



Editorial

Community-based initiatives that provide easy access for eye care are essential in a country like India. Instead of waiting for patients to turn up on their own at the hospital to seek care, eye care centres should proactively reach out to them and only thus, the problem of avoidable blindness can be addressed. Technology too can be utilised to the fullest potential to offer quality care. Aravind experimented with the model of primary eye care delivery through establishing telemedicine-enabled vision centres in rural areas way back in 2003. Over the years, this has evolved into a robust model for replication across the Indian states and even in other countries. Aravind opened five new vision centres, the highest ever for a month, thus taking the total to 100.

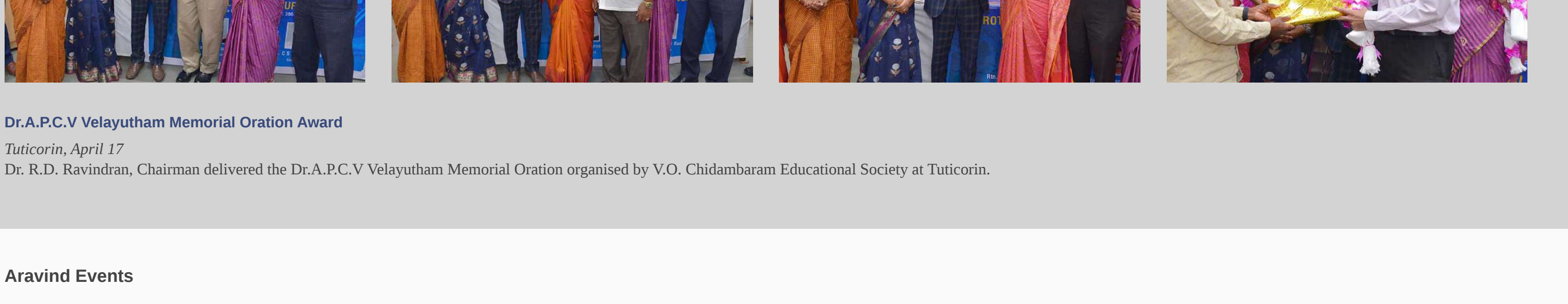
Aravind's senior doctors – Dr. M. Srinivasan; Dr. S.R. Rathinam and Dr. Lalitha Prajna were felicitated at a special function organised by the Rotary Club on account of them being listed in the list of top researchers in the world. As the threat of Covid seemed to be relatively less in the past few weeks, Aravind resumed its in-person training programmes and CMES. Consultancy visits to other hospitals suspended due to the pandemic for a while are also resumed.

Accolades

Rotary Vocational Excellence Awards

Madurai, April 22

Dr. M. Srinivasan, Director Emeritus, Aravind Eye Care System; Dr. S.R. Rathinam, Chief, Uveitis Services, Aravind-Madurai and Dr. Lalitha Prajna, Chief Microbiologist, Aravind-Madurai were felicitated by the Rotary for having been found a place in the ranking of top researchers in ophthalmology, according to a study conducted by the Stanford University.



Dr.A.P.C.V Velayutham Memorial Oration Award

Tuticorin, April 17

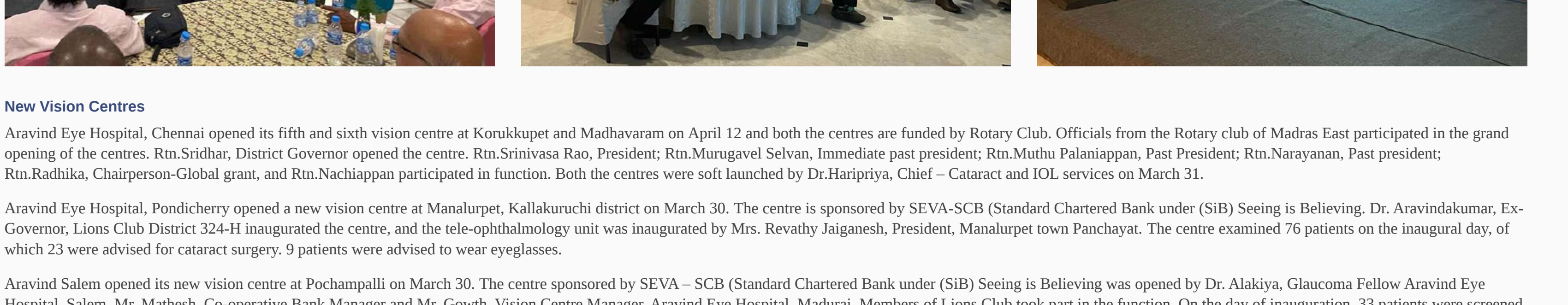
Dr. R.D. Ravindran, Chairman delivered the Dr.A.P.C.V Velayutham Memorial Oration organised by V.O. Chidambaram Educational Society at Tuticorin.

Aravind Events

Paediatric Ophthalmology Update

Aravind- Chennai, April 12, 2022

Aravind Eye Hospital, Chennai, in association with Indian Medical Association (IMA) and Indian Academy of Paediatrics (IAP), Kancheepuram district conducted the programme at Kancheepuram. The interactive sessions covered retinopathy of prematurity, paediatric cataract, recent advances in paediatric ophthalmology and approach to common eye problems in children. From Aravind-Chennai, Dr. Saranya Settu, Consultant, Paediatric Ophthalmology and Statusimus Services and Dr. Indu, Consultant, Vitreoretina Services handled the sessions.



New Vision Centres

Aravind Eye Hospital, Chennai opened its fifth and sixth vision centre at Korukkupet and Madhavaram on April 12 and both the centres are funded by Rotary Club. Officials from the Rotary club of Madras East participated in the grand opening of the centres. Rtn.Sridhar, District Governor opened the centre. Rtn.Srinivas Rao, President; Rtn.Munugavel Selvan, Immediate past president; Rtn.Muthu Palaniappan, Past President; Rtn.Narayana, Past president; Rtn.Radhika, Chairperson-Global grant, and Rtn.Nachiappan participated in function. Both the centres were soft launched by Dr.Haripriya, Chief – Cataract and IOL services on March 31.

Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry opened a new vision centre at Manalpur, Kallakuruchi district on March 30. The centre is sponsored by SEVA-SCB (Standard Chartered Bank under (SiB) Seeing is Believing. Dr. Aravindkumar, Ex-Governor, Lions Club District 324-H inaugurated the centre, and the tele-ophthalmology unit was inaugurated by Mrs. Revathy Jaiganesh, President, Manalpur town Panchayat. The centre examined 76 patients on the inauguration day, of which 23 were advised for cataract surgery. 9 patients were advised to wear eyeglasses.

Aravind Salem opened its new vision centre at Pochampalli on March 30. The centre sponsored by SEVA – SCB (Standard Chartered Bank under (SiB) Seeing is Believing was opened by Dr. Akaiya, Glaucoma Fellow Aravind Eye Hospital, Salem, Mr. Mahesh, Co-operative Bank Manager and Mr. Gowth, Vision Centre Manager, Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai. Members of Lions Club took part in the function. On the day of inauguration, 33 patients were screened, four patients were advised for cataract surgery and three were given glasses.

Sponsored by SEVA-SCB (Standard Chartered Bank under (SiB) Seeing is Believing, Aravind-Madurai opened a new vision centre at Sayaludi on March 31. The centre was inaugurated by Dr.S. R. Rathinam, Chief, Uvea Services, Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai in the presence of Dr. G. Anitha, Medical Consultant, Intraocular Lens & Cataract Services, Aravind Eye Hospital, Tuticorin; Mr.Chouse, Manager, Aravind Eye Hospital, Tuticorin; Mr. Mariappan, Town Panchayat President, Sayaludi, Mr. Abitha Anitha Anna, Town Panchayat councillor and prominent people from the community. The centre examined 74 patients, of which nine were advised for cataract surgery. 15 patients were advised to wear eye glasses and seven patients placed orders for glasses.



Soyilathi

Manalurpet

Pochampalli

Korukkupet

Madhavaram

Madhavaram

Research Methodology Workshop

Aravind – Pondicherry, March 20

The workshop was organised for residents across the Aravind centres and many joined virtually. It dealt with protocol development and thesis writing, review of literature, materials and methodology, discussion and how to arrive at a conclusion. The workshop was followed by a very competitive kaboot quiz in which the participants took part enthusiastically.

Guest Lecture



Coimbatore, February 28

Prof. K. Dharmalingam, Director- Research, Aravind Medical Research Foundation, Madurai was invited as the chief guest for the National Science Day celebration at Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for women, Coimbatore. He delivered a lecture on *Genome resources for a sustainable future*.

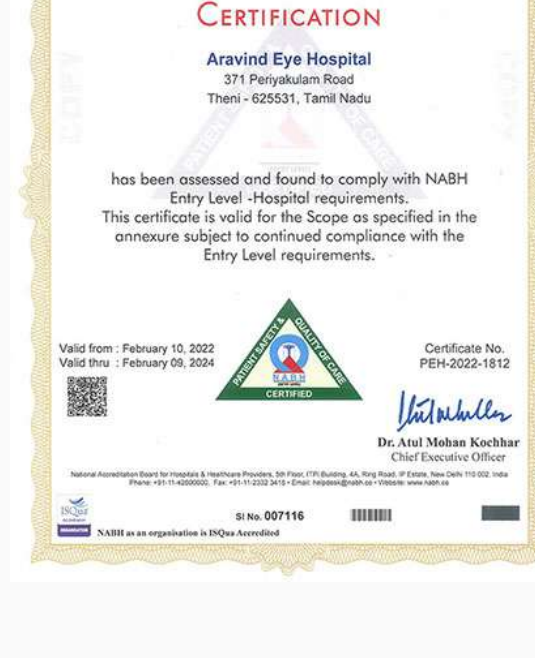
Live Surgery



Chennai, March 6

Dr. Haripriya Aravind performed live surgery- Phacoemulsification – with Pantoptix IOL at Surgical Strike 360 degrees at Rajan Eye Care.

NABH Entry Level Certificate



Aravind – Theni

Aravind Eye Hospital, Theni successfully completed the Entry level NABH Certification. The new certificate is valid till February 2024.

Session by Carl Zeiss India



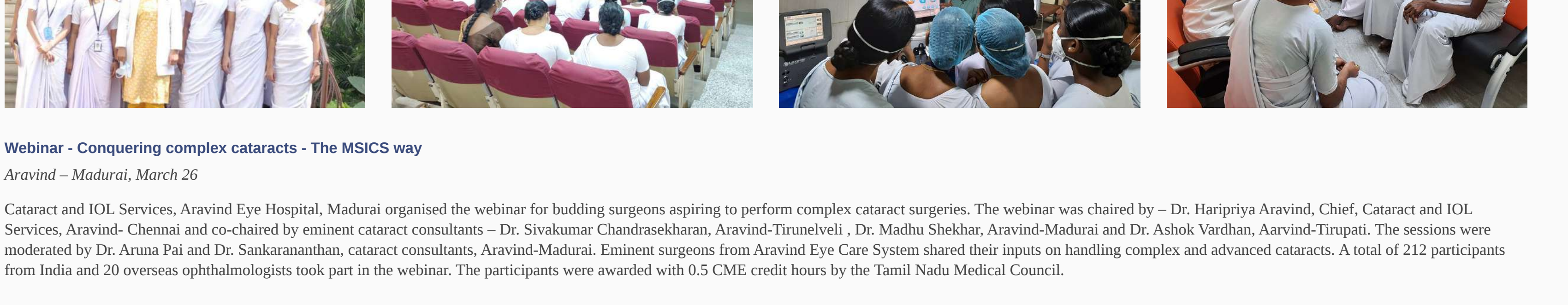
Aravind – Tirunelveli, April 1

The session was handled by personnel from Carl Zeiss – Mr. Raghu, National Training Head and Mr. Rathin. The team introduced two new lenses Myo Smart and MyoVision. Medical consultants, post graduates and staff of Paediatric Clinic and Refraction departments took part.

V-trill Workshop

Aravind – Madurai, April 9

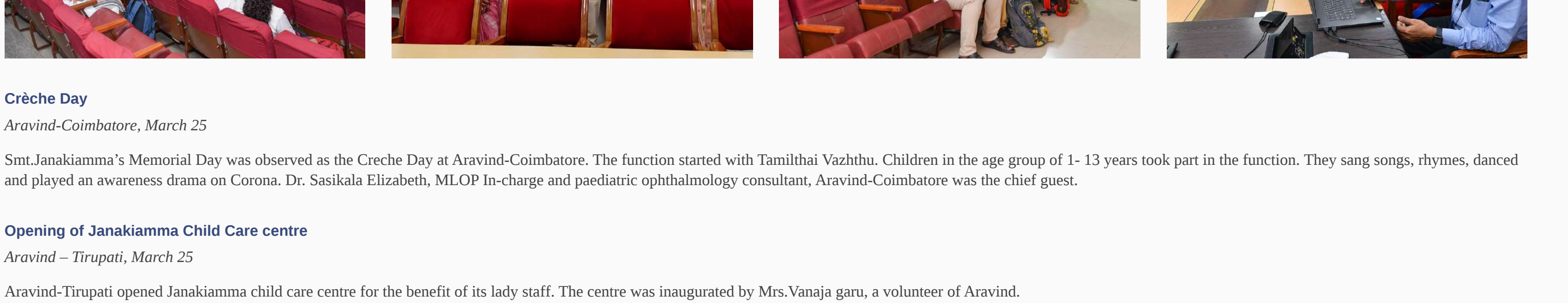
The workshop was organised for the allied ophthalmic personnel (AOP) of operation theatre and a total of 35 sisters took part. Dr. Vinitha Rashme took a session on *PCR management and instrumentation*. Mr.Karthick from Phaco Development Team explained about the phaco machine.



Webinar - Conquering complex cataracts - The MSICS way

Aravind – Madurai, March 26

Cataract and IOL Services, Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai organised the webinar for budding surgeons aspiring to perform complex cataract surgeries. The webinar was chaired by – Dr. Haripriya Aravind, Chief, Cataract and IOL Services, Aravind- Chennai and co-chaired by eminent cataract consultants – Dr. Sivalakumar Chandrasekharan, Aravind-Tirunelveli, Dr. Madhu Shekhar, Aravind-Madurai and Dr. Ashok Vardhan, Aravind-Tirupati. The sessions were moderated by Dr. Aruna Pai and Dr. Sankaranarayanan, cataract consultants, Aravind-Madurai. Eminent surgeons from Aravind Eye Care System shared their inputs on handling complex and advanced cataracts. A total of 212 participants from India and 20 overseas ophthalmologists took part in the webinar. The participants were awarded with 0.5 CME credit hours by the Tamil Nadu Medical Council.



Crèche Day

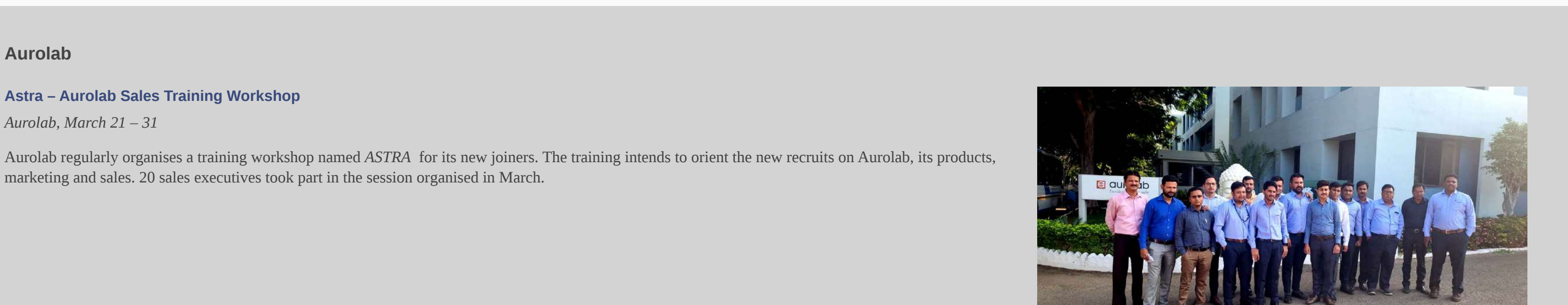
Aravind-Coimbatore, March 25

San Janakiamma's Memorial Day was observed as the Crèche Day at Aravind-Coimbatore. The function started with Tamizhathi Yashuthi. Children in the age group of 1- 13 years took part in the function. They sang songs, rhymes, danced and played an awareness drama on Corona. Dr. Saisikila Elizabeth, MLOP in-charge and paediatric ophthalmology consultant, Aravind-Coimbatore was the chief guest.

Opening of Janakiamma Child Care centre

Aravind – Tirupati, March 25

Aravind-Tirupati opened Janakiamma child care centre for the benefit of its lady staff. The centre was inaugurated by Mrs.Vanaja ganu, a volunteer of Aravind.



Aurolab

Astrolab Sales Training Workshop

Aurolab, March 21 – 31

Aurolab regularly organises a training workshop named *ASTRA* for its new joiners. The training intends to orient the new recruits on Aurolab, its products, marketing and sales. 20 sales executives took part in the session organised in March.

Differently-abled Children Visit Aurolab

April 1

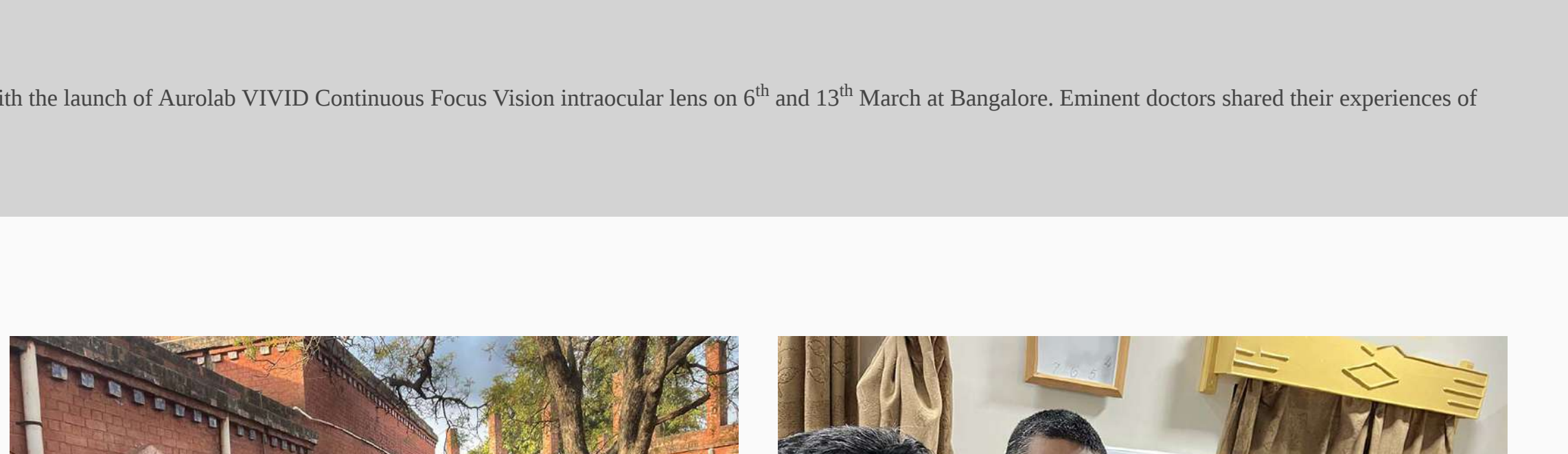
Differently-abled children from the M.S.Chellamuthu Trust visited Aurolab and had a fruitful interaction with Dr. G. Natchiah, Director Emeritus, Aravind Eye Care System. Mrs.Rajakumar, Executive Director for Institute of Mental Health and Rehabilitation and Mr.Jananathan Babu Director of Programs, Chellamuthu Trust accompanied the children. From Aurolab Ms. Shalini and Ms. Firthehouse guided them on a tour of Aurolab.



Visit to Gandhi Museum

April 27

Aurolab production staff who are undergoing certificate course in Gandhian thought was taken on a trip to Gandhi Museum to know more about Gandhi and gain more knowledge about Gandhian values and ideals. About 80 took part in the trip.



Round Table Meeting

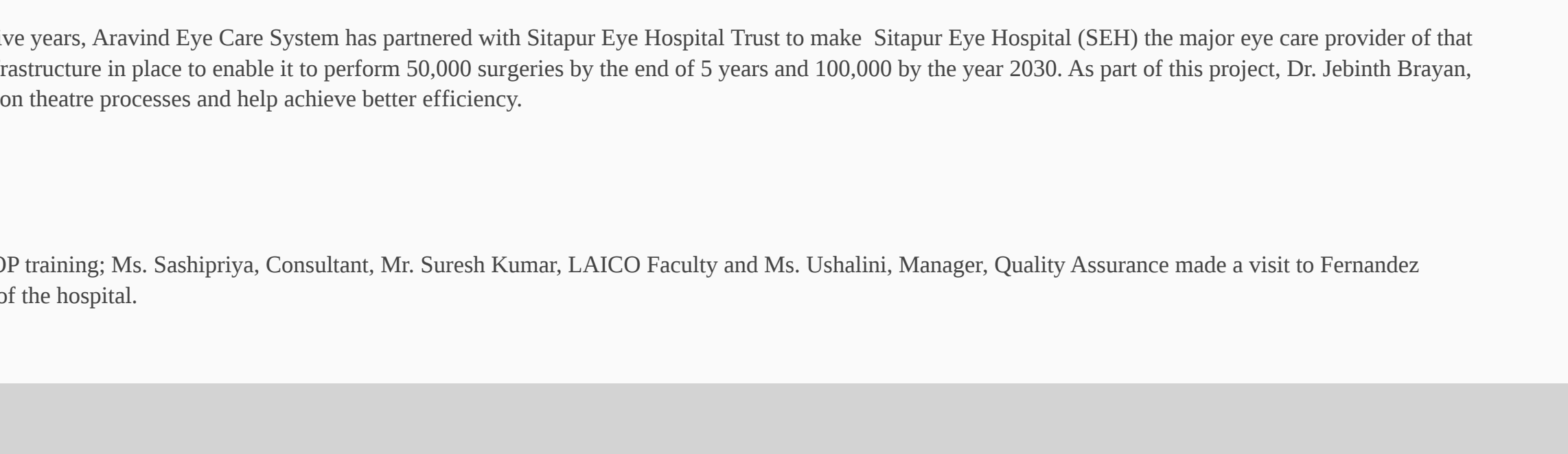
Domestic Marketing team conducted two round table meetings in association with the launch of Aurolab VIVID Continuous Focus Vision intraocular lens on 6th and 13th March at Bangalore. Eminent doctors shared their experiences of using the product.

LAICO

Visit to Christian Eye Hospital

Uttar Pradesh, March 21-27

Mr. Syed Ali, Faculty, LAICO and Mr. Mohammad Ghossein, Manager, Aravind-Tuticorin visited Christian Eye Hospital as part of the Leap collaborative series for implementing NABH standards for entry level certification. The purpose of the visit was to help the hospital in the online application of NABH entry level certification.



Extending support to Sitapur Eye Hospital

Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, March 22-April 2

As a major step to enhance eye care in the state of Uttar Pradesh over the next five years, Aravind Eye Care System has partnered with Sitapur Eye Hospital Trust to make Sitapur Eye Hospital (SEH) the major eye care provider of that region. This initiative aims to equip the SEH with the necessary systems and infrastructure in place to enable it to perform 50,000 surgeries by the end of 5 years and 100,000 by the year 2030. As part of this project, Dr. Jeethin Brayan, Aravind – Coimbatore was sent to Sitapur Eye Hospital to streamline the operation theatre processes and help to achieve better efficiency.

Visit to Fernandez Foundation

Hyderabad, March 29-April 1

Mr.Thulasiraj Ravilla, Executive Director, LAICO; Dr. Usha Kim, Director, AOP training; Ms. Sashipriya, Consultant, Mr. Suresh Kumar, LAICO Faculty and Ms. Ushalini, Manager, Quality Assurance made a visit to Fernandez Foundation to provide inputs to enhance the operations and strategic directions of the hospital.

Conference Attended

Talk at Erode District Ophthalmic Association Conference

Erode, April 10

Dr. Madhu Shekhar

• Expanding patients' horizon with new generation PCIOs

Publications

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Training

Fellowship in Retina		Pondicherry	1
Surgical paediatric Retina fellowship		Pondicherry	1
Fellowship in General Ophthalmology		Theni	2
Short Term Training Programmes – For Ophthalmologists			
Short term fellowship in Orbit & Oculoplasty		Madurai	1
Clinical Observership Program in Diagnosis and Management Of Glaucoma		Pondicherry	1
Phacoemulsification		Pondicherry	1
		Coimbatore	1
		Coimbatore	1
Small Incision Cataract Surgery		Tirunelveli	2
		Pondicherry	1
Instrument maintenance for technicians			
Online course on Ophthalmic instrument maintenance		Madurai	11
Short Term Training Programmes – For Paramedicals			
Ocularist		Madurai	1

Statistics

Patient Statistics – March 2022									
Hospitals	Total	Madurai	Tirunelveli	Theni	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Tirupur	Dindigul	Salem
Hospital Out-Patient Visits									
Paying (New & Review)	267,151	61,397	32,571	9,295	34,755	30,837	5,514	7,872	12,862
Free Direct walk-in (New & Review)	97,600	25,071	8,525	3,092	11,976	11,411	2,067	–	4,861
Outreach Out Patient									
Comprehensive Eye Camps	37,859	10,414	2,694	1,629	8,452	6,859	669	–	1,276
Diabetic Retinopathy	1,516	700	117	60	286	–	–	–	–

Statistics

Patient Statistics – March 2022														
Hospitals	Total	Madurai	Tirunelveli	Theni	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Trupur	Dindigul	Salem	Tuticorin	Udumalpet	CbeCC	Chennai	Trupati
Hospital Out-Patient Visits														
Review (New & Paying)	267,151	61,397	32,571	9,295	34,755	30,837	5,534	7,872	12,862	6,217	4,817	4,626	36,562	15,276
Free-Direct walk-in (New & Review)	97,600	28,073	8,523	3,092	11,976	11,411	2,067	—	4,861	1,428	2,688	—	12,121	13,568
Outreach Out-Patient														
Comprehensive Eye Camps	37,859	10,414	2,694	1,629	8,452	6,659	669	—	1,276	387	137	—	4,400	942
Diabetic Retinopathy Camps	1,516	769	112	49	586	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Refraction Camp	7,309	2,606	2,948	—	773	677	—	157	—	—	—	—	145	—
Mobile Refraction Unit	6,402	—	—	35	2,465	1,303	—	370	—	—	—	—	3,840	—
School Screening	8,151	—	174	—	3,807	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,594	—
RoP Screening	1,822	350	338	187	744	57	—	—	—	—	—	—	139	7
Vision Centres / City Centres	74,166	25,817	15,700	3,236	5,336	14,239	1,339	—	2,623	—	1,916	—	1,500	—
Community / City Centres	18,235	10,042	2,738	2,388	—	3,067	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total OP Examinations	517,048	135,839	65,798	23,001	67,187	68,450	9,589	7,872	23,252	8,032	9,559	4,626	54,722	33,799
Total number of camps	145	35	18	10	30	22	3	—	5	2	2	—	13	5
Surgeries														
Cataract	46,935	13,252	4,004	1,274	8,007	6,453	800	612	2,259	628	1,051	319	4,765	3,263
*Other Surgeries	21,788	6,571	2,518	431	3,885	3,103	107	128	511	80	92	132	2,844	1,333
Total Surgeries	68,723	19,823	6,522	1,705	11,892	9,556	907	740	2,770	708	1,143	451	7,609	4,596

*Other surgeries include major surgeries, minor surgeries, intra-vitreal & other injections and laser procedures.

Archives

Learn more about the happenings at Aravind

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