

Community and Special Education

Members of Department

Sr. No	Name	Designation
1	Dr. Nilesh Pandya	Head of the Department
2	Dr. Krunal Panchal	Assi. Professor
3	Dr. Anjana Chauhan	Assi. Professor
4	Shri Jaydevbhai Dhandhiya	Head Teacher
5	Satishbhai Baldaniya (up to 30-4-2026)	Admin.Assistant

July- 2025

Report on Online Parenting Talk (Session – 6)

The Department of Community and Special Education, Children's Research University,



Gandhinagar, successfully organized an Online Parenting Talk on 10th July, 2025 from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM through Google Meet.

The session was conducted on the topic “Parenting: Parivarni Pathshala (Family as a Learning Space).” The aim of the session was to highlight the role of the family as the first and most important learning environment for a child.

The key speaker, **Dr. Chhayaben Parekh**, a trainer, facilitator, and educationist, delivered an insightful session. She emphasized how everyday family interactions contribute to a child's values, learning habits, and overall personality development.

Weekly Newspaper Column on Child Development, Parenting and community

The Department of Community and Special Education, Children's Research University, has been actively



disseminating knowledge on child development through a weekly newspaper column published in *Gandhinagar Samachar*. The column is authored by Dr. Nishesh Pandya, Head of the Department, and Dr. Krupal Panchal, Faculty Member. It features insightful articles on child development, positive parenting, the role of teachers, and children's behaviour and well-being. The initiative serves as an effective platform for connecting the University with the wider community. By

addressing practical parenting challenges and educational concerns, the articles promote child-centred awareness among parents, teachers, and caregivers. The column has significantly contributed to strengthening public understanding of holistic child development and reflects the University's commitment to community outreach, educational awareness, and social responsibility.



August 2025

Report on Institutional Visit to Ahmedabad

Organized by the Department of Community and Special Education

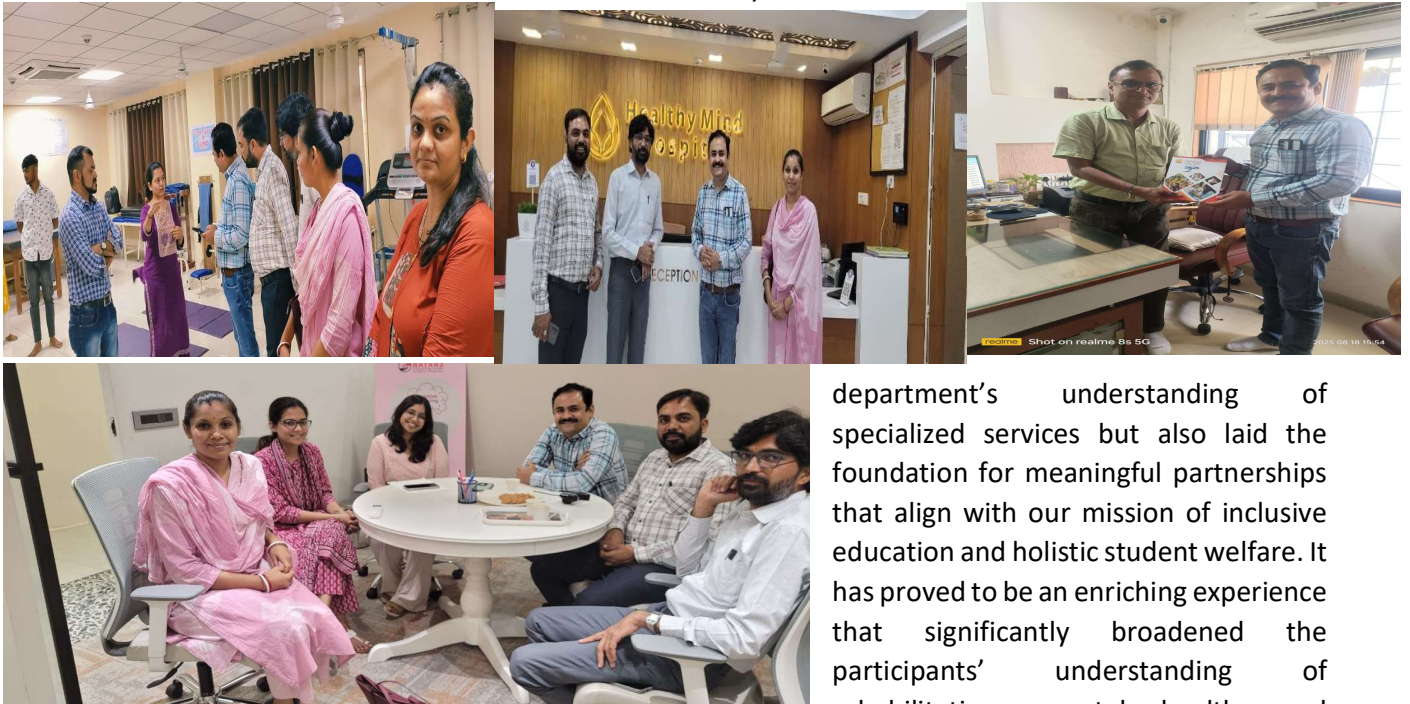
The Department of Community and Special Education undertook a structured institutional visit to Ahmedabad on 18th August 2025, with the objective of exploring specialized services, strengthening community engagement, and identifying avenues for future collaboration in the field of special education and mental health.

1. Composite Regional Centre (CRC), Odhav, Ahmedabad
2. GIPS Clinic, Vasna, Ahmedabad
3. AAYAAS Counseling Center, Iscon Mall, Satellite, Ahmedabad

4. Healthy Mind Hospital, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad

Future Opportunities for Collaboration

This visit not only enriched the



department's understanding of specialized services but also laid the foundation for meaningful partnerships that align with our mission of inclusive education and holistic student welfare. It has proved to be an enriching experience that significantly broadened the participants' understanding of rehabilitation, mental health, and

counselling services. It offered valuable insights into government-supported schemes, specialized clinical practices, and innovative therapies, while also paving the way for collaborative research, academic engagement, and community outreach initiatives.

Report on Online Parenting Talk (Session – 7)

The Department of Community and Special Education, Children's Research University, Gandhinagar, successfully organized an **Online Parenting Talk** on **21st August, 2025** from **4:00 PM to 5:00 PM** through Google Meet.



The session was conducted on the topic **“Parenting: Parentingni Badlati Paribhasha (Changing Dimensions of Parenting).”** The aim of the session was to help parents understand the evolving nature of parenting in today's rapidly changing social and cultural context.

The key speaker, **Dr. Kanubhai Karkar**, a retired principal and eminent speaker, delivered an insightful and thought-provoking session. He discussed how parenting approaches have transformed over time and emphasized the need for adaptability and awareness among parents.

September – 2025

Report on Online Parenting Talk (Session – 8)

The Department of Community and Special Education, Children's Research University, Gandhinagar,



successfully organized an **Online Parenting Talk** on **4th September, 2025**

from **4:00 PM to 5:00 PM** through Google Meet.

The session was conducted on the topic **“Parenting: Balak Mate Shikshan ke Shikshan Mate Balak? (Education for the Child or Child for Education?)”**. The aim of the session was to encourage parents to reflect on the purpose of education and to promote a child-centered approach in parenting and learning.

The key speaker, **Shri Rakesh Nadiyasar**, a nationally awarded best teacher, delivered an engaging and insightful session. He emphasized the importance of understanding the child's needs, interests, and abilities rather than imposing rigid educational expectations.

Report on Online Parenting Talk (Session – 9)

The Department of Community and Special Education, Children's Research University, Gandhinagar, successfully organized an **Online Parenting Talk** on **11th September, 2025** from **4:00 PM to 5:00 PM**



through Google Meet.

The session was conducted on the topic **“Parenting: Tandurast Jivannu Rahasya – iSMART Lifestyle (Secret of Healthy Living – iSMART Lifestyle)”**. The aim of the session was to guide parents on promoting healthy lifestyle habits among children for their overall physical and mental well-being.

The key speaker, **Dr. Nishchal Bhatt**, a senior pediatrician and adolescent health consultant, delivered an informative and practical session. He emphasized the importance of adopting a balanced lifestyle and explained how parents play a vital role in shaping children's health-related habits.

Participation in the Valedictory Ceremony of the 106th Sarva Netrutva Camp

Date: 30 August 2025



Dr. Nilesh Pandya, Head, Department of Community and Special Education, participated as the **Chief Guest** at the valedictory ceremony of the **106th Sarva Netrutva Camp**, organised at the Kadi Campus of Kadi Sarva Vishwavidyalaya.

The five-day residential leadership camp was attended by approximately **75 undergraduate and postgraduate students** from various constituent institutions of the University. Organised under the **Sarva Utthada** initiative, the camp focused on nurturing leadership, social responsibility, value-based living, and nation-building

among youth through a structured programme of experiential learning and community engagement.

The **Sarva Netrutva Camp** is a flagship initiative that has been conducted continuously for **16 years**, with **106 camps** successfully organised and **more than 8,000 students** benefitting from the programme. The

camp is fully sponsored by **Kadi Sarva Vishwavidyalaya**, enabling students to participate without any financial burden.

The camp emphasised selfless service, teamwork, character development, gratitude towards society, and responsible citizenship. Activities were largely managed by student volunteers and alumni of previous camps, providing participants with authentic opportunities to develop leadership and organisational skills. The programme featured eminent resource persons from diverse fields who shared their expertise and experiences with the participants. Among the distinguished speakers were **Ms. Nishtha Thakar**, a National Award recipient and disability rights advocate, who inspired students through her work towards the empowerment of persons with disabilities, and **Mr. Amit Khatri**, a road safety expert, who conducted an engaging session on road safety awareness and responsible citizenship.

The participation of **Dr. Nilesh Pandya** in the valedictory ceremony strengthened academic collaboration and reaffirmed the institution's commitment to promoting leadership, value-based education, youth empowerment, and holistic student development in alignment with the objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

XPRT CONNET

Online meeting of Xpert Connet held on 30th September.



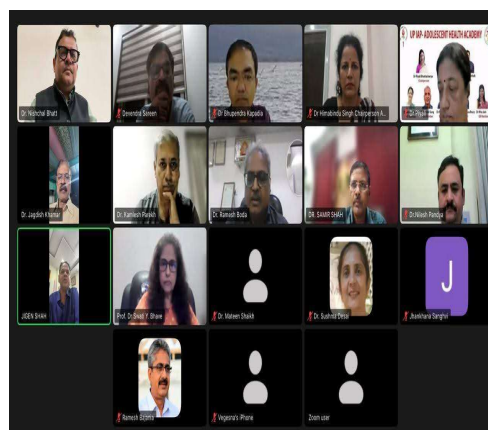
AOPG Webinar Series
XPERT CONNET
 A CASE-BASED DISCUSSION
 AOPG PRESIDENTIAL ACTION PLAN
 2025-26
 IN ASSOCIATION WITH
 GUJARAT ADOLESCENT HEALTH ACADEMY
 : 30TH SEPTEMBER, TUESDAY @ 8.00 PM
 Theme : Issues in Modern Age Parenting – a Case Based Discussion

MODERATOR : DR. SAMIR SHAH, VADODARA

EXPERTS :
 DR. SWATI V. BHAVE, PUNE
 DR. RAVI BHATTACHARYA, LUCKNOW

PANELISTS :
 DR. NISHITA BHATT, AHMEDABAD
 DR. JAGDEEP PATEL, SURAT
 DR. NAYANA KARNATA, VADODHAR
 DR. RAHUL CHANDRA, BOKS, MUMBAI

DR. VASANT KHATKAR	DR. NIKHIL KUMAR	DR. G. V. KADAVIA	DR. KISHOR PANDYA	DR. ATUL BHADANI	DR. KANAK SHAH
DR. NIKHIL KUMAR	DR. NIKHIL KUMAR	DR. NIKHIL KUMAR	DR. NIKHIL KUMAR	DR. NIKHIL KUMAR	DR. NIKHIL KUMAR
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November - 2025

Report on Online Parenting Talk (Session – 10)

The Department of Community and Special Education at Children's Research University, Gandhinagar, successfully organized a **Parenting Talk** titled **"Holistic Understanding of Child Rearing"** on **27th November, 2025 (Thursday)** at **4:00 PM**.



The session focused on the theme **"Positive Parenting in the Digital Age"**, addressing the challenges and responsibilities of parents in today's technology-driven world. The program was organized by **Dr. Krunal Panchal** and **Mr. Jaydev Bhai**.

The keynote speaker for the session was **Dr. Anjana Chauhan**,

Assistant Professor

(Psychology), who delivered an insightful and informative talk. She elaborated on the impact of digital exposure on children's development and emphasized the importance of maintaining a healthy balance between technology use and overall well-being.



Valedictory Function of AAROHAN 2026 – the Multidisciplinary

Date- 24-11-2025 Participation as Chief Guest at the Valedictory Ceremony of AAROHAN 2026

Multidisciplinary International Conference on Sustainable Development, Humanities and Social Sciences Dr. Nilesh Pandya, Head, Department of Community and Special Education, served as the Chief Guest at the valedictory ceremony of AAROHAN 2026, a Multidisciplinary International Conference on Sustainable Development, Humanities and Social Sciences, organised by Samarpan Arts and Commerce College, Gandhinagar.



The conference brought together academicians, researchers, educators, and students to deliberate on contemporary issues related to sustainable development, humanities, and social sciences. It provided an interdisciplinary platform for academic exchange, research dissemination, and collaborative learning.

The valedictory session was attended by distinguished dignitaries, including Shri Mahendrasinh Vaghela,

eminent educationist, and Dr. M. D. Pandey, Registrar, Samarpan Education and Research Campus, Gandhinagar. The event concluded with reflections on the conference outcomes and the importance of interdisciplinary research in addressing emerging societal challenges.

During the programme, Prof. P. Purashottam Rao, Osmania University, Hyderabad, and Honorary Secretary, Statute of Equality, presented the publication 'Samatamurti (समतामूर्ति)' as a commemorative academic gesture.

The participation of Dr. Nilesh Pandya as Chief Guest strengthened academic collaboration between institutions and reaffirmed the Department's commitment to promoting interdisciplinary research, academic excellence, and meaningful engagement with national and international scholarly initiatives.



January-2026

Project KATHA (Kaleidoscope at Anecdotes That Helps Appreciation) is an initiative of the Department of Community and Special Education, Children's Research University, aimed at documenting meaningful experiences related to children. The project invites parents, teachers, and caregivers to share inspiring anecdotes that reflect children's emotions, learning, behaviour, and development. These real-life



narratives will highlight the importance of understanding children with empathy and sensitivity. Selected stories will be compiled and published in a book, preserving valuable experiences for future generations. The initiative seeks to promote child-centred thinking and strengthen the partnership between families and educators. Through the power of storytelling, Project KATHA aspires to create a rich repository of experiences that inspire, educate, and support holistic child development.

February - 2026

Report on Online Parenting Talk (Session – 11)

The Department of Community and Special Education, Children's Research University, Gandhinagar, successfully organized an **Online Parenting Talk** on **12th February, 2026** from **3:00 PM to 4:00 PM**



through Google Meet.

The session was conducted on the topic **“Parenting: Importance of Music in Child Development.”** The aim of the session was to highlight the role of music in enhancing children's cognitive, emotional, and social development.

The key speakers, **Dr. Hayatiben Vaidya (Assistant Professor – Music)** and **Shri Hardik Bhatt (Secondary Teacher – Music)** from Children's Research University, Gandhinagar, delivered an engaging and informative session. They emphasized how music can be used as an effective tool for learning, expression, and overall personality development in children.

Report on Online Parenting Talk (Session – 12)

The Department of Community and Special Education, Children's Research University, Gandhinagar, successfully organized a **Parenting Talk** on **26th February, 2026** through Google Meet (Online Platform).

The theme of the session, **“Every Child Matters,”** focused on recognizing the uniqueness of every child and promoting inclusive and supportive parenting practices. The session aimed to sensitize parents towards understanding children's individual needs and nurturing their overall development.

The key speaker, **Prof. Sanjay Gupta**, delivered an insightful session highlighting the importance of empathy, awareness, and practical parenting strategies in today's dynamic environment.



June – 2026

"Balvani" is a joint outreach initiative of **Children's Research University, Gandhinagar** and the **Gujarat Community Radio Association**, aimed at promoting child development and scientific parenting through community radio. Under this project, Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) were signed with six



community radio stations across Gujarat to disseminate child-centric educational content. By June 2026, a total of **15 radio episodes** had been successfully broadcast. Of these, **eight episodes** focused on "**Infant Counselling**", covering topics such as child health, language and cognitive development, nutrition, parenting practices, and expert guidance in a simple and practical manner. The remaining **seven episodes** featured **children's**

stories and songs, encouraging language development, creativity, cultural values, and joyful learning among children. The programmes received an encouraging response from parents and listeners across all participating radio stations. Parents appreciated the practical guidance on child care and parenting, while the children's programmes gained wide popularity. The success of the project demonstrated that community radio is an effective medium for delivering quality information on child development and parenting to communities across the state. "**Balvani**" has emerged as a significant and impactful initiative in promoting child welfare, family awareness, and community engagement in Gujarat



KIDNOVATION

Organized by the Department of Community and Special Education

Date: 23rd June 2026

The **KIDNOVATION** programme was formally launched on **23 June 2026**, coinciding with the **Nirvan Din (Punyatithi)** of **Shri**



Gijubhai Badheka, the renowned educationist and pioneer of child-centred education. The launch ceremony was organized by the **Department of Community and Special Education** during the University's morning prayer assembly.



Following the prayer, the **Coordinator of the KIDNOVATION Project, Dr. Anjana Chauhan** introduced the initiative and highlighted its vision and objectives. Dr. Anjana Chauhan explained that KIDNOVATION is an innovative initiative of the Department of Community and Special Education aimed at nurturing creativity, innovation, and scientific thinking among students of Standards KG to 12. The project seeks to encourage young minds to transform their creative ideas into meaningful innovations through mentoring, prototype development, and intellectual property awareness.

The programme concluded with the **University Song**, followed by a **Shradhanjali to Shri Gijubhai Badheka**, paying heartfelt tribute to his invaluable contribution to child education and his enduring educational philosophy.

The launch of KIDNOVATION marked the beginning of a significant initiative dedicated to fostering innovation among school students and reaffirmed the University's commitment to promoting creativity, research, and child-centred education.