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## Quote

"When you give roses to others, the perfume is bound to linger on your hands!"

– Baba Amte

*Dear Readers,*

A new direction to set up secondary eye care centres in potential towns of Tamilnadu was initiated with the inauguration of the first of its kind at Dindigul followed by the next one at Tirupur. The outpatient visits in both the centres crossed 100 on the first day of operation, thereby proving this to be a timely initiative.

AEH – Theni, the first satellite hospital of Aravind celebrated its silver jubilee with a variety of programmes, the highlight being a week-long awareness exhibition on eye care. The celebrations were concluded with a grand function which was attended by community leaders, well-wishers and the public.

It was a period of infrastructural developmental activities as the MLOP training division at Aravind-Madurai moved to a new setting in the LAICO building. The house warming of the new IP building was also performed.

The winner of Dr. B.C. Roy National Award in the category of "Eminent Medical Teacher" (2006), Dr. P.Namperumalsamy added yet another feather to his cap by receiving the Teacher of Teachers Award from L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad.

As in every year it was a busy month for LAICO, hosting the various workshops in the grand annual event, October Summit. Unlike the previous years, LAICO was adorned gorgeously with traditional decorations to welcome the delegates.

Finally, this issue presents before you an interesting case of eye donation, which provides you ample stuff to meditate.

We wish all our readers happy reading.

*Aravind News Team*

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

### Teacher of Teachers Award for Dr. P. Namperumalsamy

Hyderabad, September 24



At the popular Eye-PEP (Postgraduate Education Program) held at LVPEI, the Eye-PEP Icon and Teacher of Teachers award was presented to Dr P Namperumalsamy, Chairman Emeritus, Aravind Eye Care System, who encouraged the students to dream big and work hard to achieve their goals. He was presented the Golden Apple by Dr Gullapalli N Rao, Chair, LVPEI. [Watch Video](#)



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Aravind's first Secondary Eye Care Centre at Dindigul

Dindigul, September 22



Aravind's new eye care centre at Dindigul was inaugurated on September 22 by Thiru. M. Vallalar, IAS, District Collector, Dindigul. Thiru. Shailesh Kumar Yadav, IPS, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Dindigul range was the guest of honour. All the senior leaders of Aravind were present at the function.

The growing eye care needs of the people of Dindigul which was till now met by Aravind – Madurai necessitated the opening of this new facility. The hospital complex including the residential facility sprawls an area of about 9500 sq.ft and has a bed capacity of 10. The centre has state – of – the –art operation theatre which can handle about 15 surgeries a day. Services available include refractive error, cataract and PCO (YAG Laser procedures) and glaucoma. Steps are underway to provide diabetic retinopathy services from November 2010.



### House Warming Ceremony of the New Inpatient Building

Aravind – Madurai, October 11



The ceremony was performed at the auspicious time from 6.00 – 7.30 am. All the senior members of Aravind attended the function. House warming poojas were done by Dr. M. Srinivasan and Dr.P. Vijayalakshmi on behalf of the organizations.



### Innovative Low Cost Fundus Camera for Aravind

Aravind – Madurai, October 14



Aravind Eye Hospital has been donated a new low cost fundus camera, 3Nethra developed by Forus Health Pvt, Ltd, Bangalore. At a function held on October 14, 3Nethra was received by Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, Chairman Emeritus, AECS in the presence of Dr. R.D.Ravindran, Chairman, Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj, Executive Director and Dr. S. Aravind, Administrator. Forus has launched the same in Bangalore on October 1, the birthday of Dr. G. Venkataswamy, Founder Chairman, AECS as a noble tribute to him who was the sole inspiration behind the development of this product.

In spite of the fact that 80% of blindness can be prevented or cured 12 million people are still in dark in India. The reasons can be attributed to the lax in routine eye check up and the disproportionate doctor - patient ratio. Forus intends to tackle these two problems with this intelligent pre-screening Ophthalmology device, 3Nethra. Forus provides a complete eye-care solution to help eradicate needless blindness by developing this all-in -one eye screening device. Aravind too, joined hands with Forus in the initial stages of developing this device.

3Nethra will be strategically placed in locations such as general hospitals, diagnostic centers, diabetes care centers, optical shops, kiosks, railway stations, malls and other such crowded place where people will be tempted to take eye

tests. 3Nethra will identify symptoms of common eye diseases automatically and a printed report will be generated. If there are any symptoms, people will take it seriously and visit an eye hospital for further investigation. This way, 3Nethra will screen people who otherwise would not have tested their eye and funnel those who need eye care into the hospital. More people will visit eye hospital and ophthalmologist's time will be optimally spent on patients who really need help.



### Elephant receives treatment from Aravind

Aravind – Tirunelveli



An elephant named Valli theivanai belonging to Tiruchendur temple was afflicted with an eye disease. When it was informed to Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirunelveli a team led by Dr. Ashish Bachav, fellow, Cornea services went to Tiruchendur temple and diagnosed the problem as corneal ulcer. Necessary treatment was given and the elephant feels better now.



### Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Aravind Eye Hospital, Theni

October 10



Inaugurated in 1985, Aravind-Theni completed 25 years of its meritorious service in the elimination of needless blindness. A grand event was arranged to commemorate this special occasion at Vasantham Mahal, Theni. Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, Chairman Emeritus, AECS delivered the welcome address after which Mr. P. Muthuveeran, IAS, District Collector - Theni officially inaugurated the silver jubilee celebrations. The whole event was presided over by Mr. V. Balakrishnan, IPS Superintendent of Police – Theni. Dr. Kowsalya, Gandhigram Hospital, Dindigul was the chief guest for the function.

Dr. Dipankar Datta, Chief Medical Officer, presented the silver jubilee report and Dr. R.D. Ravindran, Chairman, AECS received the silver jubilee souvenir from Mr. P. Muthuveeran. Mr. N. Ramakrishnan, MLA, Cumbum, Ln. Mohan Singh MJF, Past Governor, Dist. 324 B3, Mr. Jebakumar, President, Merchants Association, Munnar offered felicitations.

A 4 day exhibition for general public was arranged as part of the Silver jubilee celebrations from October 7 – 10 in the hospital premises. A total of 1730 people visited the exhibition of which 756 were school students and rest 974 was general public from Theni and the neighbouring state, Kerala.



### Inauguration of the new office for MLOP training division

Aravind – Madurai, October 16



MLOP training division which earlier had its office in the Aravind Eye Hospital now moved to a spacious workplace with the inauguration of the new facility at LAICO. Dr. G. Natchiar, Director – HR inaugurated the new office.





## Another Secondary Eye Care Centre at Tirupur



Aravind's new eye care centre at Tirupur was inaugurated on October 17 by Dr. V. Gengusamy Naidu, Chairman – Sri Venkatesa Group of Companies. Welcome address was given by Dr. V. Narendran, Chief Medical Officer. Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, Chairman Emeritus, Aravind Eye Care System lighted the lamp. Felicitations were offered by Rtn. PDG. Dr. A. Muruganathan, past state president – IMA, Lion R. Madhanagopal MJF, District governor – 324 B1 and Thiru N. Krishnasamy, President – "Valam", Tirupur. Dr. Selvi Selvakumar proposed a vote of thanks.

Aravind's community centre has been functioning at Tirupur since 2006. The centre caters to around 30,000 outpatient visits a year and provides both basic and advanced ophthalmic services. The need for a complete ophthalmic unit to provide better delivery of services was felt. Moreover, a sizeable number of patients who come to AEH - Coimbatore are from Tirupur. This paved way for the opening of this new facility at Dharapuram Road K. Chettipalayam, Tirupur.

The hospital complex including the residential facility extends over an area of about 22000 sq.ft and has a bed capacity of 23. The centre is targeted to serve 55,000 outpatients and almost 5000 surgeries a year. It has 2 operation theatres which can handle about 50 surgeries a day and would be functional from December 2010 onwards. Services available include management of refractive errors and cataract, Yag Capsulotomy, Medical Retina and glaucoma. In addition to this, a well equipped optical processing laboratory to deliver world class spectacles and contact lens is available.

On October 18, the day after inauguration the centre has seen 104 outpatients (66 new and 38 review).



## NEWS AND EVENTS

### Awareness Exhibition on Paediatric Eye Diseases

Surandai, September 6 - 11



An exhibition on paediatric eye diseases was conducted at Surandai Vision Centre to create awareness among public especially, parents and children. Posters, charts and models were displayed in the exhibition. Nearly 210 persons including students from Jeyendra School and Jemia School visited the exhibition.



### Felicitating the voluntary organisations for enhancing eye donation

Aravind – Pondicherry, September 8

As part of the eye donation fortnight celebrations, a meeting was organised to felicitate the Lions / Rotary clubs and the participant hospitals of Hospital Corneal Retrieval Programme (HCRP) who were instrumental in enhancing eye donation. Around 150 voluntary organizations participated in the function. MJF. Lion. P.Kuppusamy, Lions Districts Governor 324 - A3, and Mr. B.Natarajan, Chief Regional Manager, Indian Overseas Bank, were the chief guests. Dr. K.Tiruvengada Krishnan, Medical Officer, Cornea and Eye Bank delivered the welcome address. Dr. R.Venkatesh, Chief Medical Officer, stressed the importance of eye donation.

Mementoes were distributed to the participant clubs.



### Guest Lectures

Aravind – Pondicherry, September 14



A motivational guest lecture was delivered by Mr. Shanmuga Vadivel at Aravind Pondicherry. Mr. Shanmuga Vadivel, a retired teacher from Thiruvavur was earlier a patient of Aravind and has got rich experience in facilitating a number of debates.

#### **Aravind – Madurai, September 24**

Guest lecture on *Diagnosis and management of dry eye* was delivered by Dr. Samar K Basak, Vice President – Eye Bank Association of India and Medical Director–Prova Eye Bank, Disha Eye Hospitals, Kolkata.

#### **Aravind – Madurai, October 7**

Dr. Eduardo Mayorga, MD, Professor of Ophthalmology, Chair Eye Department, Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires, Argentina delivered a lecture on - *Introduction on using "Articulate Suite" to transform passive power point lectures into web based rich interactive activities: A tool every teacher can use*

#### **Aravind – Madurai, October 21**

Dr. Sivakumar, M.S. Ortho., D. Ortho, Consultant orthopaedician, Preethi Hospital, Madurai delivered a guest lecture on *Low Back ache on Professionals*.



### **Observation Visit to Aravind – Pondicherry**

September 17 – 24

Forty seven nursing students along with faculty members from Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences came to Aravind – Pondicherry on an observation visit to understand the working pattern of the organisation. Dr. Dayakar handled a session on *Recent Developments in Ophthalmology* and Dr. Sagar on *Ocular Emergencies*.



### **Excursion Programme for Cleaners**

Aravind – Pondicherry, September 18 – 19



The cleaners of Aravind–Pondicherry were taken on a trip to Madurai. The team visited Samayapuram Temple, Meenakshi Amman Temple, Alagarkoil, Thiruparakuntram and Aurofarm.



### **Lions' Sightfirst Seminar**

LAICO, September 19

The annual Sight First Seminar for the team of Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and office bearers of Lions District 324–B3 was conducted at LAICO. 147 participants from Madurai, Theni, Dindigul and Sivagangai districts attended the seminar. Ln. Natesh Babu, Sight First chairman, District 324–B3 coordinated and arranged the seminar. which was conducted in association with the Cabinet of 324 - B3 district. Dr. S.R. Krishnadas, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai gave key note address.



### **Highest number of cataract surgeries**

Aravind – Madurai, September 23

It was yet another day of achievement for the cataract clinic at the paying hospital, Madurai as 204 cataract surgeries (147 phaco and 57 IOL) were done on this day – the so far highest number of cataract surgeries done in a single day.



### Dr. P. Namperumalsamy as guest faculty at LV Prasad Eye Institute

Hyderabad, September 24

Dr. P. Namperumalsamy was invited as guest faculty for Post graduate Education Programme (Eye – PEP) conducted by LV Prasad Eye Institute. He delivered an inspirational lecture for the postgraduates and also an academic lecture on Diabetic retinopathy.



### Dr. P. Namperumalsamy at the Indian School of Business

Hyderabad, September 24

Dr. P.Namperumalsamy delivered a lecture on Aravind model at the prestigious institution, Indian School of Business.



### Mega Eye Camp

Attur, September 26



Aravind outreach team has been organising eye camp at Attur in association with Muthugounder Muthayammal Trust and Rasi Seeds Private Limited, Attur, Salem for the past 12 years. The camps are usually conducted on the last Sunday of September. This year the camp was conducted on September 26. Dr. N.V. Prajna lighted the lamp at the inauguration of the camp.

During the camp 1670 outpatients were screened. This is the highest number of OP in the camps conducted by Aravind - Madurai this year. 761 patients were admitted for surgery at base hospital.



### Dr. T.A. Aniruddha as Guest Faculty for CME

Pondicherry, September 29

Dr. T.A. Aniruddha, Retina and Vitreous Clinic, Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry was invited as guest faculty for the CME *Ocular Fundus in General Medicine* held at Mahatama Gandhi Medical College and Research Institute, Pondicherry. He presented a lecture on *Diabetic Retinopathy*.



### Vision Day Celebrations

October 1



October 1 is the birthday of our beloved founder chairman Dr.Govindappa Venkataswamy. This special day was celebrated as Vision Day across all Aravind Hospitals.

#### Aravind - Madurai

On the occasion of Chief's birthday, special bhajan performance by Ms. Sarala Govindarajan, Executive Committee member, Mannar College, Madurai was arranged. Ms. Arumugaselvi compared the whole event which was conducted in Dr. GVERI premises. Ms. Netra Aravind, Ms. Indira Gandhi and Mrs. N. Nagarajan presented solo bhajan performances. Special flower arrangements were made as part of the vision day observation.



### Aravind-Pondicherry

In order to commemorate Dr.V's birthday, prayer meeting with bhajan was organised in the morning. Special flower arrangement was made in the meditation room. The staff paid homage to the Chief by observing a moment of





silence. Dr.R. Venkatesh, Mr.Poobalan, Mr.Kanagaraj and Ms.Varalakshmi shared their experiences of working with Dr. V.



### Aravind – Tirunelveli



On the occasion of Vision Day, prayer meeting was arranged and special flower arrangements were made in the meditation room. The meeting started with bhajan by MLOPs, Doctors and Ms. Sarita. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Chief Medical Officer spoke about the purpose of celebrating Vision Day and the contribution of each department in achieving the mission and vision of the Hospital. Sr. Chidambaram, Nursing Superintendent shared a few of her experiences with the founder Chairman, Dr. Govindappa Venkataswamy.



### Aravind - Coimbatore

The meditation room was decorated with beautiful flower arrangements. Staff paid homage to the Chief by observing a moment of silence. Special bhajan was organised as part of the ceremony.



### Motivational Talk

Aravind – Madurai, October 14



The HR department arranged a motivational talk for the staff at LAICO auditorium. Mr. B. Nirmal from Exnora International delivered the inspiring talk.



### Navarathri celebrations

Aravind – Madurai, October 15



As part of Navarathri celebrations, special bhajan led by Ms. Sarala Govindarajan was arranged at Dr. GVERI premises on October 15. The staff performed traditional art forms like Kummiyattam, Kolattam and there was a group song by MLOPs. The celebration came to an end with Deeparadhana and pongal prasadam. On October 16, special pooja was arranged in the free and paying hospital which was attended by the staff members of both hospital and LAICO.

### Saraswathy pooja at Aravind - Tirunelveli

October 16

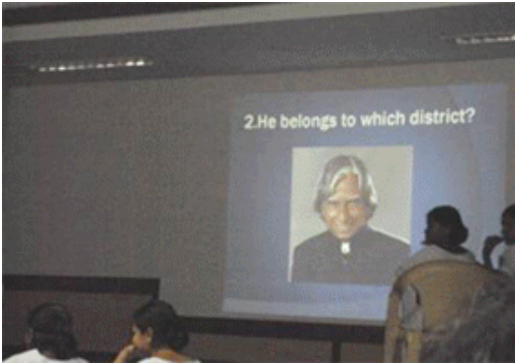
On the occasion of Saraswathy pooja, doctors, MLOPs and admin staff

paid obeisance to the Goddess of learning. Important books were arranged with a picture of Goddess Saraswati in front. Various offerings were also made to the deity.



### Quiz competition at Aravind – Pondicherry

October 15



With a view to achieve over all development of the MLOPs, the HR department at Aravind - Pondicherry organises various activities on the third Friday of every month. As part of this, a quiz competition was conducted which covered different topics as History Geography, Science Technology, Politics, News Current Events , movies and serials, hospital details. The winners were rewarded by a small gift.



### Sponsors' Day

Aravind – Pondicherry, October 24



Around 280 sponsors participated in the programme. The programme began with a prayer song by our MLOPs and Dr.K.Thiruvengkadakrishanan, Camp Medical Officer welcomed the gathering. Dr.R.Venkatesh, CMO gave the Felicitation address. Dr.Veena, Chief of Paediatric Ophthalmology gave an overview about the Children's eye care project supported by Lavelle Fund to the sponsors. The highlight of the programme was a skit, put up by our MLOPs. Everyone enjoyed it. Lion P.Kalyanakumar MJF gave the presidential address. Our chief guest Mr.Sivalingam, the senior journalist and the author of "Vizhivelvi" gave an inspirational speech

to the audience. This was followed by an interaction between the CMO, the Camp medical officer and the camp sponsors. Our camp manager Mr. Palaniraj delivered the Vote of thanks. This was followed by a sumptuous lunch prepared and served by our Catering & Housekeeping staff.



### CME on Update in Ophthalmology

Aravind –Tirunelveli, October 24



Fifty five medical professionals from three districts, Tirunelveli, Tuticorin and Kanyakumari attended the CME. Dr.R.Ramakrishnan, Chief Medical Officer welcomed the participants.Hands - on Fundus examination and an interactive session were arranged for the registered candidates. Dr.Sakthivel, Dr.Ashish Bachav, Dr.Fathima, Dr.Neelam Pawar, Dr.Meenakshi, Dr.Mohideen, Dr.Padmavathy, Dr.Dheeraj, Dr.Venugopal Reddy and Dr.Sapna handled the different sessions.



### Workshop on Stem Cells for Vision

GVERI – Madurai, October 25 - 30

The one-week workshop was organized by Aravind Medical Research Foundation as part of October Summit to provide hands-on experience to young Scientists. This training course, sponsored by Indian Council of Medical Research and Defence Research and Development Organization, New Delhi is unique in several respects. It was the first of its kind in India.





The aim of the workshop was to provide basic information and training on characterization and ex-vivo of limbal/buccal epithelial stem cells for corneal surface reconstruction, which would help other centres to establish this method for providing vision. Dr. R.D. Ravindran, Chairman, AECS inaugurated the workshop. In addition to Aravind Faculties, Dr. Geeta K. Vemuganti, LVPEI, Hyderabad, Dr. S. Krishnakumar, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai, Dr. TV. Kumary, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum and Dr. Udaykumar Kolkundkar, Invitrogen Bioservices India, Bangalore were the invited guest faculties.

Totally 10 participants from Iladevi cataract IOL research centre, Ahmedabad, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology and Kerala University, Thiruvananthapuram, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai and Lady Doak College, Madurai attended the workshop. Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, President, AMRF, delivered the valedictory address and distributed the certificates.



### School students' visit to Aravind – Tirunelveli

October 27

Eighty one students of 8th and 9th standard along with four teachers from Holy Family School, Tiruchendur came on an observation visit to Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirunelveli. Dr.Fathima, Medical Officer explained the anatomy of the eye and paediatric eye diseases to the students. Later the whole team was taken on a hospital tour.



## CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

### Connect 2010

Organised by Confederation of Indian Industry

Chennai, September 8 – 9



Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj, Executive Director – LAICO participated in Connect 2010, the tenth edition of India's premier ICT (Information and Community Technology) Event, organised by CII at Chennai Trade Centre, Chennai. The event was organised to create a vision for the next ten years of the ICT sector and a strategy for 4X growth of the ICT sector in the next ten years. Speaking at a panel discussion on 'Creating Health Next', Mr. Thulasiraj stressed the importance of using effective technologies like Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and Google Maps to reach out to unattended villages in the State to hold eye camps and meet the eye care needs of the rural masses.



### Sankara Netralaya - Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology

Chennai, September 9-11

Dr. R. Kim attended the SN-ARVO meeting on 'Diabetic Retinopathy: From bench to population'. He made an interesting paper presentation on

- *Telemedicine protocols for Diabetic retinopathy screening* and participated in the interesting case discussion session based on the theme *Diabetic Vitrectomy: Challenging situations*. He chaired the session *Which tool is best for mass screening?*

Dr. T.A. Aniruddha and Dr. Manavi D Sindal, Medical Officers from Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry also attended the SN – ARVO meeting.



### International Strabismological Association (ISA) conference

Istanbul, Turkey, September 11–26

Dr. Shashikant Shetty participated in the ISA meeting held at Istanbul and also underwent observation training

under Dr. Birsen Gokyigit at Dr.R.N. Belger Eye institute, Istanbul from September 13 – 22.



### First Global Stakeholders' Meeting

Geneva, Switzerland, September 14

Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj attended the first Global Stakeholders' Meeting organized by World Health Organisation at Geneva.



### Asia Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology

Beijing, China, September 15-18



Dr. P.Sundaresan, Senior scientist, Aravind Medical Research Foundation attended the 25th Asia Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) Congress held in Beijing, China from September 16 to 20, 2010. He presented "Molecular genetics of ocular anomalies in Indian population" at the Asia Pacific Society of Eye Genetics (APSEG) symposium. He visited Beijing Genome Institute (BGI) at Shenzhen and also visited Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Dr. R. Kim

- *How to set up CME programs in developing countries?*

- *E-Grand Rounds in Asia*

Dr. V. Narendran, Dr. Thomas C. Lee, Dr. Mahesh P. Shanmugam, Dr. Parag K. Shah and Dr. V.R. Saravanan participated in the instruction course on Retinopathy of prematurity.

Dr. V. Narendran, Dr. Thomas C. Lee, Dr. Mahesh P. Shanmugam and Dr. Parag K. Shah participated in the instruction course on Paediatric retinal disorders

Dr. R. D. Ravindran

- *Rock hard lens – Phaco vs ECCE?*

- *Chaired the invited scientific program, Manual Small Incision cataract surgery*

- *Rock hard cataract: (panel discussion)*

Dr. Usha Kim

- *Senior instructor for the instruction course, Lid reconstruction: An overview*

Dr. P.M. Aravind

- *Hemodynamic response to routine phacoemulsification among normal healthy ophthalmic surgeons during high volume cataract surgery (poster)*

He was also the senior instructor for the following courses:

- *The ophthalmologist's role in managing facial palsy*

- *High volume, high quality cost-effective surgery for the developing world*



### International Advanced Vitreoretinal Surgery Course

Stockholm, Sweden, September 18-19



Dr. Dhananjay Shukla, Retina Services-Aravind, Madurai was invited as guest faculty for the 9th International Advanced Vitreoretinal Surgery Course.



### National Conference on Quality in Healthcare CII Institute of Quality

Chennai, September 24-25

Ms. Preethi Pradhan represented Aravind Eye Care System at the National Conference of which the theme was India @ 75 Quality and Affordable Healthcare for All. She presented a lecture on  
- *Aravind Eye Hospital: A model in operational efficiency.*



### **Sight First Conclave of Lions Hospitals**

Patna, October 2

Dr. P. Namperumalsamy delivered a guest lecture on Community ophthalmology and cutting edge technology at the Sight First Conclave of Lions Hospitals.



### **Meeting of the World Health Organisation/International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness**

Geneva, Switzerland, October 12

Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj attended the meeting on "Vision 2020: the Right to Sight" Global Initiative convened by WHO Department of Chronic Diseases and Health Promotion/Prevention of Blindness and Deafness. The purpose of the meeting was to take stock of Vision 2020's progress till date and to review the challenges and lessons learnt at global and regional levels.



### **Centre for Health Market Innovations Meeting**

Hyderabad, October 26

Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj attended the meeting organized by Access Health International, Gachibowli, Hyderabad. The main objectives were to develop strategies to improve access to information and capacity for efficient healthcare and to improve link between different sources of capital and healthcare providers.



## **LAICO HAPPENINGS**

### **Valedictory Function of Courses**

LAICO, September 24

At the combined valedictory function of Certificate course in Management Training and Systems Development for Hospital Administrator and project Management for Eye Care, Mr. Suresh Kumar, Faculty - LAICO welcomed the gathering. The participants shared open feedback. Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj, Executive Director, LAICO distributed the certificates to the participants and briefed the benefits of the course.



### **October Summit**



October summit, a series of workshops held annually as a meaningful way of paying tribute to the Founder Chairman on his birth anniversary received wide appreciation from the participants. The workshops in this series included:

- Vision 2020 Workshop on Research for Global Blindness Prevention
- Private Practice in Ophthalmology
- Evidence Based Management Practices

Vision 2020 Workshop on Research for Global Blindness Prevention

September 27 – 29

As an early start in the last week of September the first workshop in October Summit, Vision 2020 workshop on Research for Global Blindness was conducted at LAICO. A total of 34 delegates from Australia, Austria, Brazil, China, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Tanzania, UK, USA participated. The purpose of this workshop was to develop plans for the identification and implementation research priorities for the next ten years. The



workshop was conducted under the joint initiative of ICO and IAPB.

**Feedback from the participants:** *Thank you so much for all your help and also that of your wonderful team at LAICO. I am now proposing all V2020 workshops be held at LAICO!* - Robin Heber Percy, ICEH, UK.

*Congratulations on a very successful workshop and many thanks for the wonderful hospitality. Everyone was very pleased with the outcome, the process and the arrangements* - Hannah Faal, SightSavers.



### Private Practice in Ophthalmology

October 2 – 3



The workshop aimed to bring together private practitioners to provide a platform for discussing various issues relating to private practice in eye care. Dr. Sourav Sinha, B.B Eye Foundation, Kolkata, Dr. V. Siddharthan, T.M.S. Eye Hospital, Salem, Dr. Ashok Grover, Sri Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi and Dr. Babu Rajendran, The Eye Research Foundation, Chennai were the guest faculty. A total of 37 participants attended.



### Evidence Based Management Practices

October 4-5



The workshop is designed to enhance management practices in eye care institutions - to promote the culture of evidence - based decision making. Dr. Nirmala Murthy, President - Foundation for Research in Health Systems, Ahmedabad, Mr. D. Nagarajan, Consultant, Hyderabad, Mr. Ravi Sunderrajan, Controller, Citrix Systems, Inc, Bangalore, Mr. J. Sundaresan, Senior Manager, ST Ericsson India Pvt Bangalore, Mr. N. Krishnamoorthy, President - T V Sundram Iyengar & Sons Limited, Madurai, Mr. K. Chandrasekhar, Chief Executive Officer, Forus Health Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore were the guest faculty for the workshop. A total of 43 participants from India, Nepal, Cameroon, Uganda and Bangladesh attended.

**Feedback from participants:** *I am amazed at the continual improvement that Aravind is able to implement. The presentations from your faculty shows that you recognize that we can always continue to get better. I do appreciate you putting on these programs, and for allowing me to attend* - Steven, LVPEI.

[Click here to view Consultancy statistical report](#)



## TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Course title	Training Centre	Total Number Trained as on August 2010	Enrollments for September 2010
<b>Long Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists</b>			
<b>Fellowship in Cornea</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	38	1
	<b>Tirunelveli</b>	0	1

	<b>Coimbatore</b>	18	0
	<b>Theni</b>	0	0
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	2	0
<b>Fellowship in Glaucoma</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	24	1
	<b>Tirunelveli</b>	9	0
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	12	0
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	3	0
<b>Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists</b>			
<b>Diagnosis and Management of Glaucoma</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	111	0
	<b>Tirunelveli</b>	104	1
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	82	2
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	1	0
<b>IOL Microsurgery</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	698	2
	<b>Tirunelveli</b>	270	1
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	207	0
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	8	0
<b>Phacoemulsification</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	119	1
	<b>Tirunelveli</b>	65	1
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	77	2
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	16	1
<b>Small Incision Cataract Surgery</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	146	1
	<b>Tirunelveli</b>	103	1
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	118	1
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	15	1
	<b>Theni</b>	1	0
<b>Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	236	3
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	224	2
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	0	2
<b>Short Term Training in Vitrectomy (Virtual)</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	5	1
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	3	0
<b>Fundus Fluorescein Angiography and Ultrasonography</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	35	1
<b>Ocularist</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	15	1
<b>Optical Dispensing</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	144	6
<b>Management Courses</b>			
<b>Project Management Courses</b>	<b>LAICO</b>	40	4

[Click here to view Training Programme full statistics](#)



## MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

<b>September - 2010</b>						
Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Total
<b>HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS</b>						

Paying (New & Review)	38,825	5,936	20,587	27,693	17,263	110,304
Free (Direct walk-in)	12,728	1,907	5,782	9,086	5,662	35,165
<b>OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS</b>						
Regular Eye Camps	8,913	1,532	4,236	5,017	8,519	28,217
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	209	86	-	1,436	312	2,043
Refraction Camps	2,680	468	401	795	664	5,008
Mobile Refraction Unit	-	912	-	-	-	912
School Screening	5,100	164	769	-	1,468	7,501
Paediatric Camps	513	-	-	-	224	737
Vision Centres	6,735	3,795	3,226	2,266	1,895	17,917
Community Eye Clinics	3,481	1,584	3,824	2,821	-	11,710
<b>Total OP Examinations</b>	<b>79,184</b>	<b>16,384</b>	<b>38,825</b>	<b>49,114</b>	<b>36,007</b>	<b>219,514</b>
<b>SURGERIES</b>						
Paying	2,605	394	1,168	1,629	851	6,647
Free (including the subsidized camp surgeries)	2,697	269	698	1,570	454	5,388
Camp	2,777	192	973	1,208	1,313	6,463
<b>Total Surgeries</b>	<b>7,779</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>2,839</b>	<b>4,407</b>	<b>2,618</b>	<b>18,498</b>



## CASE STUDY

### Language and distance were not barriers for him!

It is said that absolute belief of the patient in the physician or treatment cures the disease to a great extent, even though drugs play a prominent role. And it was this supreme belief that brought the totally blind Mr. Pradeep Kumar to Aravind, all the way from north to extreme south, with not even a single person to accompany.

Pradeep Kumar, aged 38, is a native of Bhiwani district in Haryana. His wife is a home maker and he has got an ailing father and two children to look after. He used to be a tailor and that was his sole means of income. One fine day, about 10 years ago, he was on his way to his tailoring shop riding a motor cycle. He felt some sort of blurriness in his vision. At first, he ignored it and later he realized that he was unable to see the road and the vehicles passing by clearly. He went to an ophthalmologist in his locality where he underwent surgery on the left eye for cataract. Days passed by. Gradually Pradeep started feeling vision deterioration in the right eye which he ignored in the beginning. Subsequently, it lost vision. By the time, the left eye which was operated on for cataract also lost its vision. He remained totally blind for almost 6 years when he came to know of Aravind through one of his friends, whose acquaintance was a doctor at Aravind.

Pradeep did not have a second thought. He undertook the very long journey from Haryana, changing quite a number of trains at different stations and finally reached Aravind Eye Hospital at Madurai. The amazing, and incredible fact is that he undertook this long journey on his own with no one to accompany him to a distant land where he knew no one and where no one spoke his language. At Aravind they confirmed that he was suffering from complicated Uveitis, one of its complications being cataract. On examination, it was found that his left eye was irreparably damaged and the right eye only had perception of light. Pradeep was administered the necessary treatment for uveitis and cataract surgery was performed free of cost. And the necessary medicines were also given to him free of cost.

After surgery, visual acuity in the right eye which had practically no vision at all except P.L (Perception of Light) was much improved to a level of 6/60. The man who lived in total darkness for almost 6 years was short of words to express his heartfelt gratitude to Aravind staff. Pradeep's joy knew no bounds when he thought of his prospective journey with a somewhat better vision. The staff at Aravind too were glad that they were able to improve his sight.





## Let the eyes see again

An exceptional case of philanthropy by four members of a family

Even though the 21st century world boasts of its liberal approach and broad mindedness, people are still reserved when it comes to the matter of eye donation. This general tendency is slowly changing owing to a number of awareness creation programmes by governments, hospitals and various NGOs. If we look into the statistical details, the dire importance of promoting eye donation will be easily understood. The need for cornea is 1 lakh per year and every year 20,000 to 30,000 keeps adding to the current need. So the backlog is always there. It is under such a scenario that the eye donation made by four members of a family becomes commendable and attains paramount importance.

It was Mr. Narayan Prasad Sharma, from Howrah, who shared with us the details of this noble act. Four of his family members – father, wife, father-in-law and mother-in-law donated their eyes thereby bringing light to the lives of the blind. The whole family was motivated for this humanitarian gesture by two of Mr. Sharma's sons, Pradeep Sharma and Prakash Sharma. In addition to this, Narayan Prasad Sharma himself has given consent for the donation of his eyes as well as his body to the medical college after death.

The families like that of Narayan Prasad Sharma remind us that the world still is not totally devoid of humanitarian minds and let their example be a model for others as the eyes donated by an individual lights the lives of two. [Press Clip](#)

