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Quote

"Every decision we make, every step we take, must be informed by our commitment to living a life that is true and honest and authentic to ourselves and ourselves alone".

Robin Sharma

October as always was a busy month at Aravind. A series of programmes - mainly deliberations which would have a great impact on effective delivery of eye care delivery - were organized to commemorate the birth anniversary of our founder, Dr.G.Venkataswamy, the highlight being the conferring of Dr.G.Venkataswamy Endowment Award on Prof Allen Foster. Various other workshops were also organized as part of October Summit.

Homecoming is always a special experience filled with pleasant memories and nostalgic experiences. Roots - the first ever Alumni Meet in the four decade history of Aravind was conducted as part of this year's October Summit. It was truly a cherishing moment listening to the participants going down the memory lane and sharing their experiences.

Aravind has been a part of the project, *Madura – A Musical Discovery of Madurai* that celebrates and promotes the culture and heritage of Madurai. The first song in this project was released at a special function hosted by Aravind which was well-attended by various prominent personalities.

Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank was selected as the Best Eye Bank in the country. The fact that Aravind was selected from among the hundred eye banks in the country makes this a truly great achievement - one that the organization can be proud of.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

GSI Silver Jubilee Honour Award

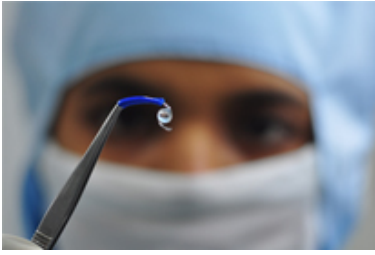
Mumbai, October 3



Glaucoma Society of India honoured Dr.R.Ramakrishnan with Silver Jubilee Honour award in recognition of his sustained efforts toward enhancing the science and practice of Glaucoma in India. Dr.Tin Aung, Singapore National Eye Centre presented the award at the annual conference of Glaucoma society of India held at Mumbai.

IAPB Recognition for Mr. Rajkumar

Aravind – Madurai



Mr. Raj Kumar, Photographer, Aravind – Madurai was declared a runner-up, Professional category in IAPB's Eye Care For All Photo competition. The IOL picture that he took brought him this recognition.



Best Eye Bank Award

New Delhi, October 10



Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank received the award for the best eye bank in the country by the Eye Bank Association of India. Dr. M. Srinivasan received the award.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Prof Allen Foster Honoured with Dr.G.V Endowment Award

Madurai, October 1



Aravind Eye Care honoured Prof Allen Foster, Co-Director of the International Centre for Eye Health as well as the International Centre for Evidence in Disability, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine at a spectacular ceremony held at Dr. G. Venkataswamy Eye Research Institute on October 1. Dr. R. D. Ravindram welcomed the audience and Mr. R. D. Thulasiraj introduced the awardee. Mr. G. Srinivasan, President - GOVEL Trust presented the Dr. G. Venkataswamy Endowment Award to Prof Allen. Dr. P. Namperumalsamy presented the citation. Prof Allen delivered the oration titled Leadership: Relevance to Eye Health.

Prof Allen chairs the Commonwealth Eye Health Consortium Steering Group and is a member of Standard Chartered Bank Eye Innovation Fund Advisory Board. He is a renowned name in the realm of global eye care for more than thirty years. His contributions mainly focused on prevention and treatment of blindness and providing easy access to health services for persons with disabilities. He was deeply involved in eye care projects in Asia, Africa and Latin

America. Allen helped develop training courses in Community Eye Health, in developing countries. His areas of interest include research and education to improve eye care and also healthcare for persons with disabilities, with a focus on low-income countries. The award has been given in recognition of his commitment and outstanding contribution to eye care in the developing world.

Instituted since 2009 in memory of Dr.G.Venkataswamy, Founder Chairman, Aravind Eye Hospitals, the award recognises outstanding professionals in ophthalmology and vision sciences who have taken humanity a step forward towards the goal of elimination of needless blindness in the community. The award is being given every year on October 1, the birth anniversary of Dr.Venkataswamy.



Aravind Alumni Meet

Aravind – Madurai, October 17-18



As a first of its kind initiative in the four decade history of Aravind, the meet was organised as part of the annual October Summit. Ophthalmologists who were associated with Aravind in the past came together, interacted with each other and shared their good old memories. Close to 100 alumni attended the programme which was filled with fun and leisure.



NEWS AND EVENTS

Inauguration of Renovated Uvea Clinic

Aravind – Madurai, October 1



Uvea Clinic at Aravind – Madurai was renovated with bigger space for the comfort of patients and the new inaugurated area was inaugurated by Dr. P. Namperumalsamy in the presence of Aravind's senior leaders.



Vision Day

Aravind, October 1



In order to commemorate Dr.V's birthday, special prayer meetings were organized. Elaborate flower arrangement was made in the meditation room. Staff paid homage to the Chief by observing a moment of silence. Various competitions were also arranged in some centres.



Association of Vision Science Librarians (AVSL) Fall Meeting/Exposure Visit

USA, October 6-9



Ms.Kumaragurupari, Senior Librarian, Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai participated in the AVSL meeting and gave presentation on Aravind libraries. She got an opportunity to discuss the title changes of journals, AVSL website and Openday list update. She visited the UCB Optometry Library and eye clinic, the Marian Koshland Bioscience and the Natural Resources Library at UCB, the South East Asia Library and the Sheldon Margen Public Health Library, UCB. She interacted with Ms. Deborah, head librarian of the public health library who gave her a demo of GIDEN (Global Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology Online Network).

Ms.Kumaragurupari visited the John Hopkins University Medical Centre where she went on a tour of the facility. She spent her time at the Welch Medical Library, and the Wilmer Eye Institute and the Research institute as well as at The Friedenwold Romano Library. She learnt about the Rework and Web of Science Databases. At the National Health Institute, she got an understanding of the IT working. She discussed bibliometrics with Mr.Chris Belter and Ms.Ya-Ling lu. She also attended Diane Cooper's lecture on Evidence based medicine patient care at the NIHL Library hall. She discussed impact analysis, writing papers etc with her. Cindy Clark gave a presentation about writing centre, editing program through web.

Kumaragurupari went on a tour of NLM, and knew more about the book preservation of ancient books. She also had a tour of PubMed indexing area and video demo with Mary Ann and she explained about 3D anatomical video collection. She held discussions with PubMed trainers, Peter Siebert and Sarah Helson.

Ms.Kumaragurupari gave a speech about the Challenges and opportunities of accessing resources at the NIH/GHIG

pre symposium workshop. She also visited the Howard Medical School. Librarian Ms.Young Joo Lee took her on a tour of the Howard Health Science library. Kumaragurupari also visited the Seva office.



Sight First Seminar

Aravind – Pondicherry, October 11



Lions Clubs International District 324 A3 organised SIGHT FIRST Seminar under the co-ordination of District Chairperson-Sight First Lion MJF M.Kamalkishore Jain. Nearly 250 members participated in the function. The participants were briefed on various common eye diseases. District Governor Lion MJF R.Mouraly inaugurated the function. Lion PMJF Dr.M.Venkata subbu, PDG was the chief guest. Dr.K.Tiruvengadakrishnan, Chief - Cornea Services and camp personnel handled the technical sessions. Dr.A.Lakshmi Dattai, Asst. Professor, Pondicherry University, Community College was the guest speaker. Various senior Lions officials also addressed the audience. Special honour was given to District Chairman - Eye Donation Lion A.Kasi Viswanathan and the District Chairman - Eye camps, Lion MJF P.Rajaraman.



Navaratri Celebrations

Aravind October 13-20



Staff across Aravind centres celebrated Navaratri with unique programmes. Special kolu was displayed and prayer meetings were arranged. Saraswathi pooja was performed and holy prasadam was distributed. Special bhajans were sung. There were talks by eminent persons on spiritual topics and the importance of Navaratri festival.



Launch of Madura - A Musical Discovery of Madurai

LAICO, October 14

Aravind – Madurai launched the project with the release of the first song in the series, "Enga Madura". The project is supported by senior members of Aravind as well as eminent personalities in Madurai and aims to explore the rich tradition and heritage of this ancient city. Mr.Karumuttu Kannan, Managing Director of Thiagarajar Engineering College released the CD presenting it to Dr.R.D.Ravindran. The song was sung by Mr.Sanil Joseph.



Mr.Rajagovindasamy, Director – Mannar Thirumalai Naicker College and Mr.Lalji Vora, Director – Milan Textile Enterprises, both supporters of the project offered felicitations. There was an overwhelming response to the function as people from different walks of life gathered at LAICO. There was also a live performance of unplugged version of various soothing melodies.



Students from Sarah Tucker College Visit Aravind

Aravind – Tirunelveli, October 14



Forty six students from Sarah Tucker College, Palayamkottai visited Aravind to learn about Laser, OCT and FFA. The students were divided into batches and were taken on a tour of the hospital and observed the procedures of OCT, FFA, ECG recording, measuring blood pressure and blood test.



15th Annual Meeting of the Uveitis Society of India

Pondicherry, October 23- 25



Aravind - Pondicherry hosted the meeting which was attended by 189 delegates including 39 faculty. Dr.M.B.Manohar Babu, Aravind - Salem was elected President of the Uveitis Society of India.



Sponsors Day Celebrations

Aravind – Theni, October 25



To recognize the services of the camp sponsors, sponsors day was celebrated at Aravind - Theni. A total of 80 sponsors attended the function with great enthusiasm. Dr.Datta, Chief Medical Officer welcomed the audience. Mr.R.Meenakshi Sundaram Senior Manager - Outreach spoke on the objective of Sponsors Day. Dr.Purushotham, Camp Medical Officer, made a presentation on Achievements through outreach.

Dr.P.Namperumalsamy Chairman Emeritus spoke on the role of Aravind in eliminating needless blindness in which he highlighted the importance of community partnership and the role of sponsors in supporting this mission with an inspiring video. Ln.Dr.Ganesan, Lions Club of Sivakasi Cracker city gave an awareness talk on the eye donation. Ln.S.Ramasubbu MJF District Governor 324 - B3 and Dr.G.Natchiar offered felicitations.

Chief guest, Ln.NAK.Gopalakrishna Raja Grant Administrator of LAICO shared his journey with Aravind and memories of working with the Dr.G.Venkataswamy. A few of the sponsors shared their views and gave some suggestions regarding the overall conduct of camps. Mr.Jeyaraj, Camp Manager delivered a vote of thanks.



Nursing Students Visit Aravind

Aravind – Tirunelveli, October 8

Thirty six nursing students from St Ann's College of Nursing, Tuticorin visited the hospital to learn about eye donation and eye banking. An orientation about the institution was given and the students were taken on hospital tour. Dr.V.Anita, Chief of Cornea Clinic spoke about eye donation, emphasized its importance. The team also visited the eye bank.



CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

Euretina-2015

Nice, France, September 15- 22

Dr.Kim

- Diabetic vitrectomies: Current practices

Dr.Naresh Babu

- 2cc 100% sulfur hexafluoride as tamponading agent following primary vitrectomy for retinal detachment surgery



Annual Conference of Glaucoma Society of India

Mumbai, October 2-4



Dr.R.Ramakrishnan

- Optimizing anti glaucoma surgery
 - Surgical considerations for Angle closure disease
- He was also the judge for free paper session.

Dr.Mohideen

- Detection of progression in a case of POAG would indicate change of treatment



Workshop on Competency Based Assessment

New Delhi, October 2-3



Dr.Meenakshi and Ms.Ayirathammal attended the workshop organized by ORBIS at New Delhi.



Driving Innovation in Healthcare Delivery

London Business School, October 20



Mr.R.D.Thulasiraj and Dr.R.Venkatesh shared their inputs as panelist at the conference organized by London Business School.



Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Eye Bank Association of India

National CME on Eye Banking

Delhi, October 9-11



Dr.M.Srinivasan

- Transplanting corneas from donors who died due to consuming poison

Mr.Saravanan

- Eye Donation Nodal Center Project (EDNC)



Genetics Group Meeting and Workshop on Formulation of National Action Plan for Low Vision and Rehabilitation Services

New Delhi, September 26-27

Dr.P.Sundaresan attended the meeting organized by Dr.R.P.Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.



LAICO HAPPENINGS

October Summit 2015

Leveraging Vision Centres for Universal Eye Health and Strengthening Tertiary Care

Aravind – Madurai, October 1-2



This two day consultation aimed brought together eye care providers and experts to share experiences, deliberate on strategies and approaches in order to leverage Vision Centres to achieve universal eye health in large scale across communities. Dr.Usha Kim welcomed the audience. Dr.Pararajasegaram, Former WHO consultant delivered the inaugural address. Mr.R.D.Thulasiraj set the context for the workshop. Around 60 participants from eye care institutions and INGOs.



Managing Network of Eye Care Facilities

LAICO, 03 - 04



A key strategy adopted by several organisations either to achieve their goal or to create better access is to expand their services geographically by adding more facilities. Such geographic expansion extends the services to a wider community and redefines their service area as well; it also can bring in a positive momentum within the organisation such that it continues to reinvent itself to address the growth challenges. Such organic expansion starts throwing up several challenges, more so as the number of facilities in the network increases. This consultation mainly aimed to gain better clarity on structures, systems and policies that should be in place to effectively manage network of eye care facilities that really enables organisations to consolidate and grow further. Mr.R.D.Thulasiraj set the context for the workshop and Dr.Gullapalli N Rao delivered the inaugural address. More than forty participants attended.



Insights into Employee Engagement

LAICO, October 10-11



The internal workshop focused on the aspect which makes Aravind more special i.e. 'People' who work here. It focused on employee engagement, employee empowerment, communication and connection through sharing of real stories from Aravind. Prof Biju Varkkey and Dr.Rajesh Chandwani from IIM - Ahmedabad, Mr.Masood, Head, Aerostructures Programme Management, Tata Enterprises were the guest faculty. Mr.Larry Hulbert facilitated the entire workshop. More than fifty participants from across the Aravind centres participated.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Enrollments for October 2015 at Aravind Eye Care System		
Course title	Training Centre	Enrollments for September 2015
Residency Programmes		
Post DO DNB	Tirunelveli	4
	Theni	2
Long Term Fellowship Programmes - For Ophthalmologists		
Cornea	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	1
	Pondicherry	1
General Ophthalmology	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	3
	Salem	1
Orbit & Oculoplasty	Pondicherry	1
Anterior Segment & Intraocular Lens Surgery	Tirunelveli	1
Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	Coimbatore	1
Glaucoma	Madurai	1
	Pondicherry	1
Short Term Fellowship - For Ophthalmologists		
Short term fellowship in Glaucoma	Tirunelveli	1
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists		
Diagnosis and Management of Glaucoma	Tirunelveli	1
	Madurai	1
Orientation to paediatric ocular anesthesia for anesthetist	Madurai	1
Phacoemulsification	Madurai	2
	Coimbatore	1
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Madurai	2
	Coimbatore	1
	Tirunelveli	2
	Pondicherry	2
Short Term Training in Vitrectomy (Virtual)	Coimbatore	1
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Coimbatore	2
Short Term Courses - For Paramedicals		
OT Techniques	Madurai	5
Management Courses - Non Clinical Courses		
Research Methodology	Madurai	40
Instrument Maintenance Course - Non Clinical Courses		
Instrument Maintenance Course for technicians	Madurai	5



PUBLICATIONS

- Radhakrishnan M, Venkatesh R, Vijayakumar V, Frick KD.
- *Economic and social factors that influence households not willing to undergo cataract surgery.*
Indian J Ophthalmol. 2015 Jul;63(7):594-9. [Article View](#)
- Trivedi BP, Meenakshi R, Pawar N, Ramakrishnan R, Shelke V.
Iron deficiency anemia presenting with macular star.
J AAPOS. 2015 Oct;19(5):486-7. [Article View](#)
- Haripriya A, Chang DF, Namburur S, Smita A, Ravindran RD.
Efficacy of Intracameral Moxifloxacin Endophthalmitis Prophylaxis at Aravind Eye Hospital.
Ophthalmology. 2015 Oct 30. [Epub] [Article View](#)



AUROLAB NEWS

Navarathri Celebrations in Aurolab

Aurolab, October 16



At the Navarathri celebration held at Nithyatha, kolu dolls were displayed. Staff and children performed special dance. Production staff, Ms.Dhanalakshmi narrated the importance of Navarathiri. Special pooja was performed and holy prasadam was distributed to all the participants.



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

October - 2015

Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumalpet	Tuticorin	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS											
Paying (New & Review)	51,511	7,085	25,964	33,618	24,909	5,577	2,122	9,971	2,528	4620	1,67,935
Free (Direct walk-in)	13,646	1,896	6,681	10,158	7,854	14	NA	617	6,904	813	48,583
OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS											
Regular Eye Camps	7,333	2,248	4,497	6,675	5,548	NA	NA	641	NA	177	27,119
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	982	65	375	688	621	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,731
Refraction Camps	2,098	609	949	NA	354	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4,010

Mobile Refraction Unit	NA	NA	NA	5,503	NA	NA	NA	303	NA	NA	5,806
School Screening camps	826	224	407	NA	2,723	NA	NA	3,050	NA	NA	6,746
Paediatric Camps	NA	245	NA	NA	128	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	373
Vision Centres	14,223	4,782	7,899	2,990	4,193	NA	NA	NA	1,063	NA	20,927
Community Eye Clinics	3,773	1,776	2,384	NA	NA	NA	891	NA	NA	NA	8,940
Total OP Examinations	99,268	18,930	49,156	59,632	46,330	5,591	3,013	14,582	10,495	5,640	2,87,667

SURGERIES

Paying	3,178	315	1,524	1,483	1,255	164	215	469	119	148	8,659
Free (Direct)	2,795	201	914	1,290	978	79	NA	93	174	65	5,910
Camp	3,051	276	807	1,568	1,139	NA	NA	159	15	22	6,269
Total Surgeries	9,024	792	3,245	4341	3,372	243	215	721	308	235	20,838

Note: NA - Not Applicable



ARAVIND EYE CARE SYSTEM

Admin