



## **WORLD OT DAY & OTINDIA MONTH- 2021**

[Oct. 27-Nov.26, 2021]

*Belong be You*



### **Message from President AIOTA**

I feel immense pleasure in congratulating members of AIOTA, OT Colleges, State Branches of AIOTA and the occupational therapy institutions in government and private set up on the great occasion of **WORLD OT Day (Oct.27) and AIOTA's OTINDIA Month (OCT 27-Nov.26)**. World Occupational Therapy Day is undoubtedly a great way to promote and celebrate our profession around the globe.

WFOT launched World OT Day on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2010. AIOTA welcomed it. Since then it has been an important date for AIOTA's calendar of annual events. AIOTA has decided to celebrate it as OT India Month (27<sup>th</sup> October - 26<sup>th</sup> November) since last few years, and it was welcomed with appreciation from members and State Branches. I am confident that this year too, OT Day and AIOTA's OT India Month will be celebrated with great enthusiasm by all but by following the Covid protocol.

**'Belong be You'** is the Theme for OT Day-2021. The theme is relevant, as it focuses on promoting the power of diversity and inclusion to work together to build community and resilience. The need still is for valued contribution of our members in helping people to adapt to the new normal life.

The events should be organized by all professionals focusing on promoting awareness & excellence in the practice, showcasing the scope of occupational therapy practice in improving health & well-being of persons with disabilities & dysfunctions and enhancing research for multifaceted growth of the profession in the country.

AIOTA celebration of WORLD OT DAY - 2021 is unique. AIOTA is organizing a webinar today on OT Day which will effectively serve the purpose of OT Day celebration. The Webinar on "Occupational Therapy as a Promising Career" is designed exclusively for the teachers, students & their guardians, across India. There will be 12 sessions in a day, in various languages: English, Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati, Tamil, Malayalam and Telugu also inclusive of questions & answers session.

The objective of the webinar is to orient & sensitize the teachers, students of 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, and their guardians about the scope of Occupational Therapy globally and its role in healthcare system. It will further motivate the students to take up Occupational Therapy as brilliant career option. Eminent Occupational Therapy professionals from various parts of country have been identified as the speakers in different languages for this webinar. So far more than 3000 participants are registered for this webinar. The sole purpose for promoting OT amongst younger generation has been achieved by organising this innovative event.

I must say that Occupational Therapy is a fast-growing healthcare field. There is a big need of occupational therapists to serve the patients in India & abroad. Ministry of Health and FW, GOI has very recently passed the "National Commission of Allied & Healthcare Professions Bill-2021" in which Occupational Therapy

profession has been listed as one of the ten health care independent profession councils. So we need to develop as serious healthcare professionals to make our presence felt in medical and healthcare sector.

I sincerely congratulate Dean Academic Council of OT - Dr. Jyothika Bijlani , Dr. Shovan Saha and the team for making this very well planned innovative event successfully happen on a very big platform.

Thanks



**Dr. Anil K. Srivastava**

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