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Quote

God gives every bird its food, but he does not throw it into its nest.
 J.G.Holland

Editorial

Aravind's manufacturing arm, Aurolab is completing two decades of its service in making ophthalmic consumable affordable and accessible to the common man. The organisation is all set to mark the occasion with a series of celebrations.

Aravind always believes in the power of sharing and right from the beginning the organisation is open to share its success principles with anyone who is truly concerned about the problem of blindness. Recently, the organization entered into a partnership to Work on Chinese Eye Hospital Alliance (CEHA) Project for capacity building of select private hospitals in China.

Diabetic retinopathy remains one of the leading causes of preventable blindness. Realising the potential of primary health centres in promoting the health-seeking behavior of the community, Aravind – Pondicherry started collaborating with the centres for an opportunistic screening of diabetic retinopathy. The process has just begun and is expected to benefit a larger number of people affected with diabetes and more particularly, diabetic retinopathy.

Angaadi, the charity fest was conducted with great fervor and enthusiasm. The proceeds from the sales went on to support the good work done by two non-profit charity organisations – Aishwaryam Trust and M.S.Chellamuthu Trust.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Special Recognition for Sr. Chidambaram

Aravind – Tirunelveli, December 11



M N Chidambaram, Nursing Superintendent was awarded "Best Social Service award" for her selfless work and service by "Annai Theresa Social Service Organization". The award was presented at a special function organized on December 11.

Dinamalar Kolam Competition

Pondicherry, December 18

Ms.K.R.Deepa, Housekeeping Supervisor, Aravind -Pondicherry participated and won second prize for the fourth consecutive year in the Kolam Competition organized by Dinamalar group.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Angaadi 2016

Aravind – Madurai, December 17



Mr.R.V.Duraisamy handing over the cheque to Dr.Balagurusamy of Aishwaryam Trust



Ms.Latha Gurubarathi of Chellamuthu trust receiving the cheque

Now in its third year, Angaadi again became a hit, thanks to the whole-hearted dedication and commitment of staff and employees. The charity fest was organized this year too to raise money to help the less privileged. The unique feature is that the items at sale are brought in by the staff members and sold amongst themselves. Mr.G.Srinivasan inaugurated the event, which saw wide participation from all cadres of staff. The event helped raise an amount of Rs.1,44,030. The funds were donated to Aishwaryam Trust, Kadachanenthal and MS.Chellamuthu Trust, Madurai.

Aishwaryam Trust is well-known for its exceptional service in palliative care to the elderly and destitute while Chellamuthu Trust offers quality psychiatry care and rehabilitate mentally ill people.



NEWS AND EVENTS

Workshop on Subtenon's Anaesthesia

Aravind – Madurai, November 30



An internal workshop for doctors and theatre nurses from all surgical centres was conducted at on Subtenon's anesthesia. Subtenon's anesthesia is a safer alternative to retrobulbar and peribulbar anaesthesia. The workshop included lectures, wet lab training, observation and hand on training on the technique.



Workshop on Sterilization and Aseptic Techniques for Ophthalmic Operation Theatre

Aravind – Madurai, December 2-7



Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai along with Tamil Nadu State Blindness Control Society and National Health Mission has organized the workshop for staff nurses and theatre assistants working in ophthalmic operation theatres in the government hospitals of Tamil Nadu. This 5-day residential Workshop was conducted in 3 batches covering 68 participants. Topics covered included cataract surgery protocols, aseptic protocols, operation theatre work flow, OT cleaning, Infection control and so on.



Observing International Day of Disabilities

Aravind – Tirunelveli, December 9



To commemorate the International Day of Disabilities, Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirunelveli organized a three day exhibition on Low vision care and services to create awareness among patients and public. Dr.R.Ramakrishnan inaugurated the exhibition. Nearly 150 persons visited.



Moments of Relaxation

Tirunelveli



As a part of Employee welfare activity, lady staff members (MLOPs and Admin) who completed five years of service were taken on a one day tour to Thiruparappu falls, Thottipalam, Pottaiyadi and Kanyakumari.

As a part of employee welfare activity, lady staff members(MLOPs and Admin) and technicians of all the 11 Vision Centres were taken on a one day tour to the beach and various tourist attractions in Kanyakumari.



Hospital Day Celebrations

Aravind –Salem, Sunday, 18 December 2016



It has been five years since Aravind's tertiary Centre at Salem was opened. Chief guests - Mr.Sanjay Kumar IPS, Commissioner of Police, Salem City, Dr.P.Namperumalsamy, Dr.G.Natchiar and Dr.R.D.Ravindran presided over the annual day ceremony. Mr.Selvaraj, Manager - Finance welcomed the audience. Mr.Sanjay Kumar IPS inaugurated the eye collection centre and handed over the eye collection kit to Dr.Anuja. Dr.Manohar Babu presented the annual report. Dr.Namperumalsamy and Dr.R.D Ravindran gave special address. Retention award for the employees were distributed the Commissioner of Police. Several cultural events staged by the MLOPs and doctors entertained the audience.



Christmas Celebrations

Aravind



Pondicherry



Tirunelveli



Madurai

Intelligence and capability are not enough. There must also be the joy of doing something beautiful.
- Dr. G. Venkataswamy



Christmas was celebrated with great joy at various Aravind centres. Glittering lights and stars welcomed the audience. Choir once again filled the minds of audience with beautiful Christmas memories. Cultural programmes including skit and other shows conveyed the true spirit of the festival.



Eye Care Awareness Programme

Sithayankottai, December 20



Eye care awareness programme was organised for the members of women's self help group in Sithayankottai. Mr.Vinayagamorthy, Mr.Vijayan and Ms. Karthika handled the session. Sixty participants attended.



PASS 2016 – Programme for Aravind Staff Support

Aravind – Pondicherry, December 25



As part of the Programme for Aravind Staff Support (PASS), Aravind - Pondicherry organized family meet for the staff of vision centre and married Mid level ophthalmic personnel. Dr.K.Veena, welcomed the audience and explained the objective of the programme to the participants. Dr.S.R.Krishnadas delivered a talk on Role of MLOP staff (your family member) in serving community and Dr.Usha Kim spoke on How Aravind culture groom an individual to become a fulfilled

human being?– through teleconference. A few games were organized to make the programme interesting. Participants also shared their views. Around 22 MLOPs along with their family participated.



Jagriti Yatris at Aravind

Aravind – Madurai, December 26



This year too, Aravind found place in the travel itinerary of Jagriti Yatris. Mr.R.D.Thulasiraj and Dr.S.Aravind addressed the gathering and cleared their questions. Song Enga Madura was played which received wide applause from the team. 480 yatris visited Aravind this time. A documentary capturing the unique Aravind model of compassion at work was released on the occasion.



Opportunistic Screening for Diabetic Retinopathy in Collaboration with PHCs

Aravind – Pondicherry, December 27



Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry crossed another milestone as it introduced opportunistic screening model for Diabetic Retinopathy in collaboration with Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in Pondicherry. Diabetic patients in the community come to the PHC on the scheduled day to collect their free diabetes medications for the month.

Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry will use this opportunity to screen for Diabetic Retinopathy among all those diabetics attending the PHC. As a part of this initiative, the personnel of the PHC will be oriented towards the need for screening the diabetic patients for diabetic retinopathy.

A total of 27 primary health centres and 2 community health centres are included in this. The first Diabetic Retinopathy Screening programme was arranged at Karikkalampakkam which was graced by the presence of Honourable Health Minister, Shri.Malladi Krishna Rao; Honourable Minister for Social Welfare, Shri M. Kandasamy; Health Secretary, Shri.B.R.BABU, IAS; and Dr.K.V.Raman, Director of Medical Services. Rotary Club of Puducherry Mid-Town supports the PHC camps at Puducherry.



Making a Difference

Madurai



The Govel Trust Mahema Endowment was instituted by Mr. Manohar Devadoss in his beloved wife Mahema's memory to support people with low vision. Since inception in 2009, the fund continues to make tremendous difference in the lives of several persons with vision impairment. Mahema and Manohar were an exceptional couple who by their warm and charismatic personality attracted many into their lives who gradually became their extended family and joined the Art of Giving. Aravind is happy to note that Shri. Ajith, veteran Tamil actor and a friend of Manohar Devadoss has for the fourth consecutive year

donated to the fund.



CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

5th Biennial Scientific Meeting of Asia Cornea Society

Seoul, Korea, December 9-11



Dr. Venkatesh Prajna

- Efficacy of Oral Voriconazole in Severe Fungal Keratitis

Dr. Lalitha Prajna

- Laboratory Perspective on Best Practices in the Management of Ocular Infection

Dr. Ashish Kumar, Dr. Venkatesh Prajna

- Detection of Corneal Scars by Corneal Cellscope, a Smartphone Camera Attachment

Dr. Manoranjan Das, Dr. Ashish Kumar

- No bubble no trouble: Long-term results of optical deep anterior lamellar keratoplasty



BLITZ YI – Youth Conclave

Coimbatore, December 17



Dr. P. Namperumalsamy gave an inspirational talk on Scaling up at the Young Indians – Conclave organized by Confederation of Indian Industries.



Thrissur Academic Club of Ophthalmology

Thrissur, September 25

**Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi**

- Spectacl(e)ular revoution towards visual excellence in children



Joint Congress of American Association for Paediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus (AAPOS) and Strabismus and Paediatric Ophthalmological Society of India (SPOSI)

Jaipur, December 2-4

**Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi**

- Childhood visual impairment: Dectection, Assessment & Rehabilitation - Epidemiology of eye disease birth to 3 in a terioratry eye centre in India

Dr. Shashikant Shetty

- Orbit trauma
- Evaluation of Nystagmus

Dr. Rupa

- Electro retinography as a diagnostic took in childhood visual impairment (FP)

Dr. Sathya

- Attainment of binocularity following late alignment for early onset strabismus (Eposter)
- Paediatric Cataract: Are we seeing a changing trend? (E poster)

Dr. Navdeep

- Management of head posture in Duane Retraction Syndrome (DRS) with Nystagmus (E poster)
- Intraocular Lens(IOL) power calculation errors for (up to 5 years) paediatric eyes in Indian population

Dr. Pooja Kewlani

- Outcomes of Surgical Correction in Partially Accomodative Esotropia (Eposter)

Dr. Pallavi Patil

- Joubert Syndrome with Bilateral Hypotropia
- Optical Iridectomy in Children

Dr. Palak Makwana

- Functional Outcomes of Botulinum Toxin Injection in Acute Sixth Nerve Palsy (Eposter)

Dr. Shruti Agarwal

- Ocular Trauma Score (OTS): A valide tool as a prognostic indicator in Pediatric Traumatic Cataract

Dr. Sahithya

- A Rare Case Series of High Myopia in full term infants (Eposter)

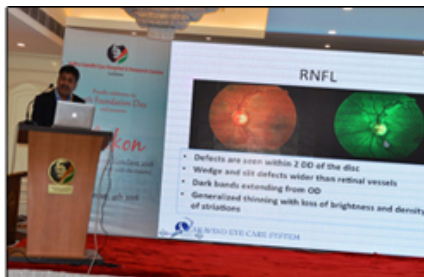
Dr. Kruti Shah

- Received the Prof.Yogesh Shukla Gold Medal for E-poster Outcomes of surgical management of traumatic bilateral Superior oblique palsy (Eposter)

**Glukon, the Glaucoma Konclave 2016**

Organised by Indira Gandhi Eye Hospital and Research Centre

Lucknow, December 4

**Dr. R. Venkatesh**

- ONH Evaluation made Easy
- Trabeculectomy Bleb Modulation; End of Surgery Beginning of Intervention

**Sadguru Conclave 2016**

Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh, December 7-8



Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award and subsequently, she delivered a talk titled Journey 1990-2016.

- Visual Rehabilitation of children after cataract surgery
- Rehabilitation for children with visual impairment – convenor
- Management of Strabismus in High

Myopia

**7th Annual Conference of the Bangladesh Glaucoma Society**

Dhaka, Bangladesh, December 15



Dr.Ganesh V Raman was the invited speaker for glaucoma session.

**Vision 2020 Roundtable Meet**

Delhi, December 8

Mr.R.D.Thulasiraj participated in the meet held in Delhi.

**LAICO HAPPENINGS**

Partnership to Work on Chinese Eye Hospital Alliance (CEHA) Project

Aravind –Madurai, December 11-14



A senior delegation responsible for running a large scale programme on hospital capacity building for the private hospitals at 2nd tier cities and counties in China visited Aravind in the second week of December. The purpose of the visit was to investigate the best way to work with Aravind and Aurolab. The team included Prof Mingguang He - Zhongshan Ophthalmic Centre, Sun - Yat Sen University; Mr.Ning He - Director -Yangjiang Guangming Eye Hospital;

Mr.Yiming Qu - Director - Guangzhou Healgoo Interactive Medical Technology Ltd Co and Ms. Qiuxia Yin, Senior Assistant - Zhongshan Ophthalmic Centre, Sun - Yat Sen University. They met with the senior leaders of Aravind and discussed the possibilities of future collaboration.



Needs Assessment Visits

December

- Alakh Nayan Mandir Eye Institute, Udaipur, December 11- 12: Dr. Rodney John, Mr. Syed Ali
- Jharkhand Eye Hospital, Ranchi, December 13-15: Dr. Ashok Vardhan, Ms. Sunytha, Ms. Sashipriya
- Jamshedpur Eye Hospital, December 15-15: Dr. Ashok Vardhan, Mr. Syed Ali



ARAVIND MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Amrf – Dartmouth Education and Research Conference

Madurai, December 2-3



Aravind Medical Research Foundation conducted the two day conference which was initiated by the interaction between Dr.N.Venkatesh Prajna and Dr.Michael E. Zegans, Section Chief Ophthalmology and Professor of Surgery, Dartmouth College and Medical Center, Hanover, USA. Students from Dartmouth presented research proposals on various eye diseases to clinicians, scientists and research scholars. The presentations were highly appreciated by the invited experts including Dr.R.D.Ravindran, Dr.N.Venkatesh Prajna, Dr.S.R.Rathinam, Dr.Usha Kim, Dr.S.Lalitha Prajna, Dr.Haripriya Aravind and Dr.Mahesh Kumar. Research work at AMRF was presented as lectures by scientists and posters by research

scholars. The details of the core research facilities and on-going research projects were presented and demonstrated to Dartmouth team during the lab visits. The conference was organized by Prof.K.Dharmalingam, Director-Research, and coordinated by Dr.D.Bharanidharan, Scientist-Bioinformatics, AMRF and Ms.Dawn E. Carey, Partner Relationship Manager, The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice.



Workshop on Basics of Tissue Culture

AMRF, December 26-30



The five day workshop was organized at Aravind Medical Research Foundation, sponsored by Department of Biotechnology, New Delhi. Dr.P.Namperumalsamy, President – AMRF inaugurated the workshop and Prof.K.Dharmalingam – Director Research gave an introduction to the research activities at AMRF. The manual for the workshop was released by Er.G.Srinivasan, Director-Finance, AECS and the first copy was received by Prof.K.Dharmalingam. A total of 20 participants were selected for the workshop which included 6 post graduate students, 12 research scholars and 6 faculty from nearby colleges/universities including The American College, Lady Doak College, Thiagarajar College, Kongunad College of Arts and Science, Kamaraj College of Engineering and Technology, Mepco Schlenk Engineering College, Bannari Amman Institute of Technology, Madurai Kamaraj University, Bharathidasan University and Anna University (Trichy). The workshop included lectures delivered by AMRF faculty – Prof.VR.Muthukkaruppan, Dr.P.Sundaresan, Dr.C.Gowri Priya, Dr.S.Senthilkumari, Dr.A.Vanniarajan, Dr.M.Vidharani and Dr.O.G.Ramprasad. The laboratory sessions included - basic infrastructure of tissue culture room, sterility, media preparation, cell culture – adherent/suspension, cell count and cell viability, cell line – revival, freezing, cell proliferation assay and mycoplasma testing. Certificates for the participants were distributed by Prof.VR.Muthukkaruppan.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Enrolments for December 2016 at Aravind Eye Care System		
Course title	Training Centre	Enrolments for December 2016
Long Term Fellowship Programmes - For Ophthalmologists		
Comprehensive Ophthalmology	Theni	1
Cornea	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	1
General Ophthalmology	Madurai	1
Orbit & Oculoplasty	Coimbatore	2
Retina - Vitreous	Coimbatore	3
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists		
Clinical Observership Program In Diagnosis and Management Of	Madurai	1

Glaucoma	Coimbatore	1
	Tirunelveli	1
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Madurai	2
	Coimbatore	2
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity and Paediatric Retinal Disorders	Coimbatore	1
	Madurai	1
Phacoemulsification	Coimbatore	1
	Tirunelveli	1
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Madurai	2
Instrument Maintenance Course		
Instrument Maintenance - For Technicians	Madurai	4



PUBLICATIONS

- Priya S, Nirmala Devy, Vengatesh R. **Extensively Disseminated Tuberculosis in an Immuno Competent Young Women Presenting as Isolated Optic Neuritis.** Annals Clinical Case Reports. 2016;1:1153.
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- Taylor KE, Wong Q, Levine DM, McHugh C, Laurie C, Doheny K, Lam MY, Baer AN, Challacombe S, Lanfranchi H, Schiødt M, Srinivasan M, Umehara H, Vivino FB, Zhao Y, Shiboski S, Daniels TE, Greenspan JS, Shiboski CH, Criswell LA. **Genome-Wide Association Analysis Reveals Genetic Heterogeneity of Sjögren's Syndrome According to Ancestry.** Arthritis Rheumatol. 2017 Jan 11. doi: 10.1002/art.40040. [Epub]
[Article View](#)



AUROLAB NEWS

Guest Lecture on Cardiac Diseases

Aurolab, December 21

As part of employee welfare activity, Aurolab organised a guest lecture on cardiac diseases by Dr. Balamurugan from Vivekananda Hospital. He mentioned in detail the ways to prevent cardiac problems and how to lead a healthy life.



Silver Jubilee Celebrations

Aurolab, December 18



As a part of Silver Jubilee Celebrations, Aurolab arranged a family meet of the senior employees on December 18. Tour of the facility, Aurofarm and Nithyatha was arranged as part of the programme. To many, it was the first time, they got an opportunity to visit the Aurolab premises. A photo gallery displaying the various milestones and developments at Aurolab was organised in Nithyatha. Game shows were organized to entertain the children. Mr.R.D.Sriram-Joint Managing Director gave an inspiring speech to the audience.

Alumni meet was organised on December 24 to acknowledge the contribution and dedication of the alumni staff. R.D.Sriram welcomed the gathering. Mr.Sivanand gave a presentation on the milestones of the last 10 years. Tour of the facility was arranged. Mr.Krishnakumar gave presented about the genesis and development of Aurolab. The participants also shared their great memories of working in Aurolab. Mr.Venkatesh gave a vote of thanks.



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

December - 2016

Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumalpet	Tuticorin	RS Puram	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS												
Paying (New & Review)	50,636	7,929	28,642	33,539	25,091	6,221	3,759	11,518	2,687	4,944	2,858	1,77,824
Free:Direct walk-in (New & Review)	12,704	1,627	6,194	9,747	6,795	NA	501	1,085	973	706	NA	40,332
OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS												
Comprehensive	9,388	1,810	3,754	6,493	5,858	NA	NA	2,044	NA	NA	NA	29,347

Eye Camps

Diabetic Retinopathy camps	946	NA	NA	749	856	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,551
Refraction Camps	NA	441	1,199	256	220	NA	NA	163	NA	NA	NA	2,279
Mobile Refraction Unit	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
School Screening camps	NA	NA	NA	168	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	168
Paediatric Camps	NA	203	NA	170	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	373
Vision Centres	17,733	5,072	9,906	3,485	5,081	NA	938	NA	1128	NA	NA	43,343
Community Centres / City Centres	8,956	1,928	2,671	NA	2,549	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	16,104
Total OP Examinations	1,00,363	19,010	52,366	54,607	46,450	6,221	5,198	14,810	4,788	5,650	2,858	3,12,321
Total Number of Camps	43	12	22	35	24	NA	NA	14	NA	NA	NA	150

SURGERIES

Service Proportion of Cataract Surgeries

Paying	2,887	340	1,186	1,402	811	274	131	616	85	150	90	7,972
Free (Direct)	1,896	242	706	1,298	650	NA	77	155	131	63	NA	5,218
Camp	2,303	325	658	1,594	1,231	NA	15	408	4	NA	NA	6,538
Total Cataract Surgeries	7,086	907	2,550	4,294	2,692	274	223	1,179	220	213	90	19,728

Note: NA - Not Applicable



A R A V I N D E Y E C A R E S Y S T E M

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