

The Tribal Odisha Eye Study (TOES) is a first-of-its-kind study among one of India's most vulnerable tribal groups, the Dongria, in Rayagada, Odisha. Fewer than 1% of the Dongria community wore glasses before TOES. As part of this study, during 2021-2022, nearly 9872 individuals were screened for eye problems, 1496 spectacles distributed, and 134 cataract surgeries performed free of cost. TOES is delivered by LVPEI, the Government of Odisha, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, and other stakeholders.

The cover picture depicts a woman from the Dongria community who benefited from cataract surgery. She not only regained her vision but also her independence, self-confidence, and respect.

The Activity Report captures the new initiatives undertaken by LVPEI, the impact achieved, the lives touched, and the goals set for the future towards realizing the vision 'so that all may see'. Our sincere gratitude to all our supporters, partners, and friends for making this journey possible.



# **Functional Arms**



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# Hope and Commitment



A journey of sharing the pain, difficulties, and insecurities of an illness with someone you look up to for your wellbeing and getting cured is the one based on trust. Upon meeting reality, this trust often ends in smiles and lifelong bonds. D Gurumurthy Reddy suffered from eyelid neurofibroma - a benign tumour that caused his eyelid to droop constricting his field of vision. A matter of cosmetic concern it also hindered his confidence. But, all that is in the past now.

Happy with the treatment, he and his daughter recently met Dr Priyanka Walvekar, his treating doctor at the GMR Varalakshmi Campus, Visakhapatnam and handed her a note filled with gratitude and love.

# **Foreword**

It gives me immense pleasure to present the annual activity report for the year 2021-22. Before we dive into the details of the year, let me echo Nag Rao, our Founding Chair, from his foreword for last year's report. He wrote about the seven Ps: Preparation, Protection, and Process development for maintaining overall Productivity and Progress without compromising on our Promise and Person-centred care. This statement is the best guiding principle in the ongoing global situation filled with unprecedented challenges, uncertainties, and political



instabilities in many parts of the world, not to mention climate change. By embracing this principle and adapting it to the requirements of every new situation, LVPEI has bounced back quickly to provide continued care to patients, support our employees and their families, meet our partnership commitments (like the supply of donor corneas), and restart in-person training programs.

2021-22 has been historic for LVPEI. On July 1, 2021, a new leadership team took charge of the next phase of our organisation. The whole process of succession planning, and selection of the new leadership team happened in an extremely professional and impartial manner involving internal and external stakeholders. Our amazing new team is full of young, energetic, talented, and committed leaders. I am humbled by the responsibility given to me: to support this team in leading the organisation in this new phase. LVPEI will continue to remain a responsible and responsive organisation under the new leadership.

The new team is excited and committed to provide momentum to the organisation's mission by supporting existing programs and initiating new ideas. Broadly, these are going to take two directions - create 'Institutes of Excellence' to serve as Global Resource Centres targeting all major forms of vision impairment, and strengthen the Primary Eye Care Model to ensure availability of eye care even in remote and rural regions. This year, we inaugurated the Anant Bajaj Retina Institute - an Institute of Excellence focusing on the retina.

The team also got together to explore areas of emerging need and challenges. Based on these discussions, we identified Myopia, Tribal Eye health, Elderly Eye Care, Genetic and Inherited Eye Diseases, Eye and the Brain, Telehealth, and Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning as new focus areas. My priority for the leadership team is digitising all our complex processes, and a blueprint is ready for a smooth and flawless transformation.

While we are exploring new dimensions we want to remain anchored to our rich history. This year we celebrated the 35<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of our organisation. LVPEI's foundation stone was laid on October 17, 1986, and we started operations on June 1, 1987, from our campus in Banjara Hills, Hyderabad. In these 35 years, we have evolved from a specialty hospital and training centre to an organisation with a robust pyramidal model that ensures access to affordable and appropriate eye care, even in remote and rural regions. LVPEI's model services the entire spectrum of eye care, from population screening to the management of most complex diseases as well as rehabilitation of those with irreversible vision loss. Today, we are present in 260+ locations spread across four states of India (Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Karnataka) and run a centre in the capital city of Liberia in Western Africa. The very first service centre - the Bhosle Gopal Rao Patil Eye centre - located in Mudhole completed 25 years of operations and continues to be a major resource centre for eye care in this underdeveloped tribal region of Telangana and neighbouring Maharashtra. This remarkable journey was made possible by Nag Rao's visionary leadership, a committed team, and support from around the world.

I am also excited about another important initiative. This year we launched an eye health facility on our Gullapalli Pratibha Rao Campus at Kismatpur, on the outskirts of Hyderabad. With the inauguration of this eye care facility, our institute has come a 'full circle' and fulfilled an old promise. When Nag and Pratibha Rao decided to return to India, the government of the then united Andhra Pradesh allotted them this plot of land in Kismatpur, and it would have been our first centre. But Sri L V Prasad and his son Sri Ramesh Prasad extended their generous support and offered land in Banjara Hills too. Since Banjara Hills was more suitable for the centre in 1986, we went ahead creating our first centre there. Constructing the eye care facility at the original site in Kismatpur is a fulfilment of our original commitment. Named 'Shirin, Etian and Tara Brown Eye Centre', the centre was inaugurated on May 12, 2022.

Our biggest treasure is the vision of our Founding Chair. We have responsive and engaged Boards of Governance for the Hyderabad Eye Institute and the Hyderabad Eye Research Foundation. Our efforts are fuelled by the trust of our patients and trainees, and the support of our friends from across the globe who generously share their three Ts: Time, Talent and Treasure. We are fortunate to have inherited this favourable environment and seek your continued support towards our collective vision, 'so that all may see'.

Dr Prashant Garg



# New Leadership

The LVPEI family welcomed its new team of leaders in October 2021: Dr Prashant Garg appointed as its Executive Chair, Dr Rajeev R Pappuru as Vice-Chair and ten Network Directors to head various functions within the institute.

LVPEI also welcomed a young and dynamic leadership in its three tertiary centres and the Centre of Excellence. Together, they would continue to take LVPEI to newer heights, expand its services, reach the unreached and thus impact many more lives and stand true to its mission of providing equitable eye care to all. Our former leadership will continue to guide and mentor us.



With utmost commitment to always uphold the LVPEI Values, the new leadership team took charge

#### **Executive Chair**



Dr Prashant Garg

#### Vice-Chair



Dr Rajeev R Pappuru

#### **Network Directors**



Dr Suryasnata Rath Operations



Dr Merle Fernandes Finance and Accounts



Dr Raja Narayanan Human Resources



Dr Pravin K Vaddavalli **Technology & Communications** 



Dr Subhadra Jalali Quality



Dr Avinash Pathengay Education



Dr Sayan Basu Research



Dr Rohit C Khanna Public Health



Dr Ramesh Kekunnaya Capacity Building (External Organizations)



Raghu Gullapalli Global Partnerships and Development

#### **Campus Heads**



Dr Merle Fernandes



Dr Tarjani Vivek Dave Kallam Anji Reddy Campus, Hyderabad



Dr Srikant Kumar Sahu Mithu Tulsi Chanrai Campus, Bhubaneswar



Dr Bhavik Panchal GMR Varalakshmi Campus, Visakhapatnam



Dr Anasua Ganguly Kapoor Kode Venkatadri Chowdary Campus, Vijayawada

# Awards & Honours

#### **Stanford University Study**

Six scientists from LVPEI named among top 2% world scientists













Dr Gullapalli N Rao Prof D Balasubramanian Dr Savitri Sharma

Prof Jill Keeffe

Dr Shivaji Sisinthy Dr Prashant Garg

12 LVPEI faculty members featured among the top eye researchers in India







Dr Swathi Kaliki



Dr Taraprasad Das Dr Rohit C Khanna



Dr Milind N Naik



Dr Sayan Basu



LVPEI campuses in Hyderabad, Bhubaneswar, Visakhapatnam, and Vijayawada, continue to be ranked among the Best Eye Hospitals in India by The Week and the Times of India health surveys

Ramayamma International Eye Bank, Hyderabad, and Drishti Daan Eye Bank, Bhubaneswar, received quality certification from SightLife for 2 years





#### The other major awards this year were:

#### **Board, Editorial & Other Appointments**

International —

#### Annals of Anatomy

Dr Swati Singh - Editorial Board Member

Academy of Asia Pacific Professors of Ophthalmology Dr Raja Narayanan – fellow of the Academy

#### Asia Pacific Tele Ophthalmology Society

Dr Padmaja Kumari Rani - Council Member

#### British Journal of Ophthalmology (BJO)

Dr Sayan Basu - Editorial Board Member

#### DAAD Professor of Ophthalmology and Anatomy, Bavarian State (South-East of Germany)

Prof Mohammad Javed Ali

#### Frontiers in Ophthalmology

- Dr Soumyava Basu Associate Editor
- Dr Sirisha Senthil Associate Editor

#### Frontiers in Physiology

Prof Mohammad Javed Ali - Editorial Board Member

#### Frontiers in Immunology

Dr Joveeta Joseph - Associate Editor

#### International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness

Dr Rohit Khanna – Regional Chair for South-East Asia

#### National Institutes of Health (NIH, USA)

Dr Subhabrata Chakrabarti - Inducted as 'Glaucoma Variant Curation' expert, ClinVar global database

#### Ocular Immunology and Inflammation

Prof Mohammad Javed Ali - Editorial Board Member

#### Ophthalmic Research

Prof Mohammad Javed Ali - Associate Editor

#### Orbit

Prof Mohammad Javed Ali - Assistant Editor

#### The Eye Cancer Foundation

Dr Swathi Kaliki - Core Committee Member

The International Retinoblastoma Certification Course (IRBCC) project

#### The Ocular Surface Journal

Dr Sayan Basu - Editorial Board Member

National —

#### Oculoplastics Association of India

Dr Milind Naik - General Secretary

#### **Awards for Presentations and Orations**

International —

#### American Academy of Ophthalmology

Dr Muralidhar Ramappa - (a) Best of the Show Award 2021 (b) Best Poster Award (c) Top Rated Instruction Course on developmental pediatric corneal diseases

Asia Pacific Tele-Ophthalmology Society Symposium Dr Ganesh B Jonnadula - Best Paper Award

#### Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology

- Poonam Naik Outstanding Poster Award, Immunology/Microbiology
- Dr Prem Nandhini Satgunam Pfizer Ophthalmics Carl Camras Translational Research Award

# Global Young Scientists Summit, National Research Foundation, Singapore

Rebecca Sumalini - People's Choice video award

#### The Eye Foundation of America

Dr Gullapalli N Rao - Robert Murphy Visionary Award

#### World Glaucoma E-Congress

Dr Rashmi Krishnamurthy - Third Prize, Film Festival

## World Society of Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strahismus

- · Dr Goura Chattannavar Best Video Award
- Dr Ajinkya Deshmukh Second Best Paper Award

#### Awards for Presentations and Orations

#### National —

#### All India Ophthalmological Society conference

- Dr Tapas Ranjan Col. Rangachari Best Free Paper Award
- · Dr Sujata Das K R Dutta Award
- · Dr Anil Kumar Mandal Adenwalla Award
- Dr Taraprasad Das Dr SS Badrinath Endowment Lecture
- Dr Vivek Dave (a) Narsing A Rao award Best Free Paper, Uvea Section (b) Best Free Paper - Vitreo Retinal Disease section
- Dr Anasua Ganguly Kapoor Second prize, Photography Competition
- Dr Rashmi Krishnamurthy International Ophthalmic Hero of India
- Dr Swapna Shanbhag IJO Honour Award for Peer Review
- Dr Sunita Chaurasia Platinum Award

#### Aravind Eye Care Systems EyeTrain Conference

Runner-up Video Prizes in training video category

- Dr Archana Bhargava
- · Yamuna Bollam
- · Sreelakshmi Varada

#### Cornea Society of India

- Dr Charul Singh Best Video Prize
- Dr Raksheeth Nathan Third Prize in Quiz

#### LVPEI Cornea Bug Busters Meeting

Lalit Kishore Ahirwar - Dr Savitri Sharma Best Free Paper Award

#### Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists

Poonam Naik - K B Sharma Junior, Best Paper Award

#### Indian Council of Medical Research

Dr Swathi Kaliki - ICMR-Novartis Oration

#### Indian Eye Research Group

- Prerna Kulsrestha, Lalit Kishore Ahirwar, Rahul Negi - Best Paper Session Awardees
- Divya Pidishetty, Zarin Modiwala and Rohit Dhakal - Best Poster Session Awardees
- Dr Maria Bashir Doctor, Sarang Hansraj, Abhisekh Upadhyay - First Prize, Quiz
- Sushma Viswakarma, Samir Bera, Neha Sharma - Third Prize, Quiz

#### Indian Neuro Ophthalmological Society

- Dr Manjushree Bhate First Prize, Poster Presentation
- Dr Rohan Nalawade Third Prize, Poster Presentation
- Dr Sonalika Gogia Third Prize, Free Paper
- Dr Debasmita Majhi First Prize, Case Presentation
- Dr Divya Natarajan Second Prize, Case Presentation

#### India Vision Institute

- Best Paper Presentation Awards
- Preetirupa Devi Optics Category
- Rohit Dhakal Myopia Management Category
- Harini Indusekar Public Health Category
- Bhagya Lakshmi Marella Visual Functions Category

#### The Glaucoma Society of India

- Dr G Chandra Sekhar Prof. NN Sood Oration
- · Dr G S Ramani Best Picture Prize

#### Vitreoretinal Society of India

Dr Vishal Raval - Best Video Award

#### Regional —

#### Andhra Pradesh Ophthalmic Society

- Dr Anasua Ganguly Kapoor Best Ophthalmic Video (scientific content)
- Dr Sameera Nayak (a) Nayana Dr Sriram C Ravula Best Free Paper Award (b) Dr GR Reddy Best Paper Award
- Dr Aravind Roy Prof V Raghavachar Free Paper Award

#### Telangana Ophthalmological Society

- Dr Mariya Bashir Doctor (a) First Prize,
   N Subramanya Reddy Competitive Free Paper
   (b) Second Prize, V V Ramana Rao Competitive
   Case Presentation (c) Third Prize, Manoj Mathur
   Competitive Poster, Oral Presentation
- Dr Vineet P Joshi (a) P Ramachander Best Paper Prize (b) Second Prize, Swaroop Competitive Video
- Dr Raghav Preetam Second Prize, P Ramachander Best Paper

#### University of Kerala

Madhuri Amulya - Outstanding Oral Poster Presentation Award

Webinar on The Relevance of Omics and Regenerative Medicine in the Pandemic Situation

#### Other Excellence Awards, Fellowships & PhDs

International —

International Society for Quality of Life Research Vijaya Gothwal - Developing Country Scholarship

# Senior Alexander Von Humboldt Research Award of Germany

Dr Swati Singh

Second clinician-scientist from LVPEI to win this prestigious award

National —

Dr R P Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences, AIIMS Dr Gullapalli N Rao - Lifetime Achievement Award

#### **DBT/Wellcome Trust India Alliance**

- Dr Srinivas Marmamula Intermediate fellowship
- Dr Swati Singh Early Career Fellowship

#### Indian Council of Medical Research

Young Scientist Awards

- Ranjit Konduri
- · Jayasudha Rajagopalaboopathi

Rotary Mysore Midtown chapter

T V Aishwarya - Woman Achiever Award

Sunkalp Award instituted by SUN Pharma Dr Swapna Shanbhag

.

Vitreoretinal Society of India

Dr Vivek Dave - Prof. Namperumalsamy Young Researcher Award

Mother (Teresa) Foundation

Dr Muralidhar Ramappa - Vaidya Ratna Award

Prof Krothapalli Ravindranath LVPEI Research Excellence Award

Instituted on the 35th Foundation Day of LVPEI

- Pratima Vishwakarma Chief Clinical Research Fellow
- Sushma Vishwakarma Chief Basic Science Research Fellow

Additionally, several of our faculty and fellows have received prestigious travel grants and fellowships from various clinical and scientific bodies - like the American Society of Microbiology and the Federation of European Microbiological Societies, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, DBT/Wellcome Trust India Alliance, Indian Council of Medical Research and Department of Science and Technology, Developing Country Eye Researcher Fellowship instituted by the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology and the prestigious Lady Tata Junior Research Fellowship. Two of LVPEI's research scholars were awarded PhD from the reputed Manipal Academy of Higher Education and KIIT Deemed to be University.



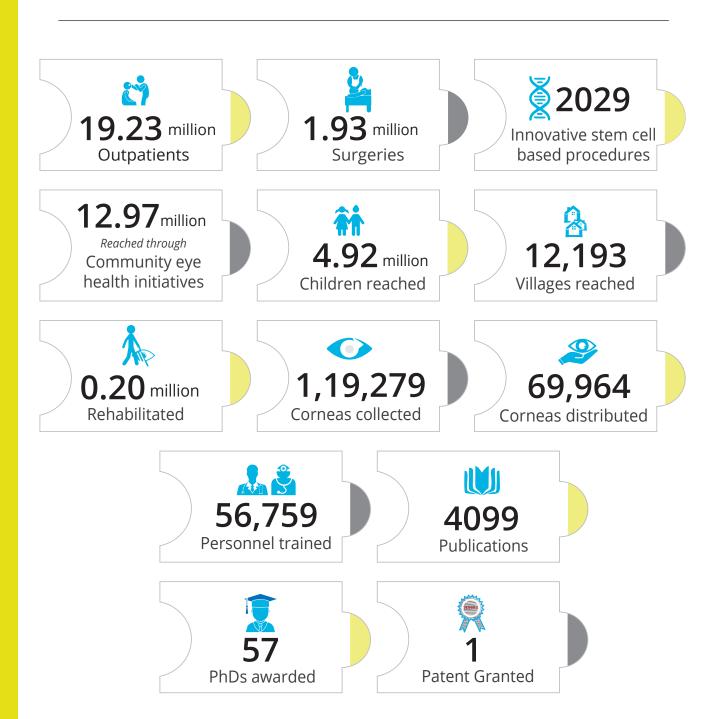
LVPEI had the privilege of having **Dr Jayaprakash Narayan** as the **Guest of Honour** on its 35<sup>th</sup>
Foundation Day. Dr Narayan, a physician by training, a former officer from the Indian Administrative
Services, and Founder of the Lok Satta Party delivered a scintillating lecture on the current healthcare scenario and the unlimited possibilities to make an impact.



# **Impact** 1987 - March 2022



50% plus services provided free of cost, regardless of complexity





# Year at a Glance

1,679,999

Outpatients

140,958

Surgeries

17,143

Rehabilitated

208,309

Reached through
Community eye
health initiatives

89,704
Reached through

Teleophthalmology

14

Hospitals supported
Capacity
building programs

9136

Corneas collected

7091

Corneas distributed

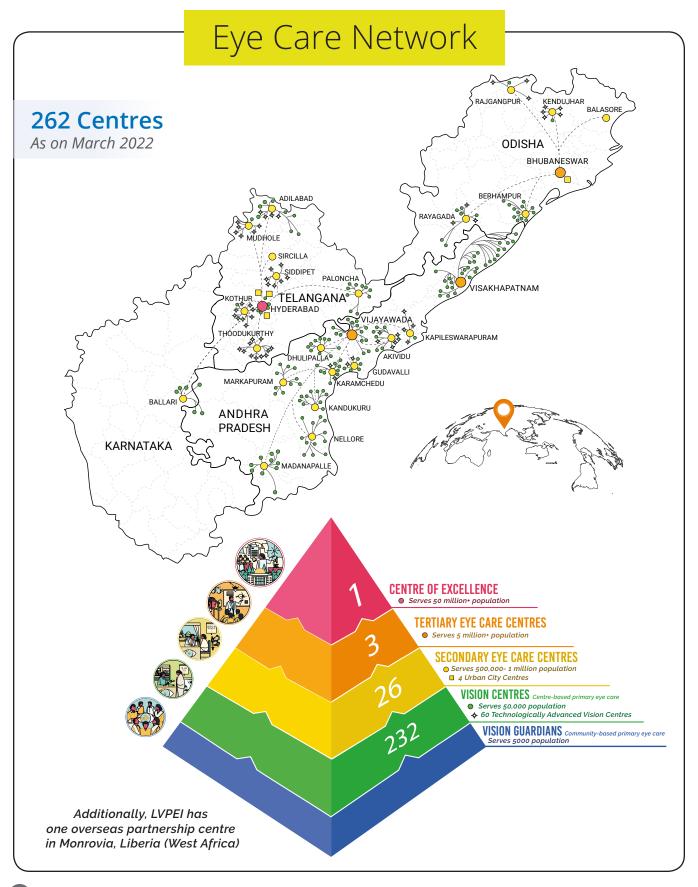
18,494

Trained

505

**Publications** 

125 Awards



# Linkages



# New Beginnings

# **Anant Bajaj Retina Institute**

#### Institute of Excellence & Global Resource Centre

One of the strategic areas of focus for LVPEI is creating Institutes of Excellence and Global Resource Centres each of which would focus on a specific cause of blindness and vision impairment through promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative care, training and capacity building, research and innovation, and policy planning and advocacy. The Anant Bajaj Retina Institute, named in the loving memory of late Mr Anant Bajaj, in partnership with the Bajaj Group is one such initiative.

#### 

- To bring advanced retinal eye care services to the doorstep of communities, and make it accessible and affordable for all
- Offer world class care and treatment for all kinds of retinal diseases
- Offer better treatment options to patients encompassing the latest technological advances such as robotic surgery, gene therapy, stem cell treatment and new innovative diagnostic and therapeutic solutions for retinal diseases

"Anant's dream was to combine cutting-edge technology with philanthropy to make a difference in the lives of people. With the launch of the Anant Bajaj Retina Institute, his vision of an India with better eye health will come true."

Mr Shekhar Bajaj, Chairman and Managing Director of Bajaj Electricals Limited

"With this partnership, we will be scaling up our services to bring advanced retinal eye care services to the doorstep of communities - making it accessible and affordable for all. We extend our sincere thanks to the Bajaj group for their generous support."

Dr Raja Narayanan, Network Head, Anant Bajaj Retina Institute, LVPEI



All the LVPEI initiatives across the network in the area of technology, innovation and product development are now under the umbrella of **Poornima & Ramam Atmakuri Technology Centre.** In recognition of the significant contribution made by Mr Ramam Atmakuri, Executive Vice-Chair Emeritus, LVPEI, the centre has been named after him and his wife.

Honourable Minister for Municipal Administration & Urban Development, Industries & Commerce, and Information Technology, Govt. of Telangana -**Sri K T Rama Rao** inaugurated the centre.

#### Mithu Tulsi Chanrai Campus

Bhubaneswar

- NTPC Operating Room Complex; Courtesy: National Thermal Power Corporation, Odisha
- Digital Library and Special Needs Vision Clinic; Courtesy: Columbus Global Services India Pvt Ltd, USA
- Hemanta Kumari Advanced Ocular Trauma Centre; Courtesy: Mr Tarini Prasad Mohanty, Bhubaneswar
- Advanced Molecular Mucormycosis Laboratory; Courtesy: MGM Foundation, Bhubaneswar
- Teleophthalmology Command Centre

#### Kallam Anji Reddy Campus

Hyderabad

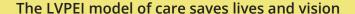
- The Gland Pharma Centre for Elderly Eye Care; Courtesy: Gland Pharma, Hyderabad
- The Ramoji Foundation Centre for Eye Infections; Courtesy: Mr Ramoji Rao, Chairman and Founder, Ramoji Group and Foundation, Hyderabad
- Prof Krothapalli Ravindranath
   Ophthalmic Research Bio-Repository;
   Courtesy: Prof Krothapalli Ravindranath
   - retired Dean, SV Veterinary University,
   Tirupati
- A Centre of Excellence for the Visually Impaired; Courtesy: Vision Aid and Palakurthi Foundation of Massachusetts, USA

#### Kode Venkatadri Chowdary Campus

Vijayawada

- Vellanki Venkateswara Rao & Vijaya Kumari Cataract Centre; Courtesy: Smt Sridevi and Sri Suresh Challa, Hyderabad
- Kalathur Venugopal Reddy Glaucoma Centre; Courtesy: Ms Kavita Kalathur and Mr Ravi Kolli, USA
- Vocational Unit for people with vision impairment; Courtesy: Mrs Agadi Pratibha and Mr Agadi Krishna, USA
- Children's waiting lounge; Courtesy:
   Mrs Girija and Dr Niranjan Pehere,
   Ophthalmologist, LVPEI

# Patient Care



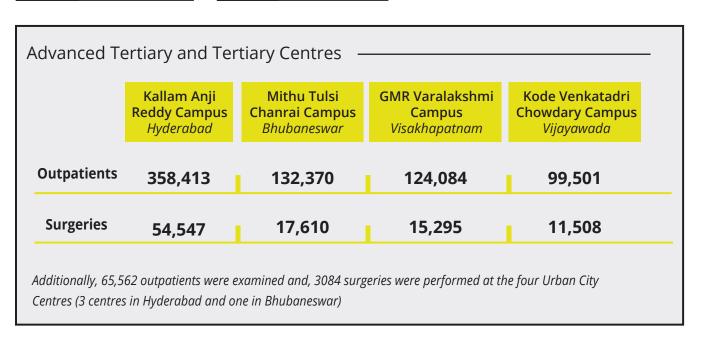


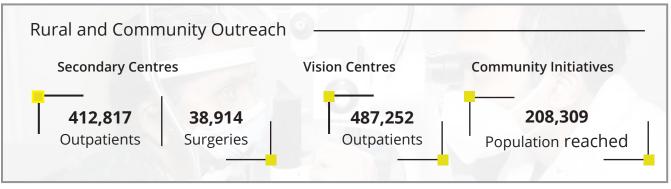
Three-year-old Harshini's parents brought her to the Karempudi vision center in the rural Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh when they noticed that something was amiss with her eyes. The vision technician at Karempudi spotted a white reflex in Harshini's right eye. A tele-consult with an ophthalmologist confirmed that she had retinoblastoma – a life and vision-threatening eye cancer. The only treatment option available to stop the spread of the tumour and save her life was to surgically remove her eye. Harshini's father, however, was unwilling to accept the treatment plan and took her away. After weeks of outreach, education and counseling, Harshini's father agreed to the surgery. The surgery happened at the Hyderabad campus. A prosthetic eye was fit in the empty socket so that her face looks no different, and she received six cycles of chemotherapy to avoid spread of tumor elsewhere in the body. Today Harshini is enjoying a healthy life - the LVPEI model of care had saved her life.

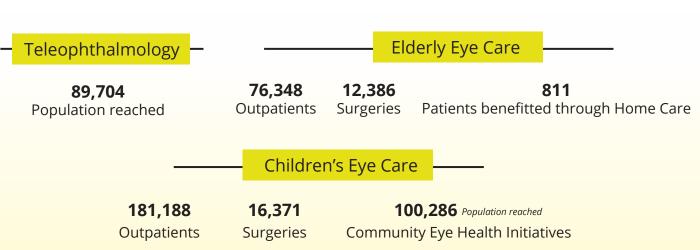
The quick diagnosis by the Vision Technician and her promptness in seeking expert advice, and the well-developed teleconsultation system played a critical role in saving Harshini's life.

1,679,999 Population Reached46% Females 15% Children

Nearly **50%** services provided free of cost, regardless of complexity











# Mucormycosis (Black Fungus) *A battle within a war!*

Raghu's world turned upside down when he and his family members got infected with the deadly SARS-CoV-2 virus. He lost many family members to this debilitating condition, including his own father. Just when he anticipated discharge from the hospital and looked up to starting afresh, he discovered he had Mucormycosis. His first prognosis was the surgical removal of his eye

to save his life, but Dr Tarjani Dave and her team at the L V Prasad Eye Institute saved all three - his life, eye and vision. Thanks to the pathbreaking diagnostic modality developed by LVPEI doctors and the quick collaboration set up with ENT surgeons and neuroradiologists to provide comprehensive care to patients. They extensively studied the nuances of radio imaging or MRI and established better clinical practices and patient outcomes - with a much higher rate of salvaged eyes.

Raghu is one of the several thousand people affected by Mucormycosis, which posed an ultimate threat to infected patient's life. The extent of its occurrence was so rapid that it was soon declared an epidemic- a battle within a war! To conquer this situation, LVPEI formulated a quick and multi-dimensional action plan.

#### **People Impacted**

Network Wide

Diagnosed with Mucormyocosis 1090

Eye salvaged 96%

Eye and vision salvaged 74%

Mutilating (eye removal) surgery 4%

#### **Awareness**

Established a dedicated Mucormycosis helpline

Utilized the pyramidal model of LVPEI to Facilitate timely referrals from primary to secondary to advanced care centres

Developed specialists' interviews, news articles, digital campaigns, and a dedicated webpage

#### Management of the Disease

Developed a comprehensive approach by collaborating with the ENT Specialists and Neurosurgeons

At Hyderabad, treated patients with advanced prosthetic devices after recovery from mucormycosis, courtesy - AT&T

Established Advanced Molecular Mucormycosis Laboratory at LVPEl's Mithu Tulsi Chanrai Campus, Bhubaneswar, courtesy - **MGM Foundation** 

#### Training and Research

Developed SOP for Mucormycosis management

Participated in over 25 webinars benefitting over 10,000 participants globally treating patients with mucormycosis

Conducted and published a multicentre collaborative study to assess the outcome of the use of SOP

# Rehabilitation

Institute for Vision Rehabilitation

#### So that all may achieve their full potential



D Ramalaxmi lost her job during the lockdown and had no means to support herself. Being visually impaired, getting another job became a challenge for her. A core focus area at the Institute for Vision Rehablitation is to enable peole with vision impairment secure meaningful employment and live a

life of respect and dignity. It is a holistic approach - training them in market-relevant skills, identifying suitable employment opportunities and sensitizing employers towards an inclusive work culture. These dedicated efforts resulted in Ramalaxmi securing a job at Info Services Pvt Ltd, Hyderabad, and later she was even rewarded for being a top performer. Abhishek Kumar Singh of Kolkata has been battling Glaucoma since 2018. He was provided training through Telerehabilitation and last year secured a job at RK Info-Systems as Telecaller. Till date, over 100 people like Ramalaxmi and Abhishek have been economically-rehabilitated to help them achieve their full potential.

#### Scaling up - new facilities inaugurated

Vocational skills training units at the Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada campuses (courtesy - Ms A Prathiba, one of our volunteers) to enable persons with vision impairment and their families to be economically independent.

Special Needs Vision Clinic for children with vision loss and additional disabilities at the Bhubaneswar campus (courtesy - Columbus Global Ltd) and at the Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam campuses (courtesy - USAID for the main therapy unit, 'Sanet Vision Integrator').

Digital Library for the visually impaired at the Bhubaneswar campus, especially for students to help them access the reading material in audio format in Hindi, English and Odiya (courtesy - Columbus Global Ltd).

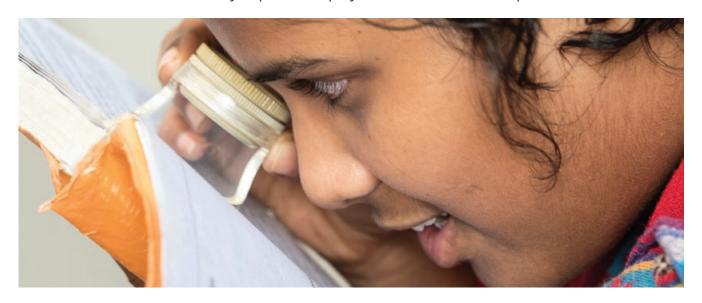
Vasantha Krupa Palakurthi Vision Aid Resource Centre at the Hyderabad campus focuses on the training and professional development of students with vision impairment, distribution of devices, research and development.

**Continuous skills enhancement** of the team is a major focus area. Three of the team members successfully completed the course on Cortical Visual Impairment from Perkins School for the Blind, Boston, USA.

Inspirational public talk show series has been initiated where people from various walks of life who despite their vision impairment have overcome challenges and discovered their true potential are invited to share their experiences.

Helping people with vision impairment become **economically independent** and contributing members of society is an integral part of the rehabilitation services offered at LVPEI. 36 individuals with vision impairment were **successfully placed** in various sectors such as IT, retail, sales and marketing. To make them job-ready, they were provided training in using computers through assistive technology.

Many initiatives were taken to promote an **inclusive work culture** to encourage employers to make their workplaces accessible for people with vision impairment. Panel discussions were organized where field experts and heads of organization were invited to brainstorm and develop a strategy on this. Additionally, a YouTube channel has been started named 'Ability and Inclusion' where visually impaired employees share their work experiences.





\*Services like providing medical certificates and railway concession to avail the benefits provided by the Government of India for people with vision impairment

# Rural and Community Eye Health

Gullapalli Pratibha Rao International Centre for Advancement of Rural Eye Care

#### **Bhosle Gopal Rao Patil Eye Centre**

25 years and counting



A Universal Eye Health Model: LVPEI's first secondary centre - Bhosle Gopal Rao Patil Eye Centre - celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The relentless journey of providing equitable eye care to all is a classic example of the Universal Eye Health Model. Through its Integrated People Centred Eye Care approach the centre is offering preventive, curative, and rehabilitative eye care.

#### 500,000

People Served

45%

Effective cataract surgical coverage

From baseline of less than 10% in 1998

26%

Decline in blindness and visual impairment in 50 years & above

From a baseline of 21.6% in 2006

Trends in Visual Impairment in the catchment region

Zero

Post-operative infections (Endophthalmitis) in the last eight years - a rare feat indeed

95%

Patients satisfied and happy with the services received

#### A big thank you to the founding donors

Christoffel-Blinden Mission (CBM), Germany

Sightsavers International, United Kingdom

Employees of Gram Abhyudaya Mandali,
Nirmal District, Telangana, India

Mudhole, Telangana, India

Patient care services initiated at the Naraindas & Morabai Budharani Eye Centre in Balasore, Odisha - LVPEI's 22<sup>nd</sup> rural secondary eye care centre and the fifth in Odisha.

26 vision centres were inaugurated, and 15 centres were upgraded to new generation technology-enabled vision centres. In addition to providing primary eye care services, Futuristic Vision Centres are equipped with state-of-the-art ophthalmic diagnostic equipment to detect and diagnose sight-threatening conditions including posterior segment conditions related to glaucoma and retina. They also provide care through tele-ophthalmology that helps patients receive advanced eye care closer to their doorsteps.



To collect data for developing sustainable and scalable **Tribal Eye Health Delivery Model and Policies**, in collaboration with the Government of Odisha, a research project was undertaken. 9872 people of the Dongria indigenous tribal community in Rayagada (one of the most rural tribal belts of Odisha) were screened for eye disorders, 1496 spectacles distributed, and 134 cataract surgeries performed at no cost.

All possible measures for **providing eye care at the doorstep of the community** and bridging the gaps between primary, secondary and tertiary care, are continuously being taken - including providing care through **home-based initiatives and teleconsultation**.

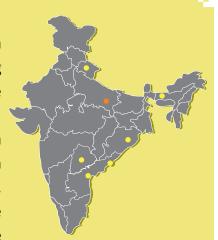
Several eye screening programs and projects focusing on ensuring accessibility of eye care services for the vulnerable group – **women**, **the elderly and children** were implemented.

**8468** patients benefited from the mobile eye diagnostic service 'Pashyantu' through LVPEI's network of rural secondary centres in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh. The advanced mobile diagnostic van is bringing high-end eye diagnostic facilities for detecting complicated eye conditions into the purview of secondary centres.

# Eye Banking

#### Strengthening Eye Banking Activities in the Country

The LVPEI Eye Bank Network, spread across Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, has significantly contributed to bringing down the waiting time for corneal transplant surgeries in these regions. To achieve similar impact at the national level, LVPEI is focusing on setting up Eye Banks in other states of India where they are needed the most. Over the past few years, in collaboration with **The Hans Foundation and the Tata Trust**, **two Eye Banks** have been set up at AIIMS in Rishikesh and the other at Guwahati Medical College in Guwahati. This year, the



**Rishikesh** Eye Bank harvested 146 corneas and distributed 95 corneas, and the Eye Bank at **Guwahati** harvested 130 corneas and distributed 100 corneas. Shortly, the **third eye bank** will commence operations in **Varanasi**.

Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, the eye banking services at LVPEI were able to sustainably function and contributed to 40% of the transplantable corneas in India.

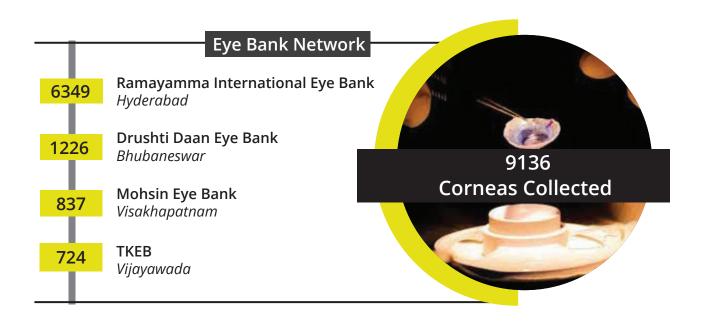
It was a **record-breaking year** for the **Ramayamma International Eye Bank** at the Hyderabad campus – distributed 5103 corneas (highest ever annually), including 587 corneas in September (highest ever monthly).

**Drushti Daan Eye Bank** at the **Bhubaneswar** campus crossed **10,000 cornea collection** mark (since inception).

The Mohsin Eye Bank at the Visakhapatnam campus now has a Pre-cut tissue facility and has started distributing these tissues to surgeons within and outside the LVPEI network.

Over 100+ participants were trained on various aspects of eye banking through online sessions and webinars, and 11 technicians were trained through a 3-month-long training program.





#### 8530 Corneas Utilized

**3133** corneas were distributed within the LVPEI network and **3958** were distributed to surgeons outside the network. **1439** corneas were used for training and research.

# MK Medium and AM processed in-house Supplied to eye banks and surgeons within and outside India vials of McCarey-Kaufman (MK) Medium, a cost-effective solution used for storage and preservation of donor corneas vials of Amniotic Membrane (AM) for ocular surface reconstructive surgery

Heartfelt gratitude to our cornea donor families and our partner eye donation centres. 218 donor corneas were collected through the below partner centres: Khammam Eye Bank, Khammam; Lions Eye Hospital, Bodhan; Smt. R.R. Lions Eye Hospital, Nidadavole; Sai Jyoti Netradaan Foundation, Adoni; Gowthami Eye Institute, Rajahmundry; Sudarsani Eye Hospital, Guntur; Lions Club of Godavarikhani, Godavarikhani; Lions Club of Suryapet Eye Hospital, Suryapet; Lions Club of Ramagundam, Ramagundam; ACSR Govt. Medical College Hospital, Nellore; Lions Club of Thorrur; and Lions Club of Mahbubnagar.



# Education

Standard Chartered - LVPEI Academy for Eye Care Education

#### Need of the hour - developing better cataract surgeons

LVPEI is one of the very few institutes in the country to run a simulation training program for ophthalmology residents, fellows, and practitioners in performing Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery (MSICS). Equipped with high-fidelity eye surgery simulators, this unique and easy-to-replicate training program helps the trainees gain proficiency in performing cataract surgeries without depending on the patient flow. It also reduces the risk of complications for patients. LVPEI has collaborated with HelpMeSee to train local cataract specialists and is the official partner for training government ophthalmologists for the large-scale community eye health projects - Dr YSR Kanti Velugu Program - Andhra Pradesh and Kanti Velugu programme - Telangana. Close to 100 trainees were trained this year, including LVPEI residents and fellows.

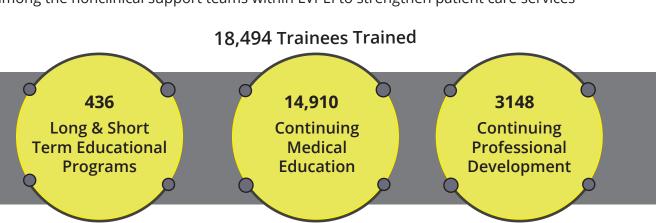


#### Major Programs Launched

**Online education programs** in Uveitis - Class 2 Clinics, Case-based learning of ocular diseases for optometrists and a two-year comprehensive online program on Cataract and Refractive Surgery in collaboration with DocMode - a global edutech platform

Bachelor of Optometry in collaboration with GITAM University

**Reflect to Reinvent** (R2R), a series of 30 workshops to promote cross-functional deliberations among the nonclinical support teams within LVPEI to strengthen patient care services



#### Empowering women, breaking barriers

A national resource centre for training, The Standard Chartered-LVPEI Academy for Eye Care Education runs several training programs for eye care professionals across cadres from advanced subspecialty training to basics in eye care. The majority of training is provided free-of-cost, with over 50% trainees being women, thus generating meaningful employment for youth from marginalized sections of society. LVPEI was the first to introduce subspecialty ophthalmology training in India. Carrying forward its legacy of being innovative and introducing customized programs to cater to the human resource challenges in the eye care sector, many unique and first-of-its-kind programs were initiated along the way. One such very unique program was started in 2021: The Technical Assistant Program.

Two very bright and talented young girls - Anusha and Gayathri - are receiving training under this two-year Technical Assistant Program. An unconventional training program, especially for women, but very relevant to the current market needs, they are receiving training in: basic video shooting and editing, designing, managing and hosting Zoom webinars, logistics of managing the technical aspects of hosting events (virtual as well as physical), gamification using PowerPoint presentations, and much more. Eager to constantly learn new things, they have become an integral part of team education, providing assistance for smooth execution of educational events and webinars. This also opens avenues for LVPEI to expand the scope of this program in future and scale it up to make it bigger and better.



# Research

Prof Brien Holden Eye Research Centre

#### In pursuit of healthy and happy ageing

Dr Srinivas Marmamula embarked on a mission to assess the impact of interventions on eye health for avoidable causes of vision loss in the elderly in Hyderabad through the project HOMES (Hyderabad Ocular Morbidity in Elderly Study). The study provided valuable insights on factors responsible for vision loss and suggested appropriate interventions. Its success led to another population-based study in a larger cohort in Hyderbad, Siddipet and Bhadradri Kothegudem districts in Telangana - LEADS (Longitudinal Eye Health



Aging and Disability Study). The insights from the study will help enhance our understanding of vision loss and connection with multiple morbidities and the impact of eye health interventions on the elderly eye health. It will also provide robust data for planning eye health strategies for an overarching goal of healthy ageing in India. Both the studies are funded by DBT/Wellcome India Alliance.

An inter-disciplinary multi-institutional project - **Biomimetic hydrogel for the treatment of blinding corneal diseases** - from LVPEI (Dr Sayan Basu and Dr Vivek Singh), IIT (Dr Falguni Patil), and CCMB (Dr Kiran Kumar) received the Sree Rama Krishna Paramahamsa Research Grant. It will evaluate the safety and efficacy of a novel and proprietary biomimetic hydrogel and the unique-mesenchymal stem cells derived from the human eye for treating corneal wounds. It provides **hope to patients with corneal blindness** and those who otherwise carry a poor prognosis (a significant number of patients) for corneal transplantation.



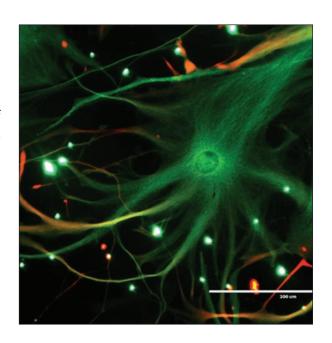
The Hyderabad campus is now equipped with a **state-of-the-art Ophthalmic Research Biorepository** for cryopreservation (preserving invaluable ophthalmic tissues); courtesy: Prof Krothapalli Ravindranath, Retired Dean, SV Veterinary University, Tirupati. The study of these patient samples will help in developing better understanding of the molecular mechanisms of eye diseases and their management.



LVPEI was recognized for its exemplary contributions to vision and ophthalmology by ARVO (Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology - the largest global body that facilitates, promotes and recognizes research in vision and ophthalmology): Dr PremNandhini Satgunam received the prestigious Carl Camras Translational Research Award for her innovation - pediatric perimeter; Dr Subhabrata Chakrabarti bestowed with the highest honour of Gold Fellow of ARVO (a first from India) for his services on various fronts of eye and vision research; Mr Goutham Pyatla and Ms Rebecca Sumalini (graduate students) received the prestigious DCERF (Developing Country Eye Research Fellowship) award; and additionally, six graduate students received ARVO Travel Grants.

The 14<sup>th</sup> **Annual Champalimaud Symposium** (virtual) had **Dr Michael Chiang**, Director of the National Eye Institute, Maryland, deliver the oration on the potential of artificial intelligence in ophthalmology. It also had keynote lectures by **Prof Friedrich Paulsen** on the functional anatomy of the tear drainage system and **Dr Venkata Venuganti** on the use of microneedles in ocular drug delivery.

A unique five-day virtual workshop, Neuronglia Interactions in Ocular Development and Diseases - to foster Indo-US collaborations in basic and translational eye research between the two countries was held under the aegis of the IUSSTF (Indo-US Science and Technology Forum). The workshop was organized through collaboration between LVPEI, Wayne State University and the University of Massachusetts to understand and strategize the roles of neurons and glia in disease causation in the eye. Various researchers from leading institutions in India and USA deliberated to gain further insights into the molecular mechanisms in neuron-glia communications.



505 Publications

Six faculty received over 1000 citations, with Dr Rohit Khanna leading with >2000 citations

1388.80 lakh

19 Extramural grants received

# Product & Technology Innovation

#### In-house developed PROSE lens help restore the vision of a 3-year-old

In collaboration with the Boston Foundation for Sight, USA, LVPEI is the only facility in India to manufacture speciality Scleral and PROSE contact lenses. LVPEI's Vijayawada campus became the first in the country to use PROSE lenses on a paediatric patient. Hethwik was brought to the Vijayawada campus after he sustained a severe eye injury that could have robbed



him of his vision caused due to an accidental fall from the bed. A scleral tear repair surgery was performed, post which he was diagnosed with irregular astigmatism (the curvature of the cornea/lens of his eye was imperfect) that could have worsened if not treated in time. Speciality contact lens 'PROSE' that are best suited for patients with injuries was provided to him free-of-cost. It helped in restoring his vision and in the healing process. Technology innovation and product development at LVPEI focus on bringing down the cost of healthcare and making high-quality eye care accessible to the community regardless of geographic and monetary challenges.



The LVPEI BostonSight Lens Manufacturing Lab, an ISO 13485 certified by the British Standards Institution (BSI), **supplied** a total of **2700 scleral lenses** through its network of **70+ practitioners** across India, and Bangladesh and Hong Kong.

ConnectCare, an app-based teleconsultation service enabled over 50,000 patient consultations (saving about INR 60 millions in travel cost) and over a million kilos of carbon emissions, this year. ConnectCare enables patients to consult their doctors at LVPEI right from the comfort of their homes through phone or a video call.

Currently deployed in seven LVPEI locations, an in-house developed Cerebro Kiosk has completed over 100,000 self-check-ins. It not only enhanced the overall efficiency of patient care services, but also saved 7000 plus employee work hours and handled transactions worth millions.





**BioNEST** – LVPEI's healthcare incubation centre reengineered accessories and consumables like LED light for slit lamps, artificial eye chambers, DMEK tubes, and SS trephines at 20X lesser cost than their imported equivalent. **The first-of-its kind hospital-based healthcare incubator in India**, it is capable of end-to-end prototyping with a special focus on ophthalmology. This world-class facility with micron precision machining centre, SLA 3D printing, electronics assembly & testing capabilities is now open for manufacturing products for other hospitals.

Award-winning visual field screening device **Order of Magnitude (OM)** has crossed the mark of **screening over 100,000 eyes** since its inception. This smart device can detect more than 60% of the common causes of avoidable blindness, including glaucoma.

**Pupil-X**, a virtual reality-based screening system for Neuro-Ophthalmology has **completed over 2000 tests** across the LVPEI network since its inception. Pupillary measurements derived from this device are objective & quantifiable and only take about 5 minutes for a much more consistent Pupillary Light Reflex test against a conventional 20-minute test with potentially varying results - from clinic to clinic.

Award-winning in-house developed **EyeSmart EMR** (electronic medical record) has **enabled over 10.3 million consults across 278 locations globally.** Enabled over 2 million patients across 50 customer locations in 6 countries, plans are to make it available in newer territories in Africa and South Asia.









Technology under validation

17
Technology
in clinic

Products exported

**6** Partnerships **1** Certification

# Capacity Building

### The Liberia Eye Centre

A Historic Moment



Dr George Tamba Bornguoi, Dr Niranjan K Pehere (Head, LVPEI-Liberia Eye Center) and Dr Unity Honey Dokie Fahn

In 2018, LVPEI started the first ever ophthalmology residency program in Liberia through the Liberia Eye Centre (managed by LVPEI) - John F Kennedy Memorial Medical Center, Monrovia with the aim to make the country self-dependent for eye care delivery. 2021 was a historic year for the people of Liberia with Dr Unity Honey Dokie Fahn and Dr George Tamba Bornguoi becoming the first graduates of this program run in partnership with the Liberian College of Physicians and Surgeons, Lions Clubs International Foundation, the Ministry of Health, Government of Liberia, LDS Charities and Operation Eyesight. LVPEI along with its partners is striving hard to establish a sustainable eye care model that makes eye care services accessible and affordable to all in the country.

A dedicated team, the majority of whom are Liberians, is working towards providing sustainable and affordable world-class eye care to all Liberian citizens, irrespective of their ability to pay. This year, **12,944 outpatients** (31% non-paying) were examined and **1107 surgeries** (41% non-paying) were performed at the Liberia Eye Centre. Additionally, close to **4800 people were screened** for eye ailments including children through outreach activities and various public awareness programs on good eye health practices were organized.

LVPEI also supported other hospitals and eye organizations in India through a partnership model to help them build their capacity in terms of operational and financial sustainability and training their workforce.



LVPEI is currently working closely with the **Mumbai-based Shantilal Shanghvi Foundation** to build the **city's first not-for-profit eye institute** that would offer quality patient care with vocational education, translational research, and public health.

In collaboration with SEVA Foundation's Global Sight Initiative, built capacity of 14 partner hospitals - analysing the challenges they are facing in their integral functions such as supply chain management, quality maintenance, financial sustainability, and demand generation, and helping them devise strategies to overcome those challenges for better performance.

In our constant endeavour to make primary eye care accessible and affordable for all across the country, helped three of our partner centres to setup Vision Centres in remote locations where they were much needed - Ramban district, Jammu and Kashmir (KLSM Rotary Eye Hospital); Sayla district, Rajasthan (GHIO Abu Eye Hospital) and Bidar district, Karnataka (Velemegna Good news Society).

After a detailed needs assessment, **enrolled eight partner hospitals in 'Super Vision'** program to help them establish primary eye care services in their catchment areas.

# Advocacy

# Saving life, saving vision

Retinoblastoma, a life and sight-threatening eye cancer, most commonly (90%) affects children younger than three years. 20 to 25% of cases of eye cancer worldwide in children are from India, and 50% of cases worldwide lose their lives due to late detection and inadequate treatment. To raise awareness about this deadly eye cancer, Retinoblastoma - An Artistic Expression was organized in association with Shantiniketan Kala Bhavan Praktoni. Artists from across the globe



submitted artwork on the theme of retinoblastoma - depicting the emotions that a child and the family fighting this deadly eye cancer goes through. Some of the best entries have been displayed in the 'Healing through Art' corridor at the Kode Venkatadari Chowdary Campus in Vijayawada.

LVPEI annually also organizes **Whitathon** - a running event to raise awareness and funds for children with eye cancer. This year it was organized virtually and received participation from people across the globe.

LVPEI is part of the first Global Research Program on Vision and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in collaboration with the Queen's University of Belfast and 30 other partners from the USA, UK, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Zimbabwe, and India to explore the global impact of vision care to achieve SDGs in low- and middle-income countries.



Booklet released: **South-East Asia on Eye Health – Systems, Practices and Challenges** - edited by Dr Taraprasad Das and Dr Patanjali Dev Nayar, Regional Advisor, Disability, Injury Prevention and Rehabilitation, World Health Organization (WHO).

Rohit C Khanna was a member of the Technical Advisory Group for developing 'Packages of Eye Care Interventions' for WHO and Dr Shrikant Bharadwaj and Dr Srinivas Marmamula were members of different working groups within WHO.

Dr Rohit C Khanna was involved with International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness to develop strategies for the provision of Universal Eye Care and Integrated People-centred Eye Care.

In collaboration with WHO, webinar series conducted on 'Strengthening capacities and technical acumen on Integrated People-Centered Eye Care, Diabetic Retinopathy, Low Vision, and Corneal Blindness'.

Awareness campaigns, talks and screening programs were organized to mark important events such as 'Word Sight Day', 'Glaucoma Awareness Week', 'World Diabetes Day', 'International Retinoblastoma Awareness Week', 'Myopia Awareness Week', 'Children's Eye Care Week', etc.

Empowering and encouraging women to access health care facilities, especially in the rural communities, is a critical step toward tackling avoidable vision loss

The theme for International Women's Day was 'Gender Equal World" - a world that is inclusive and equitable, especially while accessing health care services. 55% of those with vision impairment are women, and one of the key reasons for this disproportionate prevalence is lower access to eye health facilities. LVPEI's vision centres on regular basis are organizing programs to motivate and encourage women to access eye care facilities and increase referrals by involving community health workers (ASHA workers) and self-help groups.

City hospital



Glaucoma Week from today

Don't fear or raise alarm over white fungus: Doctor LVPEI to observe World

Round the year, various campaigns, programs initiatives and were organized across the network to create awareness about good eye health practices and the importance of early detection and diagnosis of vison threatening eye conditions.

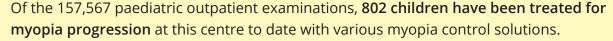


# Myopia Prevention & Control

India's first-of-its-kind state-of-the-art facility, the **Infor Myopia Centre**, generously supported by **Infor (India) Pvt Ltd** for prevention and control of Myopia was inaugurated on 25 October 2020.







Based on the risk assessment of myopia progression, various anti-myopia strategies such as orthokeratology, multi-focal soft contact lens, bifocals, low-dose atropine (0.01%), and specially designed defocus spectacles were prescribed.

To control the progression of myopia, counselling was provided to children and their parents for lifestyle modifications such as spending more time doing outdoor activities, reducing the time spent doing near work activities, and decreasing the time spent on using gadgets.

## Research

**20 high impact publications** with novel findings about Myopia management were published. A recently concluded study by the team has revealed that 5 out of 10 children especially from urban regions will have myopia by 2050, if no preventive strategy is enforced immediately.

# **Advocacy and Capacity Building**

Initiated in 2020, the second edition of the annual **Indian Myopia Awareness and Research Conference** was organized in November 2021 for healthcare professionals both in Indian and worldwide scenarios. The thrust is on experience sharing, network building and formalizing public health policy to reduce the burden of myopia in India.

Social media campaigns were organized to create awareness among the community.

# **Way Forward**

Setting up the Myopia Centre at LVPEI's Campus in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.

Introducing Myopia Management Comprehensive Fellowship Programme for both beginners and experienced eye care practitioners.

We are also grateful to the Brien Holden Vision Institute, Australia; SEED, Japan; Department of Science and Technology, India; and Science and Engineering Board, India, for their funding support.

# Elderly Eye Care Healthy Ageing, Happy Ageing

# Silver sight initiative

'Magical' is how 66-year-old Aakaarapu Padma describes her vision restoration journey. She could barely see, and her family could ill afford any treatment for her. Silver Sight - Eye Care for the Elderly is a program initiated by LVPEI to provide homebased eye care services, including primary eye screening and dispensing of spectacles. When this team visited her home, they identified her vision problem. She underwent cataract-removal surgery at the Mudhole secondary centre and later advanced retinal detachment surgery at the Centre of Excellence at Hyderabad. "If not for the Silver Sight program, my mother would have remained blind," said her son.



The UN World population aging report estimates an increase in the Indian elderly population (60 years and above) from 8% in 2021 to 20% by 2050 - over 300 million people. The age-related vision-limiting ocular diseases often reflect chronic health conditions accompanied by an increased risk of falls, thus adversely impacting the quality of life of the elderly.

LVPEI made its foray into Geriatric eye care six years ago with an exclusive elderly eye care centre at the Vishakhapatnam campus, courtesy - Aurobindo Pharma Limited. Last year, two more centres opened at the Hyderabad campus, courtesy - Gland Pharma and the Bhubaneswar campus, courtesy - ICICI Bank. The centres offer personalized care - detailed eye examination,



diagnostics, surgical intervention, vision rehabilitation, physiotherapy, screening for systemic health conditions, depression and dementia, and counselling on preventive measures to reduce the risk of falls.

## Patient Care and Rehabilitation

76,348

Outpatients examined

12,386

Surgeries performed

83

Reached through homecare

367

Benefited from low vision and rehabilitative care



A 94-year-old having a comprehensive eye check at home



Intraocular pressure recording with Tonometer at home

# Research |

# æ

## 4 Publications



Hyderabad Ocular Morbidity in Elderly Study (HOMES): 1513 elderly participants were enumerated from 41 homes for the aged in Hyderabad. Key findings: 52.7% of the participants had a vision impairment and 88% of vision loss was avoidable. One out of every four living in a residential home had depression, while those who had dual sensory impairment (both vision and hearing) had five times the risk.

# Education and Advocacy

The complex needs of the elderly population demand the attention of an array of professionals to formulate and execute

Towards this end, the firstever symposium, "Elderly

comprehensive care plans.

Eye Care: Towards a Better Quality of Life" organized by LVPEI, had medical experts and researchers from across India, Canada, Australia and the USA and was attended by 400 participants.

# Institutes of Excellence

Centres of Excellence



**Vision:** To globally make a significant impact on the problem of blindness and visual impairment.



**Mission:** To control all major forms of blindness and visual impairment in India and globally through dedicated efforts towards their prevention and treatment by creating an interlinked network of 'Global Resource Centres' followed by the development of 'Regional Centres' using prevention and treatment strategies, and human resources development for the care of eye problems and research.

The Institutes of Excellence program was conceived on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of LVPEI. Envisaged as global resource centres, they will not only focus on caring for patients at all levels of eye care but also creating and disseminating new knowledge. The first institute of excellence was the Cornea Institute, followed by the Institute for Eye Care for the Elderly, the Child Sight Institute, Operation Eyesight Universal Institute for Eye Cancer and most recently, the Anant Bajaj Retina Institute. Several individual Institutes of Excellence are also evolving.

- Cornea Institute
- Operation Eyesight Universal Institute for Eye Cancer
- Child Sight Institute

- Brien Holden Eye Research Centre
- Gullapalli Pratibha Rao Centre for Advancement of Rural Eye Care
- Standard Chartered-LVPEI
  Academy for Eye Care
  Education

- Institute for Vision Rehabilitation
- Institute for Elderly Eye Care
- Anant Bajaj Retina Institute

- The Glaucoma Institute
- Institute for Ocular Regeneration

**Centres of Excellence:** Within each Institute of Excellence are smaller Centres of Excellence based out of a particular campus. These centres are dedicated to tackling eye problems in a limited geographical area or focused on specific eye conditions.



## Kallam Anji Reddy Campus, Hyderabad

- Centre of Excellence in Eye Banking
- Govindram Seksaria Institute of Dacryology
- Centre of Excellence for Rare Eye Diseases
- Gland Pharma Centre for Eye Care for the Elderly
- EyeSight International Centre of Excellence in Corneal Transplantation
- Infor Myopia Centre
- Ramoji Foundation Centre for Ocular Infections

## Mithu Tulsi Chanrai Campus, Bhubaneswar

ICICI Centre of Elderly Eye Care

# GMR Varalakshmi Campus, Visakhapatnam

Aurobindo Geriatric Eye Care Centre

### Kode Venkatadri Chowdary Campus, Vijayawada

- Himabindu Yalamanchili Centre for Eye Cancer
- Kalathur Venugopal Reddy Glaucoma Centre

# Founders, Patrons and Donors

LVPEI has always been a beacon of excellence, equity, and efficiency, and in ensuring that those in need of eye care services - whatever the effort - are able to receive them. Over the years, a host of individuals and organisations have believed in our vision and have stepped forward to help us meet this high standard of care. We are grateful for their trust and support.

# **Founding Organizations**

# Hyderabad Eye Institute Founding Trustees

A Ramesh Prasad Gullapalli N Rao, Chair K P Prasad K Rama Rao Narla Tata Rao V Ramalingaswami

# Indo American Eye Care Society, USA Founding Trustees

Brijen Gupta Gullapalli N Rao Y M Jay H V Janardhan Manuel del Cerro Jeff Harris

# **Major Founding Donors**

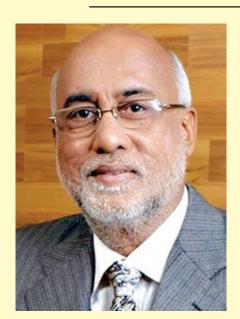
L V Prasad, India A Ramesh Prasad, India G Pratibha Rao, India

# **Founders**

Founders who joined us in 2021

Retinal diseases are among the most important causes of vision impairment and blindness. The support for Anant Bajaj Retina Institute, an Institute of Excellence and a Global Resource Centre, came from the renowned Bajaj family members who are committed to eliminating needless blindness. Named as Anant Bajaj Retina Institute in the loving memory of the late Mr Anant Bajaj, it will bring advanced retina eye care closer to the doorstep of the community.

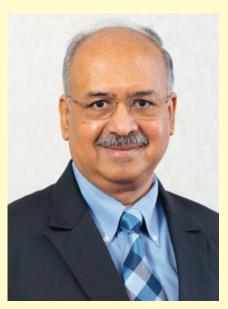
"Anant Bajaj was passionate about eye health and making it available to all. It was Anant's dream to combine cutting-edge technology with philanthropy to make a difference in the lives of people. The Bajaj Group is delighted to forge a lifetime association with one of India's leading eye institutes. Through this association, the Bajaj Group and LVPEI have joined resources to reach out to millions of Indians to provide the best possible eye care," said Mr Shekhar Bajaj, Chairman and Managing Director, Bajaj Electricals Limited.



Mr Shekhar Bajaj

Corneal opacities are the second leading cause of blindness in India. The Cornea Institute at LVPEI takes a comprehensive approach to tackling corneal conditions and has serviced nearly 450,000 patients while performing 90,000 surgeries since its inception. The delivery of these services in 2021 were made possible with support from The Shantilal Shanghvi Foundation.

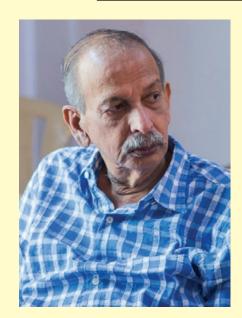
"The Shantilal Shanghvi Foundation is committed to supporting organisations in India for tackling issues in healthcare and access," said Mr Dilip Shanghvi, Director of Shantilal Shanghvi Foundation. "We support LVPEI in its endeavours to make treatment available for eye problems like corneal opacity, helping patients improve their vision."



Mr Dilip Shanghvi

Glaucoma affects over 80 million people worldwide and is one of the leading causes of irreversible blindness in India. It is a complex set of conditions that causes vision loss and requires lifelong care. LVPEI is one of the foremost centres of glaucoma care in the world and we gratefully acknowledge support of Mr Kalathur Venugopal Reddy's family. In 2021-22, their philanthropy supported the Kalathur Venugopal Reddy Glaucoma Centre at Kode Venkatadri Chowdary Campus, Vijayawada, and the VST Centre for Glaucoma Care at the Kallam Anji Reddy campus, Hyderabad.

"There are many among us who may have glaucoma, but live undiagnosed as the condition is asymptomatic until end stages. This is a terrible situation as vision lost to glaucoma is irreversible, and the treatment can be expensive," notes Mr Venugopal's family. "Glaucoma is a devastating impairment and we fully support LVPEI's efforts to create awareness, and for early diagnosis and treatment of this condition."



Late Mr Kalathur Venugopal Reddy

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