

23rd IERG Meeting

The 5th ARVO India and 23rd Indian Eye Research Group (IERG) meeting, 30-31 July 2016, had excellent scientific deliberations from all major fields of ophthalmic sciences – basic, clinical and vision science, optometry, community eye health and vision rehabilitation. Dr K Dharmalingam, Aravind Medical Research Foundation, Madurai, and Dr Martin Joseph Costello, University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Washington DC, were the Bireswar Chakrabarti and D Balasubramanian oration awardees respectively. Four special sessions of “Back to Basics” were conducted in the areas of Genomics, Proteomics, Cell Biology and Ocular Pharmacology, besides 14 special talks and over 100 poster presentations. The LVPEI fellows (research, clinical and optometry) bagged 3 awards each for the poster presentations, besides the winner and the runner up awards for the IERG quiz (iQUEST 2016).



CBR Program in Adilabad

The 3 year long Community Based Rehabilitation program supported by SightFirst - Lions Club International Foundation in Adilabad concluded on 31 July 2016. A first of its kind project, its highlights are:-

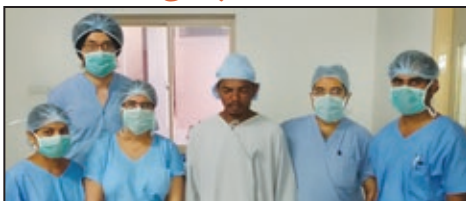
- 803,028 population covered in 18 mandals and 720 villages
- 1733 persons rehabilitated, including blind, low vision and persons with addition disabilities
- 395 aids distributed, including Low Vision Devices, wheelchairs, canes, educational and early intervention material.
- 685 school and community screening programs
- 230 awareness programs
- 41 people provided with economic rehabilitation



DSEK Skills Transfer Course

The main focus of SightLife's Global Surgeon Training Program is to increase the quality and volume of corneal transplants in India by building capacity. The fifth edition of the LVPEI-Sightlife DSEK Skills Transfer Course, 1-4 August 2016 had Dr Prabjot Channa, Montefiore Medical Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York; and Dr Matthew Bujak, Department of Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences, University of Toronto as external faculty.

SLET Surgery at Paloncha



For the first time at a secondary centre, Simple Limbal Epithelial Transplantation (SLET) was performed at Nava Bharat Eye Centre, Paloncha, Khammam District, Telangana by Dr Mukesh Taneja on 8 August 2016. He was assisted by Dr Gurcharan Singh, Dr Smrita, Dr Hrishikesh and Sister Ganga, with administrative support provided by Vijay Kumar.

The patient Yesubu Soyam, 22, was experiencing decrease in vision in his right eye due to a 5-year old injury.

Synchrony Financial's Support to RIEB

Synchrony Financial, represented by Mr Max Axler, Financial Planning & Analysis Leader and Mr Faisal Uddin, Sr Vice President and Business Leader, made a donation to the Ramayamma International Eye Bank on 10th August, to provide vision for 300 people.



Awards & Honours

Taraprasad Das delivered the Dr G Venkataswamy Oration on 'Translating the Eye Health Pyramid' at Aravind Eye Care System, Madurai; 6 August. Bausch and Lomb School of Optometry (BLSO) students bagged awards at the 15th Dr E Vaithilingam Memorial Conference at Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai; 6-7 August:

- **Twinkle Katyal** and **Gousia Faraha** - Travel Grant Recipients
- **Navya Deepthi** - Best oral presentation in student category

Mudit Tyagi and **Rajeev Reddy Pappuru** won Honour Awards at the annual scientific meeting of the American Society of Retina Specialists (ASRS 2016) at San Francisco; 9-14 August.

Mohammad Javed Ali invited Member, Editorial Board of the journal *Graefes Archive for Clinical and Experimental Ophthalmology*.

Ramesh Kekunnaya invited Member Faculty for the 'Strabismus & Pediatric Ophthalmology' section in *F1000Prime* an online service comprising over 10,000 of the world's top scientists and clinical researchers.

Ramayamma International Eye Bank (RIEB) received quality accreditation certificate by SightLife at the Annual Manager Retreat meeting in Pune; 20 August.

Srinivas Marmamula: (1) Featured in the 40th anniversary publication of the British Council for Prevention of Blindness report; (2) Received Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) SightFirst Research grant for his study 'Assessing the trends in prevalence and causes of visual impairment in the south Indian state of Telangana - Trends project'

Jay Chhablani: (1) Selected to present the first Asia-Pacific Vitreo-retina Society (APVRS) Constable Lecture at their upcoming 10th Congress at Bangkok, 8-10 December 2016; (2) Scored 150 publications on Pubmed.

Visitors & Updates

Dr Jagannathan Reddy Jangamreddy, Principal Research Engineer, Integrative Regenerative Medicine (IGEN) Center, Dept. Clinical & Experimental Medicine, Linköping University, Sweden; for collaborative research; 8-26 August.

Dr Roberto Pineda, Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA; **Dr Stephen Klyce**, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, USA; **Dr Margeurite McDonald**, Ophthalmology Consultants of Long Island, NY, USA; **Dr Theo Seiler**, Institute for Refractive and Ophthalmic Surgery (IROC), Zurich, Switzerland; **Dr Gerard Sutton**, Sydney Eye Hospital, University of Sydney, Australia; **Dr Choun-Ki Joo**, Catholic Research Institute of Medical Science, The Catholic University of Korea, Seoul, Korea; for the Refractive Surgery 360 meeting; 19-21 August.

All 7 parts of the **Harry Potter audio books** now available at the Digital Library, Dr PRK Prasad Centre for Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired. Contact: rehabhelpline@lvpei.org

Personality Development Workshop

A personality development workshop was organized at GMR Varalakshmi Campus in Visakhapatnam on 12 August 2016 for the IT client students of the vision rehabilitation department.



Rotary Club's Funding



The Rotary Club presented a cheque for ophthalmic equipment at the Glaucoma Outpatient clinic on 19 August 2016. The Rotary Club of Hyderabad District 3150, along with support from other Rotary Clubs in the twin cities, put together a matching grant that enabled the Rotary Club International Foundation to donate this fund. On the same day, the annual **Dr Rustam D Ranji Rotary Award and Lecture 2016** sponsored by Rotary Club, was delivered by Prof Atul Kumar, Chief and Professor of Ophthalmology, Vitreous-Retina Service, Dr RP Centre, AIIMS.

Diabetic Retinopathy Symposium & CROSSFIRE 2016



International Diabetic Retinopathy Symposium & CROSSFIRE 2016, 20-21 August, had participants from across India and the neighbouring countries. Topics pertaining to advances in diabetic retinopathy and controversial situations in the management of retinal diseases were discussed.

Refractive Surgery 360°

The Refractive Surgery 360° meeting, 20-21 August 2016 had practicing and budding refractive surgeons share knowledge and experience through hands-on skills transfer courses under the guidance of reputed faculty. It attracted the cream of refractive surgeons from across the country.



Solar Power across Network



An MOU was signed on 26 August 2016 with Zynergy, a solar solutions company from Chennai, for installing solar power plants across the LVPEI network in a phased manner.

Srujana Centre for Innovation at New Facility

The Srujana Centre for Innovation was formally launched on 22 August 2016 at a new facility at the Gullapalli Pratibha Rao building. Sri K T Rama Rao, Hon'ble Minister for IT, Industries, MA & UD, NRI Affairs, Telangana, was the Guest of Honour, and Dr BVR Mohan Reddy, Founder and Executive Chairman, Cyient and Board Member, LVPEI was the Chief Guest.



Diabetic Screening at Rayagada

Diabetic eye screening program initiated at JK Paper Mills at Rayagada, Odisha is to be held on the last Sunday of every month.



Anniversaries

13th Anniversary – **Bhainsa Vision Centre**, Adilabad District, Telangana; 1 August.

13th Anniversary - **Wanaparthi Vision Centre**, Mahbubnagar District, Telangana; 3 August.

3rd Anniversary - **Santhabommali Vision Centre**, Srikakulam District, Andhra Pradesh; 3 August.

6th Anniversary - **City Centre, Madhapur**, Hyderabad, Telangana; 16 August.

5th Anniversary - **Cherla Vision Centre**, Khammam District, Telangana; 19 August.

7th Anniversary - **Pamuru Vision Centre**, Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh; 22 August.

7th Anniversary - **Ulavapadu Vision Centre**, Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh; 24 August.

5th Anniversary - **Dr Kommareddy Raja Ram Mohan Rao Eye Centre**, Gudavalli, Guntur Dt, AP; 24 August.

1st Anniversary – **Parawada Vision Centre**, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh; 29 August.

1st Anniversary – **Atchuthapuram Vision Centre**, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh; 29 August.

1st Anniversary – **Jami Vision Centre**, Vizianagaram District, Andhra Pradesh; 30 August.

1st Anniversary – **Naraindas and Morbai Budhrani Eye Centre**, Rayagada, Odisha; 31 August

Our Support in August

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