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Aravind News Team Archives

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Quote

Crave for a thing, you will get it. Renounce the craving, the object will follow you by itself..
- Swami Sivananda

Editorial

Every year Aravind hosts a series of visitors ranging from CEOs of various organizations and management professionals to students and volunteers who come here to learn and share best practices. For the fifth consecutive year, the Jagriti Yatri team comprising around 500 young entrepreneurs visited Aravind to gain firsthand knowledge of the different aspects of the operations here. It is truly a matter of pride and joy that Aravind found its place among the just 12 destinations covered by the Yatris across India.

As a follow up to the [Hilton Cataract Initiative](#), needs assessment visits were made to various hospitals in Kenya, Zambia, Nigeria and Ethiopia in Africa. The project aims to enhancing cataract surgical rates to the desired levels in selected areas of Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) by 2016 with a focus on efficiency, quality and reaching the poor.

With Aravind – Madurai as the base hospital, a new vision centre was opened at Oddanchatram. This is Aravind's 44th centre to cater to the eye care needs of the rural Madurai.

Aravind as well as Aurolab celebrated the joy of the season with elaborate programmes and welcomed the New Year with special meditation.

News about these events and many more feature in this issue.



Aravind News Team

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Best Employee Award by the Government of Tamil Nadu

Chennai, December 5



As part of International Disabled Day celebrations, Ministry of Social Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu honoured individuals with disability rendering exceptional service.

Mr. S. Poornachandran, Instruments Maintenance Department, Aravind – Madurai was awarded the Best Employee Award at a function held at Anna University, Chennai in December 2013. Mrs. Valarmati, Honorable Minister for Social Welfare presented the award to Poornachandran.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Jagriti Yatris Visit Aravind

Aravind – Madurai, December 26



Aravind – Madurai has always been a favourite spot of Jagriti yatri and this is the fifth year in a row that Aravind hosts them. This group of around 450 young entrepreneurs had ben to Aravind – Madurai in the last week of December to get a firsthand knowledge about the organization and its core principles.

Dr. S. Aravind provided valuable insights to the audience and shared his wide and varied experiences.



NEWS AND EVENTS

International Disabled Day Celebrations

Madurai, December 3



Mr. S. Poornachandran addressed the ex-students' parents meeting at YMCA Kamak School for the Blind and gave talk on Career Development of Deaf Students with the help of an interpreter.

Kanyakumari, November 30

Mr. Poornachandran attended the silver jubilee celebrations of Kanyakumari District Association of Deaf which was marked by the presence of district collector and other senior government officials and community leaders. He gave a talk on Career Development for the Deaf with the help of an interpreter.



Team from National University of Singapore Visits Aravind

Aravind – Madurai, December 6



A team from National University of Singapore visits Aravind to get an overview of the organizational model and also to explore possible collaborations between the university and the organization. The team interacted with the senior leaders of Aravind as well as Aurolab and also had a tour of the facility.



Visual Arts CPE

Aravind – Tirunelveli, December 13–15



A continuing professional education session was arranged for the audiovisual team across all the Aravind centres. Aravind – Tirunelveli hosted the. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan welcomed the audience.

Dr. Francis Roy, Consultant orthopaedician in his inaugural address stressed the importance of medical photography. The entire session was facilitated by Mike Myers and Dr. K. Rajagopal. The CPE was attended by around twenty members.



Inauguration of Renovated Central IT Department

Aravind – Madurai, December 14



The entire IT staff occupied the renovated office which was inaugurated on the second floor of LAICO building. Mr. G. Srinivasan opened the office in the presence of senior leaders of Aravind. Special pooja was performed.



Christmas Celebrations

December 18



Aravind – Madurai

Staff all gathered at the first floor of the research building to witness the elaborate Christmas celebrations. Apart from Bible reading and Christmas message, dance by the MLOPs and crèche kids added charm to the whole programme. The tiny tots of the crèche acted in the manger scene. Choir by the lady staff members and solo song by Sanil Joseph set the real feel of the season. The Christmas icon Santa Claus was received amidst good applause and he distributed sweets to the audience. Cake was also shared at the end of the celebrations.

Aravind – Tirunelveli

At Aravind-Tirunelveli the perfect evening was marked with glittering stars and sweets. All the staff members participated in the cultural activities with great enthusiasm. Programmes were staged by MLOPs and Admin Staff.



Employee Welfare Activity

Aravind – Tirunelveli



December 1

MLOPs and lady admin staff members with more than 5 years of experience were taken on a one day tour to Thiruvananthapuram. They visited Padmanabhaswamy temple, Veli, Sangumugam and Kovalam Beach.

December 22

All MLOPs and lady admin staff members with 4-5 years of experience at Aravind – Tirunelveli were taken on a tour to Kanyakumari. The team visited Valliyoor Murugan temple, Kanyakumari - Bhagavathi amman temple, Gandhi Mandabam, Kamarajar mandabam, Shirdi Sai Baba temple, Suseendram Anjaneyar temple, Thovalai Murugan temple and Esakkiammal temple.



SightFirst Seminar

Aravind – Tirunelveli, December 19



Aravind – Tirunelveli hosted the SightFirst Seminar for the office bearers of Lions Clubs. A good number of participants from various Lions Clubs of District 324 B4 attended the Seminar.



Inauguration of Oddanchatram Vision Centre

Oddanchatram, December 30



Aravind's latest vision centre was opened at Oddanchatram. Dr. S.R.Krishnadas inaugurated the centre.



CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

3rd Annual Conference of the Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine – India

NIMHANS, Bangalore, December 19-20



Dr. P. Sundaresan

- *Whole mitochondrial genome sequencing in primary open angle glaucoma using the ion torrent personal genome machine*
bibhuti ballav saikia
- *Rare primary mutations and other mitochondrial DNA variants associated with Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy (LHON).*



Symposium on Genetic Counseling and Gene testing

Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai, December 21



Dr. P. Sundaresan

- *Prenatal diagnosis for oculocutaneous albinism*
- *Primary open angle glaucoma and Leber's hereditary optic neuropathy*
mitochondrial genetics



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Onsite Visit to Kitwe Eye Hospital

Zambia, November 28–30

LAICO along with the Dana Centre in Johns Hopkins University has engaged 5 hospitals in Africa in a capacity building programme through The Hilton Cataract Initiative. As a follow up to the Vision Building and Strategic Development workshop held in October 2013, onsite visits by the respective faculty and consultants will be made to each hospital. The first in this series was the visit to Kitwe Central Hospital – Eye Annexe in Zambia. Dr R D Ravindran, Dhivya and Dr David Friedman (Dana Centre for Preventive Ophthalmology) comprised the visit team. This eye unit which is part of the



government hospital in Kitwe is the major eye care provider in the country. During the visit, the team toured the hospital, visited a district primary health centre and an outreach camp. The visit concluded with a workshop with the entire hospital team to engage them in a discussion on how to achieve the target of 6000 surgeries within three years.



Visit to Innovation Eye Centre

Kisii, Kenya, December 3-5



As part of Hilton Cataract Initiative, Aravind team consisting of Dr. Tiruvenkatakrisnan and Mr. Mohammed Gowth visited Innovation Eye Centre, Kisii, Kenya and provided necessary inputs. This was in continuation of the visit made by the same team in December 2012.



Visit to to Fitsum Berhan Speciality Eye Center

Mekelle, Ethiopia, December 14-20



As part of Hilton Cataract Initiative, Ms. Sashipriya and Dr. Mahesh Kumar visited Fitsum Berhan Speciality Eye Center, Mekelle, Ethiopia. The team toured the hospital and visited an eye camp. After holding discussions with the hospital staff, several recommendations were given on pricing strategies and in the area of human resource development.



Visit to Deseret Community Vision Institute

Ijebu, OGUN, Nigeria, December 2-5



Dr RD Ravindran, Dr David Friedman-Dana Centre for Preventive Ophthalmology, Johns Hopkins University and Mr BS Ganesh Babu visited Deseret Community Vision Institute, Ijebu, OGUN, Nigeria as part of the Hilton Cataract Initiative assignment as a follow-up of the workshop conducted at LAICO in October. The visit focused to review the status of the strategies and actions plan developed during the workshop in October and customize those to address specific challenges. It also aimed to involve the larger team in the process and to sensitize the staff and management about the importance of the project. Staff was involved in various discussions for generating ideas for improving operations. The

Aravind team evaluated the hospital's outreach activities and helped develop a detailed outreach plan. Certain policy level decisions were discussed with Dr. Kunle Hassan, Director of the Deseret Community Vision Institute and Eye Foundation.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Course title	Training Centre	Total Number Trained as on December 2013	Enrollments for January 2014
Long term Fellowship Programmes for Ophthalmologists			
Fellowship in Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery	Madurai	132	1
	Tirunelveli	23	0
	Coimbatore	31	0
	Pondicherry	16	0
Fellowship in Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	Madurai	74	1
	Tirunelveli	20	0
	Coimbatore	31	0
	Pondicherry	7	0
Fellowship in Retina Vitreous	Madurai	137	3
	Tirunelveli	7	1
	Coimbatore	44	0
	Pondicherry	15	1
Fellowship in General Ophthalmology	Madurai	16	1
	Tirunelveli	8	0
	Theni	1	0
	Salem	0	1
	Pondicherry	17	0
Fellowship in Comprehensive Ophthalmology	Theni	15	0
	Salem	0	1
Fellowship in Orbit & Oculoplasty	Madurai	48	1
	Tirunelveli	3	0
Short Term Fellowship - For International Candidates			
Short term Fellowship in Orbit & Oculoplasty	Madurai	12	1
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists			
Short term training in Vitrectomy	Madurai	20	1
	Coimbatore	10	0
ECCE IOL Microsurgery	Madurai	718	0
	Tirunelveli	281	0
	Coimbatore	222	0
	Pondicherry	15	0
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Madurai	188	1
	Tirunelveli	123	1
	Coimbatore	150	1
	Pondicherry	34	1
Phacomulsification	Madurai	176	1
	Tirunelveli	93	0
	Coimbatore	131	1
	Pondicherry	33	0
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Madurai	289	0
	Coimbatore	288	1
	Pondicherry	9	0
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity & Pediatric Retinal Disorders	Coimbatore	20	1

Fundus Angiography and Ultrasonography	Madurai	48	1
Training for Orthoptist	Madurai	41	2
Management Courses			
Management Priorities in Eye Care Delivery	LAICO	286	-



PUBLICATIONS

- **ASIA-PAC J OPHTHALMOL VOL: 2(6) 2013 NOV.-DEC. p.362-364**

Taraprasad Das; Ravindran, R D; Sriram, R D; Venkatesh Kannan
- *The endophthalmitis kit* [Article View](#)

- **OPHTHALMIC GENET.2013 DEC 30. [E-Pub]**

Parag, K Shah; Narendran, V; Kalpana, Narendran

- Outcomes of intra - and extraocular retinoblastomas from a single institute in south India [Article View](#)



AUROLAB NEWS

Supervisor Skill Development Training in Aurolab

Aurolab, December 7



The training programme was organized in Aurolab for all the supervisors. Mr.Chinnamaruthu – CEO of Optima Human Capital Services handled the session. The programme was conducted in five sessions. The following topics were covered in each session like Communication Skill, Listening Skill, Telephone Ettiquette, Team work, Attitude. Motivational videos and games were conducted in between the sessions. The participants felt the session highly informative and useful to their career.



Motivational Session for Production Staff in Aurolab

Aurolab, December 25



A motivation class was organized for the senior production staff at Aurolab. The session was handled by Mr.Chinnamaruthu - Trainer, Optima Human Capital Services. In his session, he handled the importance of good communication skill, self confidence, attitude, teamwork etc. The participants felt the training programme very useful and highly informative.



Christmas Celebrations

Aurolab, December 21

The function began with carol songs by the choir. A skit about Jesus was staged by the staff members. The production staff amused the audience with a wonderful song. Following which the priest shared the message for the season. Santa clause distributed the sweets to all the staff members.



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

Aravind Eye Hospitals - December - 2013

Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumalpet	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS										
Paying (New & Review)	46,635	6,746	22,270	30,948	21,581	5,161	3,439	9,073	2,198	1,48,051
Free (Direct walk-in)	12,331	1,633	5,596	9,566	6,206	4	320	-	715	36,371
Total OP Examinations	58,966	8,379	27,866	40,514	27,787	5,165	3,759	9,073	2,913	1,84,422
SURGERIES										
Paying	2,823	359	944	1,364	881	181	89	457	87	7,185
Free (Direct)	1,854	178	589	1,305	536	-	48	-	50	4,560
Camp	2,741	232	630	1,458	782	-	63	181	39	6,126
Total Surgeries	7,418	769	2,163	4,127	2,199	181	200	638	176	17,871

Outreach Statistics - November - 2013

OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS										
Regular Eye Camps	6,396	1,762	3,049	6,702	3,583	-	101	359	-	21,952
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	288	465	530	1,276	529	-	-	-	-	3,088
Refraction Camps	804	328	510	297	-	-	-	-	-	1,939
Mobile Refraction Unit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
School Screening camps	965	122	507	12,900	3,262	-	-	222	-	17,978
Paediatric Camps	-	52	173	372	526	-	-	-	-	1,123
Vision Centres	11,427	4,369	5,163	3,361	2,583	-	-	-	-	26,903

Community Eye Clinics	3,438	1,676	1,874	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,988
Total	23,318	8,774	11,806	24,908	10,483	-	101	581	-	79,971



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

Admin