



ALL INDIA OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS' ASSOCIATION

Founder Council Member World Federation of Occupational Therapists
Registered Under Bombay Public Trust Act, Bom. 1950-E1118

Executive Committee (2020-2024)

President

Dr. Anil K. Srivastava
93, Laxmanpuri, Faizabad Rd.,
Lucknow-226 016, UP
+91 9415405095, +91 9140879761
+91 522 4331505
president@aiota.org

Vice President

Dr. S.K. Meena
9/199, Malviya Nagar,
Jaipur, Rajasthan -302017
+91 9414058796, +91 8502005480
vicepresident@aiota.org

Honorary Secretary

Dr. Joseph Sunny
"Prayatna", 32/1393 A, Pipeline Road,
Palarivattom, Cochin-682025, Kerala
+91 9600005002, +91 8137031671
0484 2346322
secretary@aiota.org

Honorary Treasurer

Dr. Pratibha M. Vaidya
O.T. School & Centre,
T.N. Medical College &
BYL Nair Charitable Hospital,
OPD No. 21, Dr. A.L Nair Rd,
Mumbai Central, Mumbai-400008
+91 9821536404
+91 022 28982208
treasurer@aiota.org

Ex-Officio Member

Dr. Shashi Oberai
+91 9820962641
shashioberai@gmail.com

Executive Members

Dr. Amitabh Dwivedi,
Jaipur. +91 9785400214
akdwivedi123@yahoo.com

Dr. Punita V. Solanki,
Mumbai. +91 9820621352
therapistindia@gmail.com

Dr. S Murali Krishnan,
Chennai. +91 8939708089
murali.ot@gmail.com

Dr. M Arun Kumar,
Chennai. +91 9841544004
arunbot@rediffmail.com

Co-Opted Executive Members

Dr. R.K. Sharma,
Gurugram. +91 9811147423
kumarrk52003@yahoo.co.in

Dr. Pankaj Bajpai,
Kolkata. +91 9433098374
pankajdaa@gmail.com

To

12 Feb 2024

Shri Santhanagopalan R. IAS

Principal Secretary

Sub: Minimum Academic Qualifications for the Post of Occupational Therapist, in Advt.No.IIE-122/2023-5156/OSSC of the Detailed Advertisement For Recruitment To Different Technical Posts/Services Under Directorate of ESI Scheme, Govt. Of Odisha. (Post Code:350)

Respected Sir,

Concerning the above-cited subject, we have noticed in the Minimum Educational Qualification column (b) of serial no 3, 'Eligibility', that the requirement of academic qualification for the post of Occupational Therapist is a Diploma in Occupational Therapy from Govt. or any Govt. recognized Institution.

Given this, we would like to highlight the following important points for your information & necessary action:

1. Occupational Therapy is an independent profession in the health care system & the minimum educational qualification required to practice Occupational Therapy in India is a **Bachelor's Degree in Occupational Therapy** from any reputed medical college/Institution affiliated with recognized universities that is approved by UGC of India. The academic qualification of a diploma cannot be considered on par with the Bachelor's degree in Occupational Therapy (BOT) /Master's degree in Occupational Therapy (MOT) / PhD
2. As per the National Commission of Allied & Health Care Professions (NCAHP) Act, the Occupational Therapy profession is categorized in separate heading (Faculty / Council of Occupational Therapy) under health care professions councils.
3. The duration of a Bachelor's degree course in Occupational Therapy (BOT) is 4 & ½ years, unlike other allied health degree/ diploma courses of 2 to 3 years duration.

Executive Committee (2020-2024)

President

Dr. Anil K. Srivastava
93, Laxmanpuri, Faizabad Rd.,
Lucknow-226 016, UP
+91 9415405095, +91 9140879761
+91 522 4331505
president@aiota.org

Vice President

Dr. S.K. Meena
9/199, Malviya Nagar,
Jaipur, Rajasthan -302017
+91 9414058796, +91 8502005480
vicepresident@aiota.org

Honorary Secretary

Dr. Joseph Sunny
"Prayatna", 32/1393 A, Pipeline Road,
Palarivattom, Cochin-682025, Kerala
+91 9600005002, +91 8137031671
0484 2346322
secretary@aiota.org

Honorary Treasurer

Dr. Pratibha M. Vaidya
O.T. School & Centre,
T.N. Medical College &
BYL Nair Charitable Hospital,
OPD No. 21, Dr. A.L. Nair Rd,
Mumbai Central, Mumbai-400008
+91 9821536404
+91 022 28982208
treasurer@aiota.org

Ex- Officio Member

Dr. Shashi Oberai
+91 9820962641
shashioberai@gmail.com

Executive Members

Dr. Amitabh Dwivedi,
Jaipur. +91 9785400214
akdwivedi123@yahoo.com

Dr. Punita V. Solanki,
Mumbai. +91 9820621352
therapistindia@gmail.com

Dr. S Murali Krishnan,
Chennai. +91 8939708089
murali.ot@gmail.com

Dr. M Arun Kumar,
Chennai. +91 9841544004
arunbot@rediffmail.com

Co-Opted Executive Members

Dr. R.K. Sharma,
Gurugram. +91 9811147423
kumarrk52003@yahoo.co.in

Dr. Pankaj Bajpai,
Kolkata. +91 9433098374
pankajdaa@gmail.com

4. The diploma in Occupational Therapy also does not exist anymore in India for more than 35 years. Since the duration of the diploma course could not cover the complete knowledge and skills required in Occupational Therapy & fearing that half-baked knowledge and skills would be damaging to the patients, the diploma in Occupational Therapy was discontinued. A person without a qualified degree in Occupational Therapy will not only be a threat to the quality of OT intervention given to innocent patients but will cause irreversible damage to them.

Given the above, on behalf of the All India Occupational Therapists' Association (AIOTA), our humble request is to kindly delete the Clause Diploma in Occupational Therapy as the academic qualifications for the post of Occupational Therapists in the advertisement for the Odisha Staff Selection Commission.

We sincerely trust that you would take the necessary action immediately in the interest of the occupational therapy profession and the professionals at large who want to seek employment in your esteemed institutions to avoid any legal or other interventions.

We would be grateful if you visit the AIOTA website www.aiota.org for AIOTA/WFOT accredited Occupational Therapy education programs in India for your instant perusal.

With Best Regards



Dr Anil K Srivastava
President, AIOTA



Dr Joseph Sunny
Hon. Secretary, AIOTA