

Dr Kalam Dedicates Vijayawada Campus to AP

Former President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam dedicated the Kode Venkatadri Choudary Campus in Vijayawada to the people of Andhra Pradesh on 15th March 2015. He launched the Children's Eye Health Initiative, the LASIK service, and lauded the team for achieving 500 corneal transplants, besides being awarded the cleanest campus in the LVPEI Network.



New Vision Centres

#115 at Lodagalavanipalem, Anandapuram Mandal, Visakhapatnam District, inaugurated on 22 March 2015 by Sri Ganta Srinivasa Rao, Minister for Education and HRD, Andhra Pradesh. Funding support is by Lavelle Fund for the Blind, USA, and rent free premises provided by Sri Bammidi Suryanarayana and Smt Bammidi Uma Devi.

#116 at Podalukuru, the institute's first in Nellore District, inaugurated on 29 March 2015 by Smt Bollu Kasturi Bai. Also present was Sri Bollu Murali, CEO of ZenQ. Capital funding is by the Rotary Club, Elbe, through Cristoffel Blindemission and the operational expense is funded by ZenQ.



Centre for Rural Eye Health at Bhubaneswar



A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), for the creation of a Centre for Rural Eye Health at the LVPEI Bhubaneswar Campus, on

16 March 2015 at Bhubaneswar. The MoU was signed by Mr K K Sharma, OSO for Odisha, IOCL and Dr Tarapasad Das, Vice-Chair, LVPEI. The IOCL-LVPEI Centre will coordinate the upcoming secondary and primary eye care centres in Odisha.

Audio Movie Released by Vision Rehabilitation Team

An audio movie titled "I'm possible" produced by the Vision Rehabilitation team was released on 7 March 2015. The movie's idea, concept, story, script, direction is by T V Aishwarya who works with the HelpLine run by the Vision Rehabilitation Services. More at <https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=884393048287290&set=vb.140307749362494&type=2&theater>.

A first of its kind surgery in East India

LVPEI Bhubaneswar became the first Institute in East India to perform Viscocanalostomy, a non penetrating glaucoma filtration surgery, with Dr Aparna Rao performing the surgery on four patients, of age ranging from 1.5 years to 62 years, over February and March this year. The technique requires good surgical expertise and is advantageous in patients with the risk of hypotony, especially young patients with juvenile open angle glaucoma.



Awards & Honours

Subhabrata Chakrabarti nominated Vice President, Asian Eye Genetics Consortium, a joint initiative of the National Institute of Sensory Organs, Japan and the National Eye Institute, NIH, USA.

Ramam Atmakuri received Hyderabad Software Exporters Association (HYSEA) award for 'Outstanding Service to the IT Industry' on 12 March 2015.

Indumathi Mariapan's proposal 'Proof-of-concept experimentation on gene correction in iPSCs by genome editing methods' approved by the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), DST for funding.

Subhadra Jalali was chief guest at Shantha Biotech for Women's Day on March 8, 2015. She spoke on "Triumphs and challenges as a woman with Ophthalmology practice" and on 'Preventing blindness in your newborn'.

Kishore Babu awarded Best Paper Presentation at the Annual National Medical Records Conference MEDRECON, 6-7 March 2015 at Kelambakkam in Tamil Nadu, for his paper 'Medical Records: Role and Accreditation Process'.

Times of India survey of top hospitals in Chennai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru released on 31 March 2015 had **LVPEI ranked Number 1** in the specialty-wise ranking for Ophthalmology.

I was distributing the answer sheets for the Visual Optics course that I teach to the 2nd year Optometry students at the Bausch & Lomb School of Optometry (BLSO) and there was a debate about the answer to a question - on a topic related to how two different spectacles prescribing strategies may impact the vision of patients with astigmatism. Contrary to my argument that both prescribing strategies would produce similar visual outcome, the students provided evidence from their experiments in the pre-clinical laboratory that one prescribing strategy produced better vision than the other.

I was very impressed with - firstly, the clear thought process of the students and the manner they had imbibed the core ideas involving correction of astigmatism in patients. Secondly, the advantage of pre-clinical labs that we set up a couple of years ago and how well they have been utilized by the BLSO faculty for promoting evidence-based medicine. Thirdly, the confidence of the students in gently (but firmly) arguing against my point and proving themselves correct by providing evidence.

I was certainly satisfied teaching these students yesterday, and reassured about our teaching methodology to promote evidence-based practice of optometry and encourage significant two-way communication between the faculty and students.

Dr Shrikant Bharadwaj
Scientist Visual Optics Laboratory & Associate Director of Optometry

World Glaucoma Week (WGW) 2015

A series of activities were taken up across the network to commemorate Glaucoma Awareness Week, March 8-14, 2015. The theme this year was "BIG - Beat Invisible Glaucoma". The focus was on early detection and prevention of glaucoma through family screening.



March 8, Awareness Walk: @Hyderabad, participants included members of the Hyderabad Ophthalmic Association, celebrities such as Sri Ramesh Prasad from Prasad Film Laboratories, actors Easha, Nagineedu, director Kanneganti Mohan Krishna, actor-director A Srinivas and Mrs Naga Susheela and others; @Bhubaneswar, staff enacted a street play on glaucoma; @Visakhapatnam, the Walk was flagged off by Sri DSN Raju, Vice Chancellor, Andhra University. Other dignitaries included Sri Ramrajendra Kapratwar, Director and Sri Ajay Prakash Dhanak, HR Head, both from Dr Reddy's Laboratories Ltd.

March 8, Patient Education Forum: @Hyderabad, attended by over 100 participants eager to learn more about the disease and interact with the experts; @Bhubaneswar, presentation, patient interactive session and a quiz program with Dr Bijayanand Kar and Dr S Jali of Utkal University as dignitaries; @Visakhapatnam, dignitaries included Sri O Naresh, CEO Symbiosys Technologies; Sri Sreerama Murthy and Sri Udaya Bhaskar Reddy, both Senior Environmental Engineers from Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB); and Sri Ganta Appala Naidu, Judge, Vizianagaram District Consumer Forum.



CME 'The Art and Science of Glaucoma': @Hyderabad, at The Park, organized in association with The Hyderabad Ophthalmologists' Association, for postgraduates and ophthalmologists of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

GPR ICARE: The Gullapalli Pratibha Rao International Centre for Advancement of Rural Eye (GPR ICARE) organized community screenings, awareness walks, rallies and talks at various centres across its network including Ankushapur, Ghatkesar Mandal; Swarna Bharath Eye Centre, Venkatachalam, Nellore District that had Sri M Venkaiah Naidu, Minister of Urban Development as chief guest; Y Mahabaleswarappa Memorial Eye Centre, Bellary; Dr Kommareddy Raja Ram Mohan Rao Eye Centre, Gudavalli, Guntur District; Kuchukulla Ramachandra Reddy Eye Centre, Thoodukurthy, Mahbubnagar District; S Kota in Vizianagaram District and at Santhabommali Vision Centre.



Visitors, Lectures & Updates

Sri Ashok Gajapathi Raju, Union Minister for Civil Aviation, visited the GMR Varalakshmi Campus, Visakhapatnam; 21 March.

The Indian Society of Anesthesiologists (ISA) conducted **Focussed Anesthesia Seminars for Trainees (FAST)**, organized by the Department of Anesthesia; 8 March.

Dr Ramachandra Pararajasegaram, Former President of International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) and currently Affiliate of IAPB: Guest Lecture 'From Disease Oriented to Patient Centered Care'; 27 March.

Dr Michael W Stewart, Associate Professor, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Chairman, Department of Ophthalmology, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Florida, USA: Guest Lecture 'Mayo Clinic: History and Culture'; 11 March.

Dr Richard T Libby, Associate Professor, Departments of Ophthalmology and Biomedical Genetics; Member, The Center for Visual Science, University of Rochester Medical School, Rochester, USA: Guest Lecture 'Developing Science Collaborations Between the University of Rochester and LVPEI'; 25 March.

Dr Rajeev S Ramchandran, Assistant Professor in Ophthalmology, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry's Flaum Eye Institute, USA: Guest Lecture 'The University of Rochester - L V Prasad Eye Institute Partnership: Building on a 40 Year Association'; 25 March.

Prof Luong Xuan Hien, Director; **Assoc Prof Nguyen Duc Thanh**, Head of the International Relations Department; **Dr Nguyen Van Thinh**, Head of Administration Department; **Ms Tran Thi Huong**, International Relations Department; and **Mr Dang Vu Bao**, Project Officer, Fred Hollows Foundation; Thai Binh University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Vietnam; 25 March.

13th Annual Volunteers' Meet of the Rehabilitation Services had an online app 'Volunteer Management Software' introduced by Mr Venkat Dullapalli, CEO, Volunteer Mark; 7 March.

Our Support in March

Anantapur B Amarnath	Hyderabad R Shyam B Baglani D B Gurudasani Padmini Gopalakrishnan Juhi Hinduja B V Kumar Shaji Korah G K Kansal Jayin Marella CH Surya Prakash Joya Pinnamaneni T Padmanabhan Amit R Rach P Vasanth Reddy Palle Rama Rao S S R Koteswara Rao G Saradha S V Saikumar Dhanji Lakhamsi Sawla	Sushika Harilal Shah G Chandra Sekhar D Seetharamaiah Tanya R Venkateswaran Chandra Sekhar Viswanath Uma Rao / N Venkataswamy Chetty Charitable Trust Capt. Kuldeep Singh Solanki & Bijay Mandhani / Global Coal and Minig Pvt Ltd Venkat Jasti / Suven Trust Deloitte Tax Services India Pvt Ltd Rama Devi & Ravi	Prakash / Condour Industrial Services Pvt Ltd Kolkata Purushottam Lal Agarwal Salarpuria Jajodia Varun Thapar / KCT Group ITC Ltd Mumbai M Adinarayana Rajendra Y Angle Rashmi Vasudeo Bhivapure Madhu & Mahesh Thakker (Kantilal & Javerben Thakker & Family)	-Embee Corporation -Balaji Trading -Pharm Aromatic Chemicals -Satyam Enterprises -Tirupati Traders Rajkumar Seksaria / Shri Kudilal Govindram Seksaria Foundation Rajkumar Seksaria / Universal Cine Traders Pvt Ltd B R Barwale / Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co Ltd A K Roongta / Govind Oils Mills Pvt Ltd	Srikakulam M Mohan Rao Gudla Sanyasamma Vijayawada P Lakshmi Pratap Pinnamaneni Trivikrama Prasad A Srinivasa Rao Visakhapatnam Anand / The Presidential School A Tata Rao N Satyanarayana V Sreenu V Linga Swamy V R Tata Ravi Rays Indian Oil Dealers
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