

## Editorial

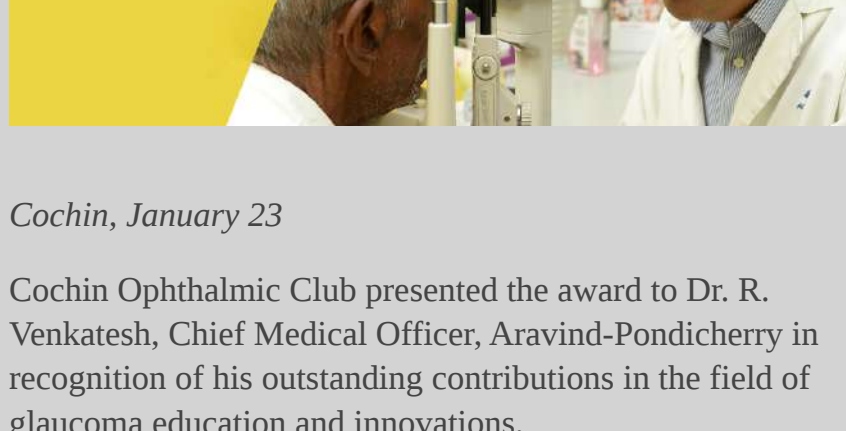
With the threat of COVID-19 receding, Aravind Eye Hospitals are back to their full operational capacity. Some of the centres even go beyond their pre-Covid patient numbers. Governments have relaxed the Covid restrictions and life is back to normal in many states. Aravind Eye Hospitals have resumed their in-person training programmes and CMEs; Sri Venkateswara Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirupati organised Diagnostic skills transfer course, in association with Tirupati Ophthalmological Society and Andhra Pradesh Ophthalmic Society. The coming months will see a lot of such training programmes by various Aravind centres.

After almost two years, Aravind hosted Angadi, the great charity fest paving the way for recycling and reusing goods. Angadi this time introduced several new stalls which were well received by the shoppers. As always, the proceeds went to support charity – three organisations working for the upliftment and care of TB/HIV patients, special children and elderly people.

"The world is bright, save your sight" was the theme of World Glaucoma Week observance this year. Aravind Eye Hospitals across the centres organised elaborate programmes to create awareness on glaucoma.

## Accolades

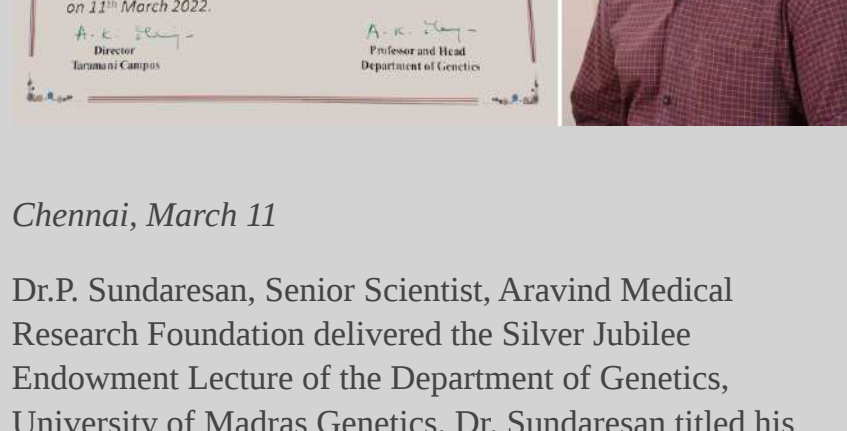
### Dr. Noel Moniz Memorial Oration Award



Cochin, January 23

Cochin Ophthalmic Club presented the award to Dr. R. Venkatesh, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind-Pondicherry in recognition of his outstanding contributions in the field of glaucoma education and innovations.

### Silver Jubilee Endowment lecture



Chennai, March 11

Dr.P. Sundaresan, Senior Scientist, Aravind Medical Research Foundation delivered the Silver Jubilee Endowment Lecture of the Department of Genetics, University of Madras Genetics. Dr. Sundaresan titled his talk, *Discovery of genes causing blindness and gene therapy*.

### Winners - International Blog Competition



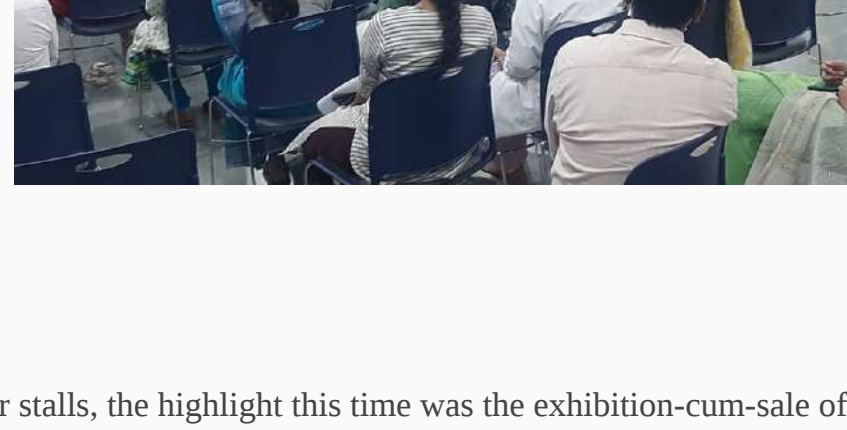
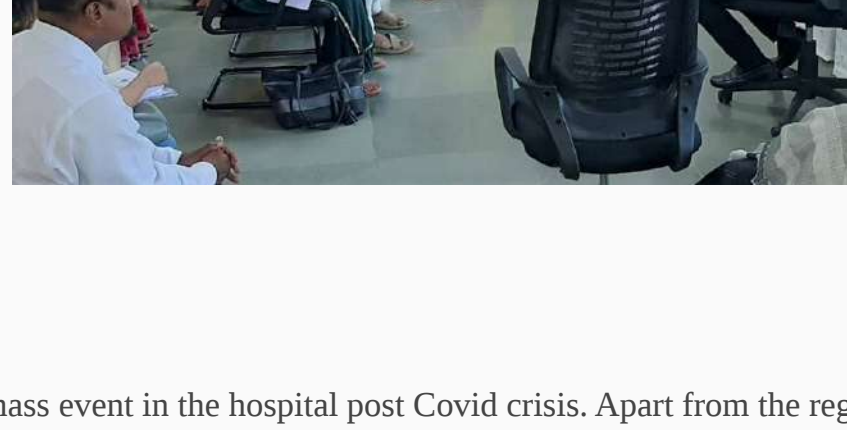
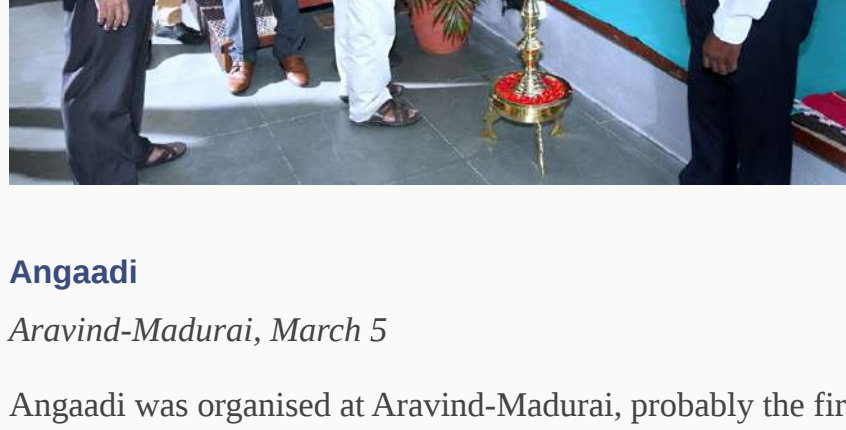
Optometry Fellows of Aravind-Chennai – Abisha.S; Anusya.D; Sruthi. G and Dillibai. J won first, second, fourth and sixth prize respectively at the International Blog Competition conducted by Vision Science Academy, United Kingdom.

## Aravind Events

### Diagnostic Skill Transfer Course

Aravind-Tirupati, March 12, 2022

SV Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirupati organised the course in association with Andhra Pradesh Ophthalmic Society and Tirupati Ophthalmic Society. A total of 85 persons took part. Stations were organised to facilitate training on various diagnostic tests and hands-on discussion in groups. A quiz was also conducted in which the participants enthusiastically took part.



### Angadi

Aravind-Madurai, March 5

Angadi was organised at Aravind-Madurai, probably the first mass event in the hospital post Covid crisis. Apart from the regular stalls, the highlight this time was the exhibition-cum-sale of artworks and photographs by eminent artists and staff. Angadi was able to raise Rs. 1,50,000 which was equally distributed to three charity organisations in Madurai – Blessed Kids Special School, Padikkattugal and Adaikkalam.



### World Glaucoma Week 2022

March 6-12

Aravind Eye Hospitals organised elaborate programmes to commemorate World Glaucoma Week. The programmes were mainly intended to create awareness on glaucoma and its consequences amongst the general public. These included rallies, exhibitions, talks on radio and television channels and family screening for glaucoma. Pamphlets and flyers on glaucoma were distributed to general public. Text messages were sent to glaucoma patients urging them to take their family members for eye examination. In addition to these, the central patient education team organised a webinar on glaucoma which was well received by the public. About 340 attended and got their doubts on glaucoma clarified by Aravind's doctors.



Aravind-Pondicherry



Aravind-Pondicherry



Aravind-Madurai



Aravind-Chennai



Aravind-Tirunelveli



Aravind-Tirupati

### Annual Meeting of Vision Centre Staff

Aravind- Pondicherry, February 27

Aravind-Pondicherry organised a meeting of the staff of its 14 vision centres. Dr. G.Natchiar, Director Emeritus, Aravind Eye Care System presided over the meeting. The meeting analysed the performance of vision centres followed by an active discussion to improve the services of these. Staff was appreciated for their efforts towards delivering the best care during the pandemic.

One reason for the success of Aravind vision centre model is the stringent and periodic monitoring mechanism. Dr. Natchiar with her extraordinary leadership skills continues to guide these teams across the centres. She takes great interest in analysing the performance of these centres and regularly meets with the staff and technicians often motivating them and guiding them on the way forward.



### Women's Day Celebration

Aravind-Chennai, March 8

At Aravind-Chennai, Dr. Indra Nedumaran, a leading obstetrician and gynaecologist was invited as the special guest and she delivered a talk to MLOPs on various gynaecological issues, personal hygiene and general health. The talk was followed by a question & answer session, in which the audience enthusiastically took part.

Aravind-Coimbatore, March 8

Aravind-Coimbatore arranged a guest lecture on the topic, *A woman's sense of self, self-actualization and solidarity*. Dr.Kezavino Aram, President, Shanti Ashram and International Center for Child and Public Health handled the session. The session motivated the audience to recognise their potential and realise the importance of self and self-actualization. Various competitions too were conducted to motivate the MLOPs to exhibit their skills and talents.

Sitapur Eye Hospital, Lucknow

At the Women's Day celebration held at Sitapur Eye Hospital (SEH), Lucknow, Aravind MLOPs who are currently on deputation took part actively and won prizes. Aravind is collaborating with SEH, Lucknow to develop it as a major eye care provider of the region and thereby enhance eye care in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Teams from Aravind are posted at SEH to provide training and help set up systems and processes.



### Hospital Day Celebration

Aravind-Pondicherry, February 21

Dr. G. Natchiar and Dr. R D Ravindran, Chairman, Aravind Eye Care System were the chief guests for the 19<sup>th</sup> annual day of Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry. A series of awards were presented to staff members to celebrate their service, innovations, creativity and zeal in publishing. The team took the opportunity to also announce the collaboration of the hospital with Gratitude Farms for vermicomposting and gave the first harvest to the chief guests. A simple cultural event was organised at the end where residents, fellows, and MLOPs performed and portrayed their talents.

Aravind-Tirunelveli, February 25

34<sup>th</sup> Hospital Day was celebrated in a simple manner at Aravind-Tirunelveli. Doctors, MLOPs and Admin staff members joined the celebration. Dr. R. Meenakshi, Chief Medical Officer welcomed the gathering. Dr. R Madhavi, Glaucoma Consultant presented the annual report in a nutshell. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Advisor, Aravind-Tirunelveli gave an inspiring speech. Awards and certificates were distributed to the staff members in recognition of their service. For the first time, staff members who had come for duty on time in the year 2021 were recognized and given Certificate of appreciation and a gift. A total of 13 staff members had 100% on time attendance for the period January to December 2021. Cultural programmes followed the formal ceremony.

Aravind-Pondicherry



Aravind-Tirunelveli



## Aurolab

### Sales Training Programme for Therapeutic Team

Aurolab/LAICO, March 7-13

A training programme was conducted for the field executives of the therapeutic team of Aurolab. A total of 30 field executives from southern India were brought together for this event. The team was trained for 7 days on various aspects including basic ophthalmology, products and selling skills. The training was led by Mr. Ramesh Venkataraman, Marketing consultant – Aurolab Therapeutic Team. Mr. Ramesh comes with an experience of more than 20 years with Alcon Pharma as its Marketing Head for Asia. The team was equipped with digital detailing and reporting applications during the training. The best performers in the training were rewarded by Mr. Krishnan, National Sales Manager and Mr. R.D.Sriram – Managing Director, Aurolab.



### Women's Day Celebration

Aurolab, March 8

At Aurolab, a variety of competitions were held from March 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Women's Day. On the final day, Mrs. Vijaya Sundar, Principal, Mahatma School was invited as the special guest. Mr. R.D.Sriram, Managing Director – Aurolab presented the prizes to the winners.



### Launch of Aurovue EV Toric

Aurolab introduced Aurovue EV Toric lenses with a new dual haptic design. A launch kit designed with relevant contents were distributed to 225 surgeons.



## LAICO

### Visit to Sunderland Social Service Society Eye Hospital

Sunderban, West Bengal, February 28-March 5

Mr. D. Yesudhasan, faculty-LAICO and Ms. Chandravandana, Assistant Manager, Quality Department visited Sunderland Social Service Society Eye Hospital as part of the Leap collaborative series on implementing NABH standards for entry level certification. Aravind team helped the hospital complete the NABH online application. The desktop assessment of NABH application is over and the team is waiting for virtual assessment by the NABH assessor.



## Publications

1. Sindal MD, Nagesha CK, Yadav D, Fazal R. **Morphological outcome and indication for laser following intravitreal bevacizumab monotherapy for posterior retinopathy of prematurity**. Lasers Med Sci. 2022 Feb 2. [Epub] [View More](#)
2. Yerna L, Agarwal A, Dave VR, Honavar SG, Majji AB, Lall A, Mahobia A, Grover AK, Gupta A, Shroff C, Talwar D, Ravindra MS, Goyal M, Sharma N, Kamdar PA, Bhande P, Samant P, Rishi P, Ravindran RD, Narayanan R, Sinha R, Pappuru RR, Kumar SS, Saravanan VR, Lahane TP, Gajiwala U, Pradeep V. **All India Ophthalmological Society (AIOS) Task Force guidelines to prevent intraocular infections and cluster outbreaks after cataract surgery**. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2022 Feb;70(2):362-368. [View More](#)
3. Vishwaraj CR, Kavitha S, Venkatesh R, Shukla AG, Chandran P, Tripathi S. **Neuroprotection in glaucoma**. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2022 Feb;70(2):380-385. [View More](#)
4. Kanian NB, Sen S. **Commentary: Utility of multi-colour imaging in identifying tractional membranes over the retina**. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2022 Feb;70(2):470-471. [View More](#)
5. Anitha V, Ghorpade A, Ravindran M. **A modified Tenons sling anastomosis for advanced peripheral uveitis with an hourglass cataract**. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2022 Feb;70(2):655-657. [View More](#)
6. Anthony E, Rajaman A, Baskaran P, Rajendran A. **Vogt Koyanagi Harada disease following a recent COVID-19 infection**. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2022 Feb;70(2):670-672. [View More](#)
7. Verghese S, Berkowitz ST, Shah VM, Shah P, Priya S, Saravanan VR, Narendran V, Selvan VA. **Assessment of retinal manifestations of Parkinson's disease using spectral domain optical coherence tomography: A study in Indian eyes**. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2022 Feb;70(2):448-452. [View More](#)
8. Arthur D, Kannan NB, Sen S, Ramasamy K. **Digitally assisted vitreoretinal surgery: A unique surgical teaching tool for beginners**. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2022 Feb;70(2):477-481. [View More](#)
9. Anitha V, Nair S, Ravindran M, Uduman MS. **Comparing the effectiveness of different postoperative counseling methods for post-keratoplasty patients**. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2022 Feb;70(2):517-522. [View More](#)
10. Kader MA, Pradhan A, Shukla AG, Maheswari D, Ramakrishnan R, Midya D. **Lowering of intraocular pressure after phacemulsification in primary open-angle and angle-closure glaucoma: Correlation with lens thickness**. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2022 Feb;70(2):574-579. [View More](#)
11. Anilkumar SE, Narendran K. **Prisms in the treatment of diplopia with strabismus of various etiologies**. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2022 Feb;70(2):609-612. [View More](#)
12. Vijayalakshmi P, Flora J, Shah G, Sathya B, Gilbert C. **Ocular surgery, visual and general developmental outcome in Indian children with retinoblastic proven periventricular leukomalacia**. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2022 Feb;70(2):619-624. [View More](#)
13. Venkatesh R, Gurnani B, Kaur K. **Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on carbon footprint and strategies to mitigate waste generation**. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2022 Feb;70(2):690-691. [View More](#)
14. Tsui E, Rathnam SR, Gonzales JA, Thundikandy R, Kanakath A, Balamurugan S, Vedhanayaki R, Lim LL, Suhler EB, Al-Dhibi HA, Doan T, Keenan J, Ebert CD, Kim E, Madow B, Porco TC, Acharya NR, FAST Research Group. **Outcomes of uveitic macular edema in the First-line Antimetabolites as Steroid-sparing Treatment (FAST) Uveitis Trial**. Ophthalmology. 2022 Feb 7. [Epub] [View More](#)
15. Ramke J, Evans JR, Habtamu E, Mwangi N, Silva JC, Swenor BK, Congdon N, Faal HB, Foster A, Friedman DS, Gichuhi S, Jonas JB, Khaw PT, Kyari F, Murthy GVS, Wang N, Wong TY, Womrali R, Yusuf M, Taylor H, Resnikoff S, West SK, Burton MJ, Grand Challenges in Global Eye Health study group. **Grand Challenges in global eye health: a global prioritisation process using Delphi method**. Lancet Healthy Longev. 2022 Jan;3(1):e31-e41. [View More](#)
16. Moe CA, Liliha P, Prinja NV, Mascarenhas J, Sriwattan M, Des M, Panigrahi A, Rajaraman R, Seitzman GD, Oldenburg CE, Lietman TM, Keenan JD. **Outcomes of amoebic, fungal, and bacterial keratitis: A retrospective cohort study**. PLoS One. 2022 Feb 16;17(2):e0264021. [View More](#)
17. Raghavan A, Raja DR, Venkatapathy N, Rammoohan R. **A case of stromal microsporidiosis: medical strategies employed for successful resolution**. BMJ Case Rep. 2022 Feb 14;15(2):e246233. [View More](#)

## Training

Long Term Fellowship Programmes – For Ophthalmologists		
Fellowship in Anterior Segment & IOL Surgery	Chennai	1
Fellowship in Cornea	Pondicherry	1
	Coimbatore	1
Fellowship in Glaucoma	Tirunelveli	2
	Madurai	1
Fellowship in Retina Vitreous	Pondicherry	1
	Coimbatore	1
Fellowship in General Ophthalmology	Madurai	2
Short Term Training Programmes – For Ophthalmologists		
Phacemulsification	Madurai	2
	Tirunelveli	1
	Pondicherry	1
	Coimbatore	1
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Tirunelveli	1
	Pondicherry	1
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity and Paediatric Retinal Disorders	Coimbatore	2
Laser in DR	Coimbatore	1
Short Term Training Programmes – For Paramedicals		
Telescreening in Retinopathy of Prematurity	Coimbatore	1

## Statistics

Patient Statistics – February 2022														
Hospitals	Total	Madurai	Tirunelveli	Theni	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Tirupur	Dindigul	Salem	Tuticorin	Udumalpet	CheCC	Chennai	Tirupati
<b>Hospital Out-Patient Visits</b>														
Paying (New & Review)	211,756	48,370	27,069	7,760	28,009	23,626	4,685	6,505	10,685	5,296	4,020	3,607	27,983	11,600
Free/Direct walk-in (New & Review)	74,516	18,506	7,213	2,593	9,280	8,520	2,006	–	4,013	756	2,084	–	9,088	9,866
<b>Outreach Out Patient</b>														
Comprehensive Eye Camps	19,193	4,485	1,474	793	4,734	3,856	232	–	678	131	158	–	2,320	332
Diabetic Retinopathy Camps	998	443	90	48	312	–	–	–	105	–	–	–	–	–
Refraction Camp	2,154	552	181	–	–	290	–	–	1,131	–	–	–	–	–
Mobile Refraction Unit	1,472	–	–	82	600	–	–	–	790	–	–	–	–	–
School Screening	6,401	–	–	–	3,807	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2,594	–
RpP Screening	1,526	300	330	173	564	44	–	–	–	–	–	–	89	26
Vision Centres	64,724	22,234	13,825	5,741	4,747	12,251	1,248	–	1,754	–	1,539	–	1,385	–
Community / City Centres	15,542	8,496	2,382	2,080	–	2,584	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
<b>Total OP Examinations</b>	<b>398,282</b>	<b>103,386</b>	<b>52,564</b>	<b>19,270</b>	<b>52,053</b>	<b>51,171</b>	<b>8,171</b>	<b>6,505</b>	<b>19,156</b>	<b>6,183</b>	<b>7,801</b>	<b>3,607</b>	<b>40,856</b>	<b>24,418</b>
<b>Total number of camps</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Surgeries</b>														
Cataract	30,937	7,353	3,331	976	5,136	4,123	612	473	1,744	467	842	192	3,372	2,144
*Other Surgeries	16,778	5,259	1,302	438	3,372	2,191	84	72	593	63	74	181	2,240	948
<b>Total Surgeries</b>	<b>47,715</b>	<b>12,612</b>	<b>4,633</b>	<b>1,414</b>	<b>8,508</b>	<b>6,314</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>2,457</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>5,612</b>	<b>3,092</b>

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

## Archives

Learn more about the happenings at Aravind

March 2022

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