

## Novel Tools and Themes in Vision Sciences: Indo-US Symposium

Blinding eye diseases including refractive errors, corneal diseases, ocular infections, cataract, glaucoma, and retinal diseases afflict about 20 million individuals in India alone, and remain a major health and economic burden worldwide. To stimulate development of new strategies for diagnosing and treating complex eye diseases, a symposium on "Novel Tools and Themes in Vision Sciences" was held from 21-22 January 2013 at Hyderabad. The event, jointly organized by Dr Subhabrata Chakrabarti (L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad) and Dr Uday B Kompella (University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, USA), was attended by about 50 participants, including 9 resource persons from USA.



@ Bhubaneswar campus, Bhubaneswar

## Rehab Centre Creates Awareness

The NTPC Centre for Sight Enhancement & Rehabilitation for the Visually Challenged participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> annual program of the All Odisha Students Union of the Visually Impaired on 23 January 2013. The rehab professionals – Sirajum Monira and Sumita Lima displayed assistive devices for the education and empowerment of persons with visual impairment. About 200 visually impaired students attended the program from various parts of Odisha. Mr Arun Kumar Sahoo, Minister of Energy & Information and Public Relations, presented the students prizes and certificates for excellent performance in educational and other fields. The stall received great response and succeeded in making many people aware of the advanced technology and low vision services available.



@ Kode Venkatadri Chowdary campus, Vijayawada

## Vijayawada Oculoplasty Update

The campus conducted an Oculoplasty Update on 30 December 2012 to highlight common oculoplasty procedures for the comprehensive ophthalmologist. It comprised interactive didactics, a video session discussing common surgical procedures, and a Botulinum toxin live injection workshop.



## Awards & Honors

**Dr Gullapalli N Rao**, Founder and Chairman of LV Prasad Eye Institute, honored with the GOH Naumann Award by the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO), the global umbrella organization for all national and regional ophthalmological societies of the world at the Council's meeting in Hyderabad on January 15, 2013. The award is given in recognition of "outstanding global leadership in eye care".

**Dr Taraprasad Das**, Vice Chair, LVPEI network, conferred the Padma Shri Award in Medicine for the year 2013, announced on the eve of Republic Day. Another feather in LVPEI's cap!

**Dr Taraprasad Das** inducted as Member, Editorial Board of Ophthalmic Research

### LVPEI awards at AIOS

LVPEI reaped a rich haul of awards at the joint meeting of the 28<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Academy of

Ophthalmology Congress and All India Ophthalmological Society at Hyderabad, January 17-20, 2013

• **Taraprasad Das, Prashant Garg, Santosh Honavar, Milind Naik** — APAO Achievement Awards

• **Subhadra Jalali**: P Siva Reddy Oration Award

• **Sujata Das**: B K Narayan Rao Oration Award

• **Sirisha Senthil**: Best of Session award for "Glaucoma in Boston keratoprosthesis"

• **Niranjan Pehere**: Best paper in "Neuro-ophthalmology" session

• **Mohd Javed Ali**: Comprehensive Ophthalmology Award for "RB1 Gene mutations and its clinical correlation"

• **Kaustubh Mulay**: Best Paper in "Ocular pathology and tumours" session

• **LVPEI Alumni**: Archana Singh (Cornea) and Savari Desai (Oculoplasty)

@ International Centre for Advancement of Rural Eye care

## 92<sup>nd</sup> Vision Centre Inaugurated

Another Vision Centre and yet another rural community that will receive the benefits of quality primary eye care! The institute's 92<sup>nd</sup> Vision Centre was inaugurated on 4 January 2013 at Pedapadu village and mandal, West Godavari district. The centre is supported by LDS Charities, USA. Local support came from Mr Chintamaneni Sitaramamma and family, and Dr Girish, chief anesthetist at LVPEI's Kode Venkatadri Chowdary campus at Tadigadapa, Vijayawada, who initiated the process.



Mr KSR Prasad cuts the ribbon; also seen, Dr Girish and Mr Rajashekar

## Markapuram Celebrates 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the secondary care Sudhakar & Sreekanth Ravi Eye Centre at Markapuram (Prakasam district) was celebrated on 3 January 2013. Administrator Mr Sandeep Rao presented the patient statistics for the past 5 years. The total number of OPD patients seen from January 3, 2008 up till December 31, 2012, was 53,645 — 31,065 paying and 22,580 non-paying. The total surgeries performed were 7276 — 2515 paying



and 4761 non-paying. Senior housekeeping staff member Mrs Alluramma cut the cake. The Best Employees of the Year were Mr G Vandanam (Opticals) and Mr Brahmanik (OT Technician).

## 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mudhol Centre

Our first satellite centre, Bhosle Gopal Rao Patel Eye Centre (BGRPEC) in Mudhol (Adilabad district) celebrated its 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary on 20 December 2012. Since its inception, the centre has seen 236,778 outpatients and performed 32,919 surgeries (up to 19 Dec 2012). The family of the main donor, Mr Narayan Rao Patel, graced the occasion.



# Guest lectures in January 2013

**January 17:** *Early detection of keratoconus premium IOL selection based on total corneal wavefront*

**Dr Carlos G Arce**, Dept of Ophthalmology, Paulista School of Medicine, Federal University of Sao Paulo, Brazil

**January 18:** *Clinical pearls in the management of corneal trauma*

**Dr Richard L Abbott**, Professor, Clinical Ophthalmology, Co-Director, Cornea & Refractive Surgery Service, UCLA, CA, USA

**January 18:** *Industry's influence on drug research*

**Dr Paul Lichter**, Chair, Dept of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences, Univ of Michigan Kellogg Eye Centre, MI, USA

**January 19:** *Therapeutic strategy for severe corneal diseases*

**Dr Shigeru Kinoshita**, Director, Dept of Ophthalmology, Kyoto Prefectural University of Medicine, Japan

**January 21:** *Noninvasive "live histology" (spectral domain OCT) of retina in different retinal conditions*

**Dr KV Chalam**, Chair, Dept of Ophthalmology, University of Florida College of Medicine, Jacksonville, FL, USA

**January 22:** *Optics of the eye and vision*

**Dr Geunyoung Yoon**, Associate Professor, Dept of Ophthalmology, Institute of Optics, Biomedical Engineering, Center for Visual Science, University of Rochester, NY, USA

**January 23:** *Retinal ciliopathies: Mechanisms and treatment paradigms*

**Dr Hemant Khanna**, Asst Professor, Ophthalmology, University of Massachusetts Medical School, MA, USA

**January 23:** *Nano science applications in drug delivery*

**Prof Uday Kompella**, Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Colorado School of Pharmacy, CO, USA

**January 25:** *Multifocal electrophysiology in diagnosing and managing diseases affecting vision development, sample data, prospects for the future*

**Dr Erich Sutter**, President & CEO, Electro-Diagnostic Imaging, Inc., CA, USA

**January 28:** *Assessment of vision in children with multiple disabilities*

**Dr Lea Hyvärinen**, Sr Lecturer, Developmental Neuropsychology, University of Helsinki, Finland

## Our Support in January

- Angamaly  
Dr Thomas Cherian
- Chandigarh  
Mr Pranay Garg
- Gurgaon  
Dr G V Rao
- Hyderabad  
Mr Manoj Agarwal  
Ms Savitri &  
Mr S L Kumar  
(Sadbhavna Trust)  
Mr D Sri Krishna  
Mr Uday Kumar Dintyala  
Ms Vijaya L Ramam
- Kolkata  
Mr Prakash C Laha
- Khammam  
Mr Shyam Sunder Daram

- New Delhi  
Ms Kavita &  
Mr Sanjay Gandhi
- Sonabhadra (UP)  
Mr Kailash Nath  
Pandey
- Birmingham (UK)  
Mr Krishna Mohan  
Udathu & Family
- Japan  
Dr Nobuo Ishida
- USA  
Mr Daisaku Ikach  
Dr Gangadhar  
Prasad Kilaru  
Dr Sashidhar  
Prasad Kilaru

# The Philanthropic Kollipara Family of Peddanandipadu

This is an inspiring story of how a businessman from a middle-class family stepped forward to support the provision of eye care services by L V Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI), to ensure the eye health of the people in his hometown.



Mr Kollipara Srinivas Rao and his two brothers donated space in a busy locality of Peddanandipadu near Guntur, in memory of their late parents Mr Kollipara Seshagiri Rao and Mrs Rohini. Speaking of his involvement in extending eye care in the area, he said, "Authorities at L V Prasad Eye Institute in Hyderabad were making enquiries at the Karamchedu base centre, seeking local donors in Peddanandipadu. When they approached me I spoke to my brothers and we readily agreed to provide built space for a Vision Centre. We set up the Vision Centre (VC) at a crucial junction – the crossroads of Peddanandipadu and Nagulapadu. We believe that LVPEI's name and fame precedes it and it will surely fulfill its promise to provide medical support to people."

"The building extension was constructed under the aegis of a service organization. We also helped in the glaucoma project established by Dr G Chandra Sekhar of LVPEI, because we were convinced that people in the area would benefit by early detection of glaucoma."

"The Vision Centre will help people have eye check-ups closer to their home. People above 60 cannot go far for eye care as they are dependent upon a younger family member to accompany them. Also, traveling far means a loss of daily wages as this is a predominantly agricultural community. This VC will ensure that people receive care, instead of ignoring the problem, as they need to spend only Rs 10 to Rs 15 on transport to reach it. The Centre has helped save at least Rs 2000 per day for the community and helped take care of the eye health of the people."

## Nawab Arastu Yar Jung Bahadur Endowment Lecture

The Fourth Nawab Arastu Yar Jung Bahadur Endowment Lecture was delivered by Prof Rajvardhan Azad, Head of Vitreo-Retinal Diseases & ROP Services and Chief, Dr R P Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences, AIIMS, New Delhi, on January 5, 2013. Speaking on the 'The Art, Science and Commerce of Medical Education in India', he gave a brief outline of the medical scenario in India and the measures required to improve it.

Dr Taraprasad Das presents a plaque to Prof Rajvardhan Azad (left)



The Carey Business School team with the staff of LVPEI's secondary care centre Kuchukulla Ramachandra Reddy Eye Centre at Thoodukurthy.

A group of **interns from Carey Business School**, John Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA, visited LVPEI from January 6-18, 2013, as part of their International Interns Program. They were working on an "Innovations for Humanity Project". The team, led by Prof Bonnie Robeson and Program Manager Mr Dan Sheats included Ms Hye Jin (Sally) Choi, Mr Sungmoon Jung, Mr Joe Marcino and Mr Eric Yockey.

## My Experience with LVPEI, Visakhapatnam

After L V Prasad Eye Institute, Visakhapatnam, was established, I went there for an eye check-up in the month of October 2008. I had developed glaucoma by then. After an eye check-up by Dr PVKS Varma at LVPEI Vizag, I was advised to undergo laser treatment. I underwent the treatment at monthly, quarterly and half-yearly intervals, according to the pressure in my eyes.

Since then I have visited the hospital many times. The hospitality, cooperation and assistance given by the staff as well as by Dr Varma cannot be imagined, especially the practice of welcoming patients by saying Namaste. During my vast experience with the hospital, I felt that the staff were not working for their livelihood but for serving the patients. In one word, this institution is a VIP hospital for the poorest of the poor.

On 23 November 2012, I underwent surgery in my right eye. The role played by Dr Varma cannot be imagined. With his sweet words, he reassured me. The staff working under him, Mr Gopal and Ms Pushpa, also work with a service motive. LVPEI is not a hospital; it is a 'seva kendram' for the poorest of the poor in society.

December 15, 2012



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