD RIGHTS & YOU under OMRAH organization working for the children in the age group of 0-18 years for Cuttack District of Odisha. She is a very active social activist.



Baishnovi Rath

Council Member, Odisha Mental Health Council WICCI

BIO :-

A budding psychologist who wants to contribute to the society by actively participating in activities that will help to reach the goal of spreading awareness about the importance of mental health and overall wellbeing of the individual and to break the stereotypes and stigmas attached to mental health in these changing time and uncertainties. Baishnovi is a Gold medalist in Psychology from Rama Devi Women's University and is continuing her MA in Psychology from Utkal University



Ayatree Saha

Council Member, Odisha Mental Health Council WICCI

BIO :-

Ayatree Saha did her Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from St. Xavier's College, Kolkata in 2017 and completed her Masters in Sociology and Social Anthropology from Tata Institute of Social Sciences in 2019. Thereafter, she completed her MPhil in Social Sciences from Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata. Currently she is pursuing her PhD from Presidency University, Kolkata. Her passion and advocacy for gender and mental health issues are visible in her work "The Sociality of Sleep". Her research interests involve gender, sexuality, body, social psychology, social and performance theories. Her current work is located in Odisha, which is in continuation with her Master's thesis, which looks at the menstrual health, practices and rituals as well as lived experiences of menstruation across gender spectrum



Ashruta Jena

Council Member, Odisha Mental Health Council WICCI

BIO :-

Asruta Jena(MA LLB) is the HOD of Sociology at EDWC, Cuttack with more than 23 years of teaching experience. She also has expertise in pre-marital, post-marital, marital crisis and strength counselling and has dealt with the mental health issues of individuals of all age groups and stratas of society. Jena has journal articles and book chapters to her publications and has presented a number of research papers at State and National level Seminars. She is also a recipient of various awards and recognitions for her teaching and organizational skills. She is a liberal feminist, amicable counsellor and social worker who is associated with several non-profit organisations and continues to meaningfully contribute to the societ



Manasi Parhi

Council Member, Odisha Mental Health Council WICCI

BIO :-

Manasi Parhi is a member of Child Welfare Committee Khordha .She is a Life Member of Red Cross Society of India, Life Member of Family Planning Association of India, Executive Body Member of Kasturba Nari Mahal Trust, Bhubaneswar Member Bakul Library, Bhubaneswar and Tanaya Foundation, Bhubaneswar.She has done her P.G diploma in Labour Laws and Personnel Management and Diploma in consumer protection issues. She has 16 years of experience in the Legal profession. Her hobbies include painting, doll making, flower making and social work

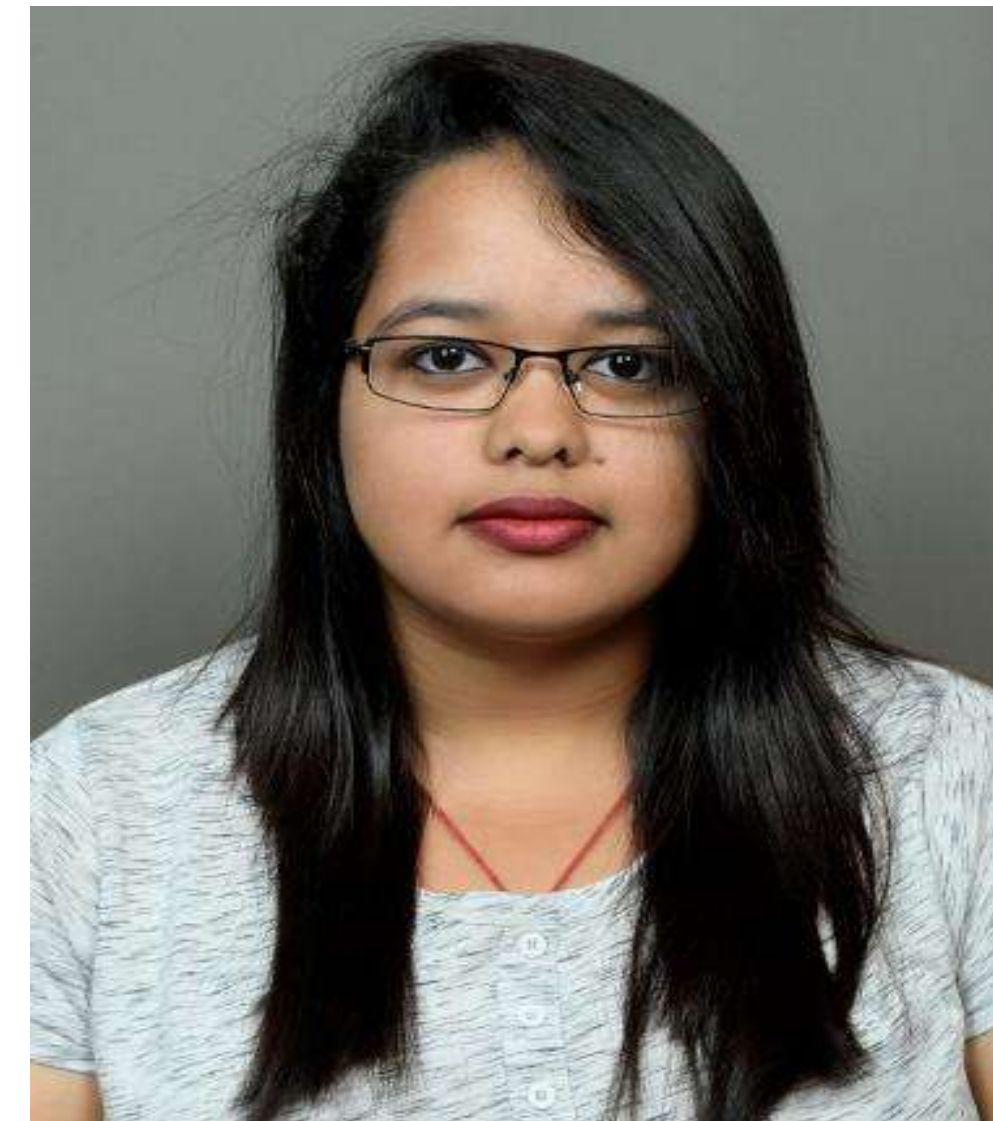


Bidisha Patnaik

Council Member, Odisha Mental Health Council WICCI

BIO :

A student of Psychology, currently pursuing her master's at Utkal University. She is a helper who believes that the world can always be a better place even emotionally along with all the hardships. She aspires to be a psychologist so as to let and help other people find their emotional better place-



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