

# SPECIAL NEEDS COUNCIL, GUJARAT



**WOMEN'S INDIAN CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**  
[www.wicci.in](http://www.wicci.in)



# Council Vision & Mission

When we set out to have an organization for a cause, it was with the idea to create an environment **to accept differences and enable systemic change for persons with disabilities by crafting an inclusive society**. While an NPO is ok, we find that collaboration works better as the network is leveraged to its potential to create impact.

*Welcoming  
Council Members to  
WICCI*

*President, Vice President  
and 20+ Nominated  
Council Members*

# SHARMILA DIVATIA, PRESIDENT

STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

## BIO

- Sharmila is an IT professional with 32 years of experience in the industry. Currently MD, Vardaan, a NPO in the disability space to build an inclusive and accessible ecosystem.
- As a survivor of encephalitis she has cerebral palsy, a condition that impairs motor control of the body. She has a spastic left hand and a speech impediment.
- A 2 decades of volunteering in the Disability space with directorship of National Trust and allied MoSJ&E institutions and NGOs.
- Academically, an MSc. Mathematics, a Diploma in Computer Application and a MBA (Operations).





# Dr. Arrpita Arorah, VICE PRESIDENT

STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

## BIO

- Greatly awarded and highly regarded as a speaker at various fora, Arrpita is Director at B.N. Patel Institute of Paramedical & Science (Paramedical Division), Anand, and B N Patel College of Physiotherapy, Anand.
- Assistant Professor & Visiting Lecturer at C .P. Patel & F. H. Shah Commerce College, Anand and also a Visiting Lecturer at G. H. Patel Business Department of MBA, V. V. Nagar.
- Established 4 colleges in a very short time.
- **Skills in leadership, organizational setups and educational institutions setup**



# SHUBHRA AGNIHOTRI, MEMBER

STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

## BIO

- Recent Experience:

- District Coordinator, American India Foundation

- Project Associate, Deepak Foundation

**What impressed: knows Braille**

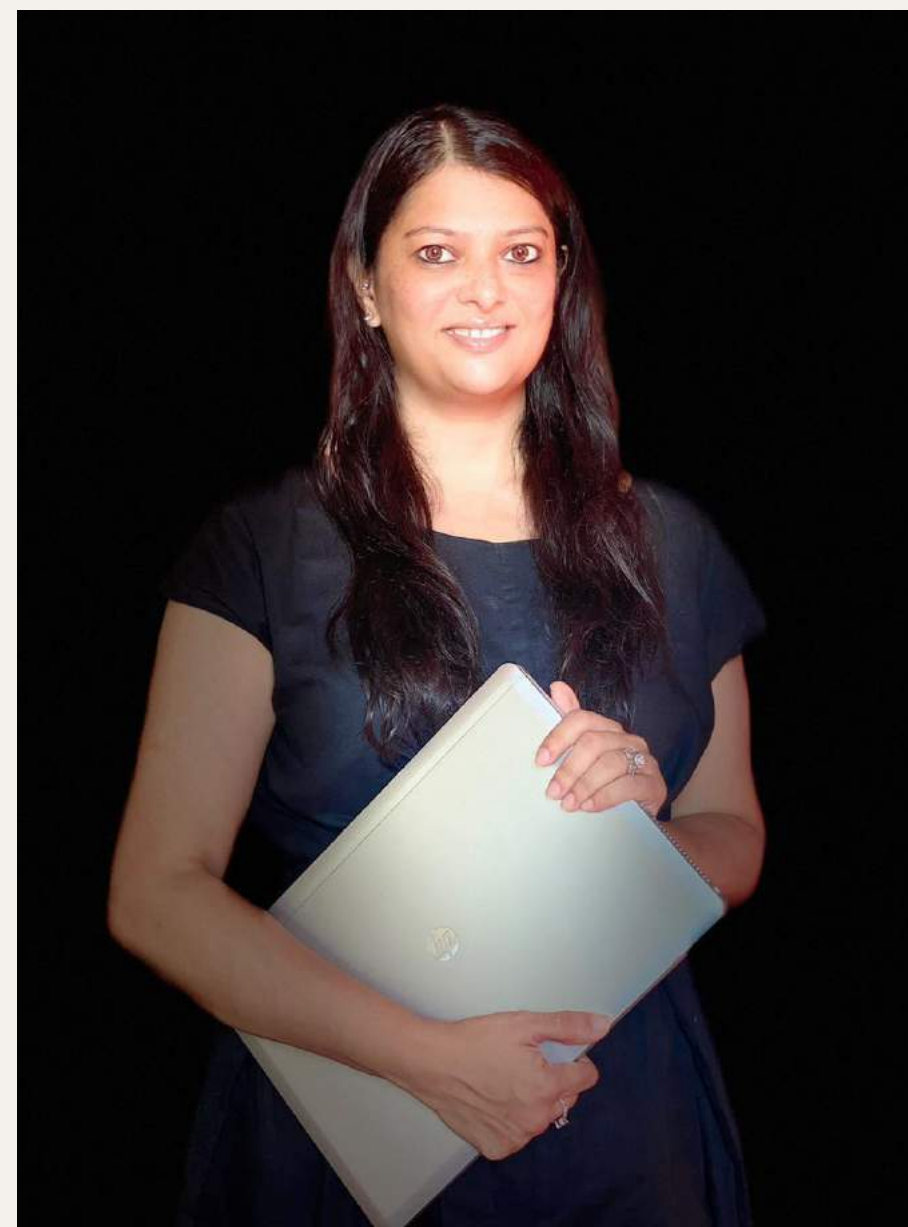


# PRITU DHARIWAL, MEMBER

STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

## BIO

- 17+ years in IT, SAP Finance and Costing Consultant and Project Manager Active participation in social causes through corporates and personal trust ,
- 2+ years of Counselling experience for all age groups based on fingerprint Analysis, active in plantation of trees
- **Current responsibilities**
  - COE and PM for SAP FICO freelancing for various IT companies and respectable IT projects
  - Academics: CPA from AICPA USA , MBA Finance , ATC from ICAI
  - Other certifications: SAP S/4 Hana , Counselling Practitioners, E-COMMERCE



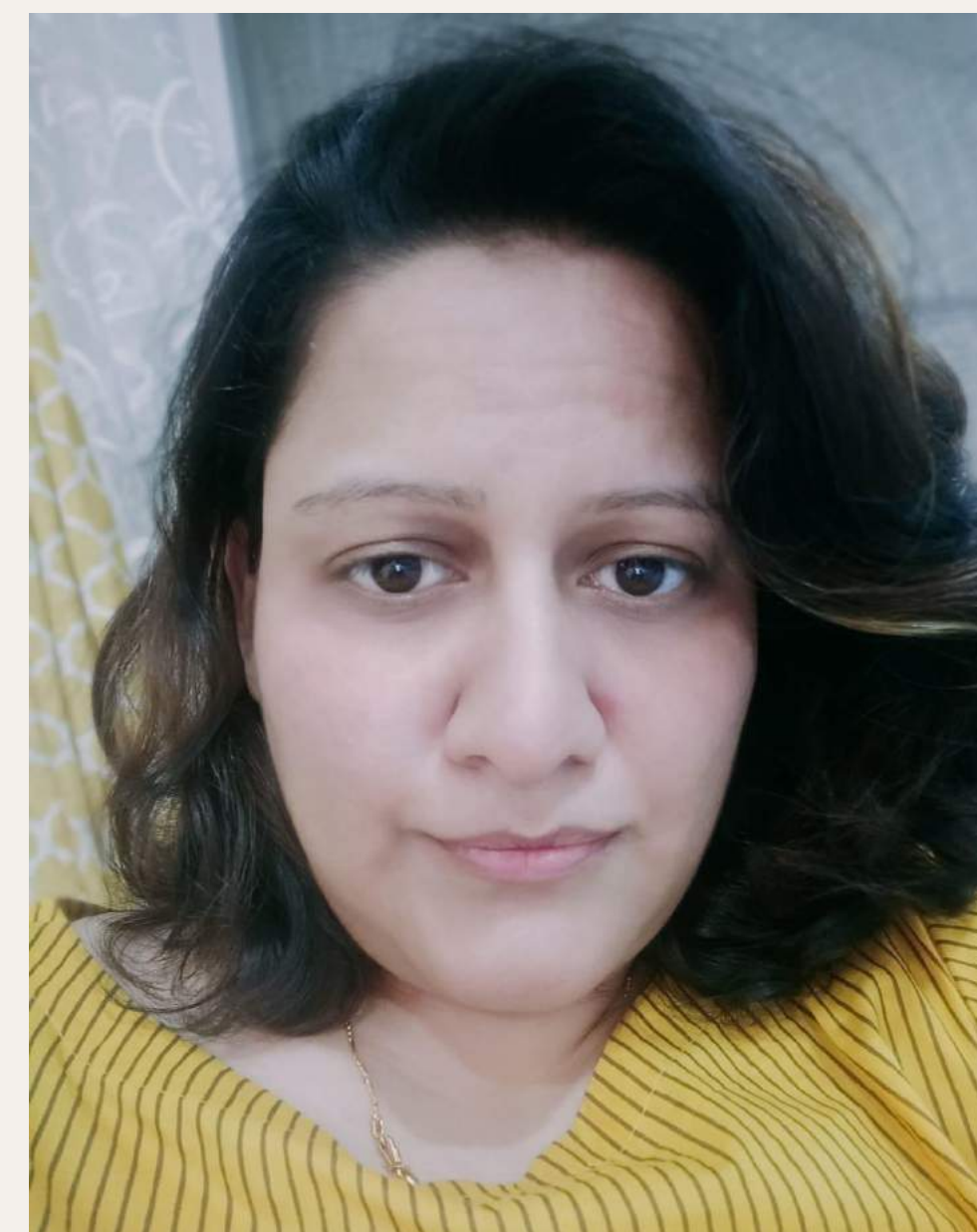


# Prachi Chaturvedi, MEMBER

STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

## BIO

- Prachi Chaturvedi is a digital accessibility expert, with over a decade of experience working on websites and web-content to make them disabled friendly.
- Having worked on various government websites, she brings an unmatched experience of auditing websites and digital content, and converting them in accessible forms.
- Prachi is currently working as the Director and Head of the Digital Accessibility at Enable Me Access, a section 8 organization dealing in Accessibility and Inclusion.
- Academically, a B.E in Information Technology from Mumbai University.





# ALKA SMART, MEMBER

STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

## BIO

- Educationist with 30 years of experience in shaping lives of students as a teacher
- She is the Vice President of Disha Trust and one of its founder members. She strongly believes in inclusion of the specially abled children into the mainstream and dedicates all her spare time for the Autistic Children at Disha special school.
- As secretary of Heritage Trust of Vadodara, she has conducted several workshops for children on Conservation of Water and Heritage Monuments at the Sevasi and Navlakhi Vavs funded by UNESCO, United Way of Baroda and the World Bank.
- She is also on the Board of Trustees of Consortium of Inclusive Education, a joint initiative of Deepak Foundation and Gujarat CSR Authority





# PUNITA DAVE, MEMBER

STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

## BIO

- Leads Training & Development with American Infosource, India and has over 21 years of experience in functional verticals of Training & Quality, Business Excellence, Marketing and Product Development with sectors like IT, Pharma and Education. Credits her learning to her stint with leading companies such as Mphasis an HP company, Aditya Birla Minacs, Convergys, NIIT, IBM Learning and CADILA. Led a successful training and human resources consultancy with major clientele like Raymonds, Wipro, WNS, Convergys, Intelenet Global and Infosys BPO.
- An educator and is attached to MSU as visiting faculty and GTU as a resource person.
- A Rotarian and an active member with Baroda Management Association (AAIMA) – has co-chaired Women's development committee and young managers' development committee.



# ASMANI SURVE, MEMBER

## STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

### BIO

- Experienced & Certified
  - Trainer & Coach
  - Neuro-Linguistics Program Practitioner
  - HR Management Consultant
  - Competency Mapping & Performance Management Specialist
  - OD & OB Strategist
  - Business Partner - HR
  - HR Policies Framing & Auditing
  - People Analytics
  - ISO 9001 Lead Auditor

Human Capital is a significant investment in the business. Human resources & utilization is a function, which I like to optimize with the simplistic method in today's emerging opportunities & challenges.

- Business Process Management consultant at Skynotch Group
- CEO Switchgear Industries



# Dr. Jamila Firdaus, MEMBER

## STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

### BIO

- Practicing Clinical Psychologist for past 26 years
- Experience
  - MARG Counselling Center, MSU 1996-2001
  - Navrachna School, Sama, full time School Psychologist 2001 on till date
  - Visiting Psychologist at
    - MARG Counseling Center, MSU Vadodara
    - Indian Airforce Station, Vadodara
    - Colourss Foundation, Vadodara
  - Other core areas
    - Psychological assessment
    - Parental Counseling
    - Family Counseling
    - Adolescent Counseling
    - Training teachers and students on Life Skills
    - Training Postgrad students on Mental Health services
    - Community/Voluntary services



# RADHA TANDON, MEMBER

## STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

### BIO

- Founder Director, Praangan Education Trust, Vadodara
- Runs the centre to address assessment and remedial education and allied interventions for children with special education needs at Baroda.
- Attached as Honorary visiting Faculty with GMERS (Gujarat Medical Education & Research Society), Vadodara
- Have 17 years' experience in the field of Special Needs Education with various institutes: Army-run AWWA Asha School, Vibgyor High School, Navrachana International School



# Rajasi Rastogi, MEMBER

STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

## BIO

- Consultant, Project Discovery, Enable India
- Disability Inclusion design consultant
- Education
  - University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Industrial & Product Design
- **What impressed: knows American and Indian sign language**



# PARAS MAHENDRU, MEMBER

## STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

### BIO

- After completing the degree program in the area of early childhood education, went for post-graduation diploma in clinical and community psychology. Then Teacher's training diploma in the field of special education, specialized in behavior modification, assessment and identification of children with special needs, and planning and developing a program/curriculum.
- 15 years of experience in the field of early childhood education and special needs and have worked in various set ups such as nursery schools, special needs centers and orphanage.
- Director, PreschoolGuru Education Consultancy
- Preschool Education Consultant/Curriculum Designer for early years/preschools/Inclusion expert



# PRAJAKTA SHINDE, MEMBER

STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

## BIO

- Education
  - Urban and Regional Planning (CEPT University, Ahmedabad)
  - B.Arch
- Senior executive in Corporate Planning, Gujarat Metro Rail Co.



# RASHMI DESAI, MEMBER

STATE COUNCIL, SPECIAL NEEDS, GUJARAT

## BIO

- Rashmi Desai is a practising lawyer of repute, enjoying immense respect of the bar and the bench. A Graduate in Physics and Maths, from Bombay University, she has also educated herself in Advertising and Public Relations, in Mumbai. Her study of law began after her marriage which brought her to Baroda. At the M. S. University of Baroda, she topped both in Bachelors and Masters of law, with Gold Medals being awarded at each level. She was also awarded the UGC scholarship for prosecuting further studies in Masters in law. During her 40 years career as a lawyer, she was invited to join the judiciary as a District Judge. She has Pursued courses in “Mediation” – (a concept of dispute resolution which is fast catching on), including an advanced Mediation course at Pepperdine University, in USA.





# SUPPORTED BY

WICCI is supported by the massive global networks of ALL Ladies League (ALL), Women Economic Forum (WEF), and SHEconomy.

ALL is a movement of 'Sisters Beyond Borders.'

WEF is a platform for 'Business Beyond Borders.' SHEconomy is e-commerce for women worldwide in Goods & Services for 'Commerce Beyond Borders'



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# SHECONOMY



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Poland

