



### LVPEI Vizag gets its first Vision Centres

LVPEI's GMR Varalakshmi campus at Visakhapatnam inaugurated its first two Vision Centres (VC) on December 13, 2010 at Shrungavarapukota and Chodavaram, both approx 60 kms away. These are the first of 30 VCs linked to LVPEI Visakhapatnam, to be set up during 2010 - 2013 with support from the Lavelle Fund for the Blind, Inc., USA. Each of these high quality primary eye care centres will provide quality eye care to communities of 50,000 people in some of the most underserved parts of the state.

The Chodavaram VC premises were provided by a voluntary organization Premasamajam; the Shrungavarapukota VC is supported by Bapuji Sevasangam – both occupying 1000 sqft rent-free space. Mr Gautham and Mr Vinod, Vision Technicians will manage the VCs, until the designated VTs complete their training.

Dr Gullapalli N Rao (Chair, LVPEI), Dr Merle Fernandes (Director, LVPEI, Visakhapatnam), Dr PVKS Varma and the entire Vizag team participated in the inaugural program, as did representatives of the supporting organizations. After the inaugural, public meetings were organized and coordinated by local communities with guidance by the LVPEI team.



Mr Goutam, Vision Technician and Mr K Prasad, MD of a sugar factory inaugurate the Chodavaram VC. Left: Dr Gullapalli N Rao



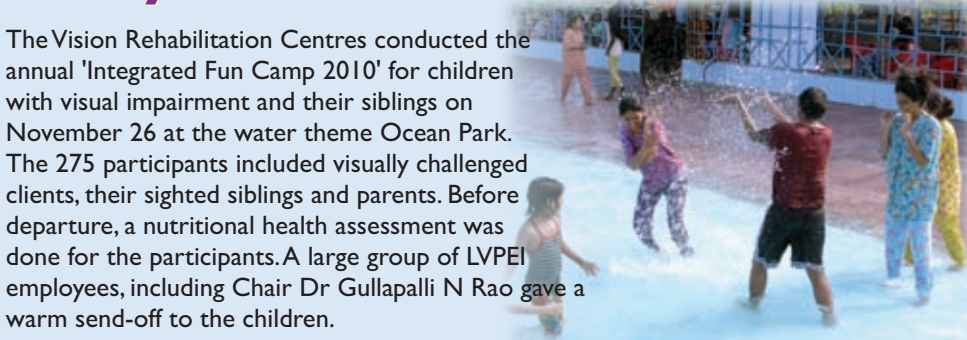
Dr Merle Fernandes, director, LVPEI Vizag speaks at the inauguration of the Shrungavarapukota VC (seen right)



### A day of fun & frolic

The Vision Rehabilitation Centres conducted the annual 'Integrated Fun Camp 2010' for children with visual impairment and their siblings on November 26 at the water theme Ocean Park. The 275 participants included visually challenged clients, their sighted siblings and parents. Before departure, a nutritional health assessment was done for the participants. A large group of LVPEI employees, including Chair Dr Gullapalli N Rao gave a warm send-off to the children.

At the camp the children participated in games, competitions and sports, such as memory games, water games, role enactment, etc. All the children received gifts, and winners and runners-up received prizes. Camp experiences enable children to develop their social skills in a fun way. The camp was made possible by the wholehearted participation of our dedicated volunteers Mr Gopal, Mr Pulla Rao, Mr Praveen, Mr Sheshaiah, Mr Naresh, Ms Nirmala, Mr Siddhartha, Mr Nitheesh, Mr TAN Murthy, Mr Rajeev, Mr and Mrs Akhila Ravi, and Mrs Neena Verghese.



### News from Bhubaneswar

### Operation Eyesight Partner's Meet



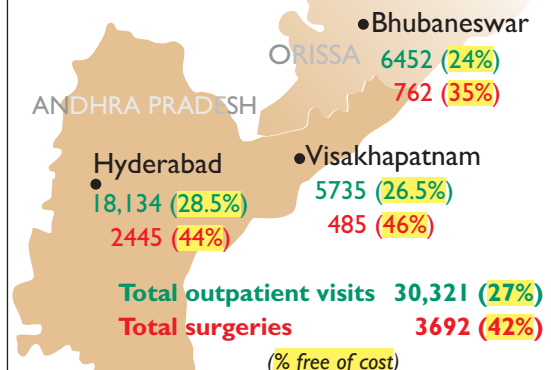
Operation Eyesight (OE) India conducted a workshop for its partners in LVPEI Bhubaneswar from December 8-9, 2010, with 18 partner hospitals from different parts of the country. The theme was "How to strengthen the hospital based community eye health programme" in their own area. Resource persons from OE India helped develop individual project proposals.

### Graduation Day

The Graduation Day of the 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of MCEH (7 students) and the 10<sup>th</sup> batch of DCEH (10 students) was held on December 17, 2010 at LVPEI, Kismatpur Campus, Hyderabad. Dr Rajesh Noah, Executive Director, VISION 2020 India and others presided over the ceremony.



### Patients seen in December



## Ocular Oncology Course

An Ocular Oncology Course was conducted by Dr Jerry Shields from December 4-5, 2010. A world-authority on ocular oncology, Dr Shields is the Director of the Ocular Oncology Service at Wills Eye Institute and Professor of Ophthalmology at the Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, USA.

The Ocular Oncology Course provided a comprehensive and systematic review of the tumors of the eyelid, ocular surface, uvea, retina and orbit. The content ranged in level from basic to advanced and included pictorial demonstrations of diagnostic clinical features, and discussion on differential diagnosis, relevant investigations, management, follow-up protocol and prognosis. Case-based and an interactive teaching format provided an optimal and friendly learning environment. Dr Shields interacted with the audience, fellows and residents and inspired both the young and the experienced alike.

The course was attended by a full house of over 200 delegates. The event was webcast live on the internet and was watched around the world.



Dr Jerry Shields with Dr S Honavar, Head, Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery, Orbit & Ocular Oncology, LVPEI



A delegation from the Stanford Graduate School of Business, led by Prof David Bradford, Director, Executive Program in Leadership, visited LVPEI as an organization of interest, given its success and impact in India. They also explored a possible internship program at LVPEI.

## Indian Contact Lens Education Program

The 45<sup>th</sup> Indian Contact Lens Education Program (ICLEP Basic and Advanced Courses) was conducted from December 9-13, 2010, with 66 delegates participating. For the first time the program included a live demo on multifocal contact lens as well as live demos on soft contact lens and RGP fittings. The program was very well received.



Dr Varsha Rathi, In-charge, ICLEP (left) and live demos during the program

## First Dr Kakarla Subba Rao Endowment Lecture

Internationally acclaimed authority on ocular oncology Dr Jerry A Shields, Director, Ocular Oncology Service at Wills Eye Institute, delivered the First Dr Kakarla Subba Rao Endowment Lecture on 'Interesting new developments in ocular oncology' on December 4, 2010. An outstanding radiologist of international repute, Dr Subba Rao played a key role in developing Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS) into a premier health care institute of Andhra Pradesh. Always passionate about education, he instituted an endowment lecture at LVPEI recently.



Dr Kakarla Subba Rao felicitates Dr Jerry Shields

### A note of thanks

*Bahut shukriya from USA*

My mom is doing very well. I thank you for your superb care, help and assistance during my mom's surgery. I could not have asked for more.

LVPEI is not only world-class in the work they do, but even more impressive is the fact that the hospital is a non-profit group and more than 50 per cent of its patients who cannot pay one way or another are rendered free care.

It is truly an extraordinary feeling to see something like that in our own country, Hindustan. Keep up the good work!

Dr J Avasarala

## Honors & Awards

Vijaya K Gothwal, Head, Meera and L B Deshpande Centre for Sight Enhancement awarded a Fellowship by the American Academy of Optometry at its annual meeting held at San Francisco, USA (November 2010).

## Our support – December

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## LV PRASAD EYE INSTITUTE

Kallam Anji Reddy Campus, Hyderabad

Tel: +91 40 30612345

Fax: +91 40 23548271

E-mail: info.hyd@lvpei.org

GMR Varalakshmi Campus, Visakhapatnam

Tel: +91 0891 39892020

Fax: +91 0891 3984444

E-mail: info.vizag@lvpei.org

Patia, Bhubaneswar (Orissa)

Tel: +91 0674 39892020

Fax: +91 0674 3987130

E-mail: info.bbsr@lvpei.org

