

### A VERY HAPPY, HEALTHY PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

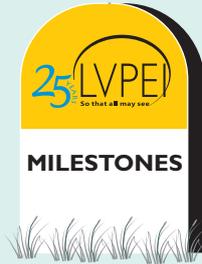
The **Vision Rehabilitation Centres** at Kallam Anji Reddy campus, Hyderabad have seen 100,000 clients between June 4, 1992 and December 24, 2011.

The **Kode Venkatadri Chowdary (KVC) campus, Vijayawada** saw 25,000 outpatients till December 26, 2011.

The **David Brown Children's Eye Care Centre at KVC campus** crossed the 2000 new children milestone on December 7, 2011.

The **GMR Varalakshmi campus** at Visakhapatnam crossed the 50 surgeries mark on December 8, 2011.

**Madhapur City Centre**, Hyderabad performed a record 20 surgeries on December 6, 2011.



## APVRS Congress a grand success

LVPEI successfully hosted the VI Asia-Pacific Vitreo-Retina Society (APVRS) Congress, in conjunction with the XX Annual Conference of the Vitreo Retinal Society – India from December 1-3, 2011. The Congress provided a forum for over 800 retinal specialists from 35 countries to share exciting developments in the field, showcase videos of simple and complex surgical techniques, provide insights into updated diagnostics, and evaluate new and old therapies. The program comprised 16 symposia with 71 presentations, 179 posters, 35 free papers and 17 videos. With 30 presentations, LVPEI faculty and fellows were the largest group of scientific contributors. Over 25 companies participated in an international level trade exhibition, allowing delegates hands-on experience of the latest technologies. The Congress achieved the distinction of being the most attended vitreo-retinal meeting of both the participating societies. *More at <http://www.apvrs.org> and [www.lvpei.org](http://www.lvpei.org).*



*Dr Taraprasad Das addresses the Congress; below: a group photo*



## News from Visakhapatnam

### Good Health Show at Vizag campus

As part of its public health initiative, the GMR Varalakshmi campus participated in the 'Eenadu Good Health Show' from December 3-4, 2011. The stall displayed optical and non-optical devices and patient education brochures to create awareness of eye health among the public. An eye screening facility examined 270 persons. Around 800 people visited the stall and appreciated the Institute's efforts in eliminating avoidable blindness.



### Fun camp for rehabilitation clients

The campus organised its first "Fun Camp for Visually Impaired Children" on December 4, 2011 at Mudasarlova Park. About 20 children with visual impairment and an equal number of siblings, family members, staff and volunteers enjoyed the picnic. Several games and competitions were organized, keeping in mind the special needs of the children; everyone received prizes and gifts. Doctors and staff, friends, volunteers and trainees visited the camp to encourage the children.



## EMR system at primary centres

The Electronic Medical Records (EMR) system has reached the base of the LVPEI Eye Health Pyramid, with its implementation at the Manuguru Vision Centre on November 26, 2011, linking it to the secondary care Nava Bharat Eye Centre at Paloncha. Patients seen at Manuguru can now be referred to Paloncha seamlessly and their case sheets will be available at both the centres. Within a few months, the other 9 Vision Centres affiliated to the Paloncha Service Centre will also implement EMR, making this entire Vision Centre Complex online.



*Vision Technician Samantha enters a patient's records in the computer*

## News from Bhubaneswar

From left: Ms Esther Hyman, Trustee, Miriam Hyman Memorial Trust (MHMT), UK along with Mrs Kathy and Mr Dave Batten, Board Members, MHMT and Mr Adrian White visited the Miriam Hyman Children's Eye Care Centre at Bhubaneswar campus from December 2-25, 2011. They reviewed the centre's progress and filmed various activities in and outside the campus to make a documentary film. Imbibing the culture of Odisha, they spread the message of love and peace to all.



# Graduation ceremony

The graduation ceremony of the 3<sup>rd</sup> batch of Master's in Community Eye Health (MCEH), 11<sup>th</sup> batch of Diploma in Community Eye Health (DCEH) and 6<sup>th</sup> batch of the Program Management and Evaluation programs was held on December 17, 2011. Dr M Mohan Rao, Additional Director, Medical Education, Dr G Chandra Sekhar, Director, LVPEI, Hyderabad and Dr Prashant Garg, Head, MVT Center for Eye Care Education, LVPEI presented certificates to the outgoing students. Dr Mohan Rao, Dr R Pararajasegaram from Geneva (recorded message), Dr Geeta K Vemuganti from Central University, Hyderabad, Dr GV S Murthy, Director, Indian Institute of Public Health, Hyderabad, and Dr Catherine Suttle from UNSW, Sydney (recorded message) delivered graduation messages on the occasion.



The graduating DCEH students with the external and internal faculty

Seven long-term fellows also graduated the same day, including the first one from Bhubaneswar campus. The program began with the faculty re-introducing the fellows in a light-hearted fashion, taking us down memory lane. Chief Guest Prof Deborah Sweeney from Vision CRC, Australia shared her experiences with the outgoing fellows.

## Towards blindness-free villages:

The XII Partners & Village Vision Complex Vision Health Team Meet was held on December 17, 2011, with a universal pledge to make all villages blindness free. About 70 representatives from our partner centres and Village Vision Complexes participated, including administrators, Vision Centre coordinators, community eye care program supervisors, vision health guardians, as well as consultants, public health specialists, executives, directors of ICARE and the Chairman of LVPEI.

## 25 years – looking back

By Vanita Ganesh, now in her 25<sup>th</sup> year of service at LVPEI

25 years of struggle, happiness, commitment and enjoyment! When I joined this organization in September 1987 as a nursing assistant, my daughters were 5 and 2. I had never seen such a hospital in Hyderabad with a modern and clean building. I live in Malkajgiri, 14 km away. I had to change 2 buses and then take the institute vehicle. For 7 'o' clock shifts, I had to catch a train at 5 am, wait at Secunderabad from 5.15 am to 6 am to catch a bus to Punjagutta and then catch the institute vehicle at 6.40 am.



Vanita undergoing an eye examination

Managing both home and work was challenging. My late father-in-law was very strict — I had to be home by 6.15 pm. Even if I was 5-10 minutes late, he would ask, "Are you doing a PM's job?" In the morning, Dr Rao would set my time and in the evening my father-in-law! For 22 years, I never reached the institute late. Only in the past 2-3 years, I have been late twice or thrice a year.

When I joined LVPEI, I did not know anything. My aim was to work hard and be truthful. I respect and admire the rules of the organization. Not to call anybody Sir/Madam, except patients. Non-paying patients were to be treated equally with respect. If Dr Rao/Mrs Ramam came by, I knew I should not stop working and get up; I was expected to continue my work. LVPEI encourages the staff and recognizes them by giving monthly and yearly awards; I am proud to say that I was the 2<sup>nd</sup> employee to receive the award. Outside the Institute too, if we tell anyone that we work at LVPEI, we receive a lot of respect.

I have worked in most departments. Mrs Vijaya L Ramam, Administrator was very supportive and encouraging. Dr Das was my guru. It was a turning point for me and the work was challenging. Working with him, I rose to the position of Supervisor, Jr Administrator and now Associate Administrator. I learnt a lot from him and he supported me in many ways.

I believe in and practice being truthful to one's work and home — that will give you the best returns. Do good and it will come back to you. From a nursing assistant, I became an Associate Administrator and from a mother, a grandmother! Today, my daughters have grown up and are married. I have a 3-year-old granddaughter, Kartavya. I thank the organization for giving me an opportunity to serve the people and grow personally and professionally.

# Happy to be here!

Dear Sirs, Dear Doctors, Dear all in LV Prasad

I am honoured and pleased to have spent in your institute that past month, I have had the most fruitful and enjoyable experience. A simple word as "Thank you" is not sufficient to express correctly the amount of gratitude I bear to everyone in LV Prasad. Everyone has been absolutely kind and infinitely cooperative and friendly. I wish to thank heartily everyone belonging to L V Prasad, from the highest authority to that simple young man from the housekeeping who used to meet me with that inviting kind smile every afternoon.



Nader, Malak & Nawara (inset)

From the very beginning, I was given the wonderful advantage of choosing the timing of my observership, I was helped with the visa application. I was reserved a wonderful room in the guest house at a remarkably good rate, with excellent food at an excellent price. I have met the most knowledgeable consultants, the most excellent teachers and the most helpful and friendly fellows. I was helped by an extremely helpful administration in the education department up to the very last moment of booking the taxi to the airport. I did not face any negative issue, and I can't think of any. I don't think this is my luck, this is the excellent planning and faithful contribution of all personnel in that wonderful place.

## Nader Bayoumi, MD

Lecturer of Ophthalmology, Alexandria University, Egypt  
An excerpt – read full letter at [www.lvpei.org/lvp-experience/](http://www.lvpei.org/lvp-experience/)

Kris Srikkant's talk on December 19, part of LVPEI's Silver Jubilee Public Lectures, had as much flair as can be expected from the dashing opening batsman of the 1983 World Cup team and current Chairman of the BCCI Selection Committee. Passion, hard work and innovation are the three mantras for success, he said and passion is the most important for healthcare professionals as they are caregivers to the people.



Srikkanth demonstrates a batting action

## Our support in December

### Ajmer

Mr L K Daga

### Bhubaneswar

Mr Chhoton De

Dr Debendra Nath Das

Ms Yoshada Chaini

Mr Kshitish C Mohanty

Mr T Suresh Rao

Ms Kirteemayee Roul

Mr S Sisira Samantaray

### Hyderabad

Mr Shaukat Alinanjy Acharya

Dr L Hanumayamma

Ms Nirmala

Ms CH Rajini

Ms Meena Raghunathan

Mr MH Venkateswaran

Students of Class 10, Oakridge

School: Ms Amulya, Ms Ashray,

Ms Jaya Sai, Ms Kapish,

Ms Neha, Ms Nikhita,

Ms Rebecca, Ms Sakshi,

Ms Sanjaka, Ms Samvidha

### Kolkata

Sohani Charitable Trust

### Kanpur

Mr Prashant Kotri

### Mumbai

Mr Devansh P Visariya

### Nigeria

Dr Okoro Desmond Osohen

### Nairobi

Mr Govinder Singh

### Pune

Ms Vasantha V Ramam

### Visakhapatnam

Mr Koddali Ranga Rao

Ms BVijaya Lakshmi

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