

Aravind's latest expansion of its infrastructure at Tirunelveli is a significant boost to eye care services in the southern region of Tamil Nadu and neighbouring state. Since its inception in 1988 in Tirunelveli, the hospital has witnessed steady growth in terms of patient care. Last year, it treated over 585 thousand patients and performed over 58 thousand surgeries within the space of 1,47,858 sq. ft. This new six-storey building sprawling at 1,68,056 sq. ft with a capacity of 14 new operating theatres, 4 Outpatient units and other amenities can accommodate a larger number of patients and comfortably meet the region's growing demand for eye care services.

Awards and accolades provide institutions with the drive to pursue their goals with greater energy and enthusiasm. Recently, the Delhi Commission for Protection of Children's Rights recognised Aravind with the Children's Champion

Award for the year 2023. This prestigious award acknowledges Aravind's comprehensive initiatives and services in the field of paediatric ophthalmology and its determination to bring about positive change in the lives of visually impaired children.

Aravind's mission extends beyond providing eye care to those in need. Significant work goes into creating awareness about various eye diseases, such as glaucoma, which is a leading cause of preventable, irreversible blindness worldwide. During the World Glaucoma Week in the month of March, several programmes were held across all Aravind Eye Hospitals to raise awareness among people about this debilitating disease. News about these and many more feature in this issue.

**Accolades** 

Delhi, April 16

Kannamma Ravindran, Lakshmi Eye Care Support Services, Aravind – Madurai received the Lifetime Achievement

Lifetime Achievement Award

Award from Zeiss as part of its *You and Eye Awards* held in Delhi. The award recognises her contribution to optical services.

# The award was conferred upon Aravind Eye Care System by the Delhi Commission for Protection of Children's

Children's Champion Award for Aravind Eye Care System

Rights, an apex body of the Govt. of Delhi. The award was given in recognition of Aravind's extraordinary work in improving the eyesight of visually impaired children. Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi, Founding member, Senior Medical Consultant, Paediatric Ophthalmology Services, Aravind-Madurai who played a pivotal role in changing the face of paediatric ophthalmology in India received the award on behalf of Aravind from Dr. S. Muralidhar, Chief Justice, Odisha High Court at the function held in New Delhi.

## **Dunes Achievement Award** Jaipur, March 18-19

New Delhi, March 25

Dr. Haripriya, Head, Cataract and IOL Services, Aravind-Chennai received the award at the Festival du Film Dunes organised by Anand Hospital and Postgraduate Eye Institute, Jaipur supported by Jaipur Ophthalmological Society. At this event, she delivered a keynote address – *Misaligned Toric IOLs*.

She also gave talks on Modified iris fixation Technique

- Management of a severely subluxated cataract. She also performed a Micro Incision Cataract Surgery with Nanex IOL, which was broadcasted live to the

participants.

**Best Oral Presentation Award** 

February 28 – March 1

4th International Conference on Genome Biology and 54th Annual Aqua-Terr Day, organised by Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai.

C. Prakash, Senior Research Fellow, Department of Genetics, AMRF, received the award for his paper – *Nuclear gene implications in LHON probands decodes autosomal recessive forms of inheritance.* 

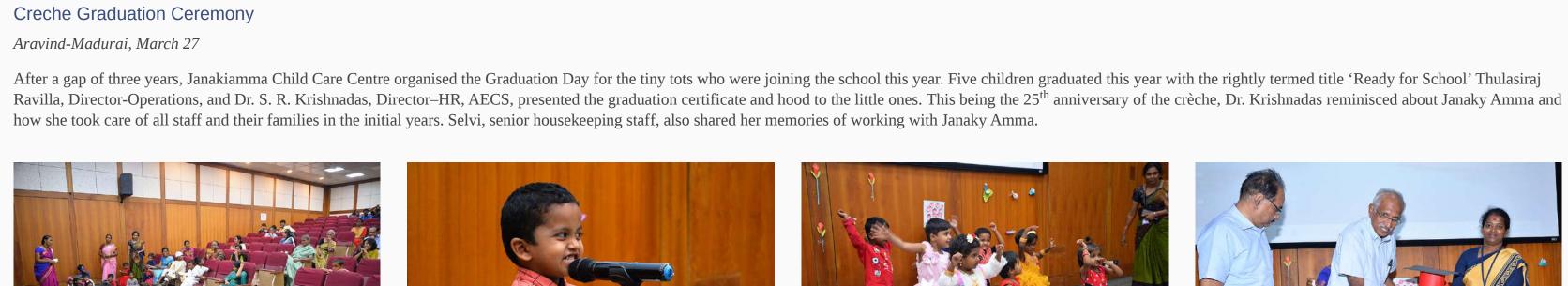
**Aravind Events** 

#### Inauguration of the New Building *Aravind – Tirunelveli, April 16*

350 surgeries at the 14 operating theatres. It was inaugurated by Padma Shri Nivedita Bide, Vice President, Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari in the presence of Dr. K. P. Karthikeyan, IAS District Collector, Tirunelveli.

Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Advisor, Aravind-Tirunelveli welcomed the audience. Padma Shri Nivedita Bide spoke about the service provided by Aravind from her firsthand experience of being a patient at Aravind for the past several years. Dr. Karthikeyan reminisced about his connection to Aravind Eye Hospitals and how he used to watch the hospital's outreach camps benefiting the people of his village. Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, Chairman Emeritus, AECS spoke on starting a Regional Research Centre at Tirunelveli with Aravind Medical Research Foundation, Madurai as the head office. Dr. R. D. Ravindran, AECS gave an overview about Aravind Eye Care System. Dr. S. Aravind, Director – Projects gave an overview of the new building at Tirunelveli and also about the various projects in the pipeline. The whole construction team was recognised and presented with a memento and gift. Dr. R. Meenakshi, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind-Tirunelveli, proposed the vote of thanks.

The pressure for expansion has been long felt at Aravind-Tirunelveli. For over a decade ago, the staff have, with great difficulty, made do with the available space to handle the ever growing volume of patients. With perseverance, Aravind-Tirunelveli has finally inaugurated the new building. This new building has state-of-the-art eye care facilities. With the addition of the new facility Aravind – Tirunelveli can accommodate about 3,500 outpatients and can perform 300 to

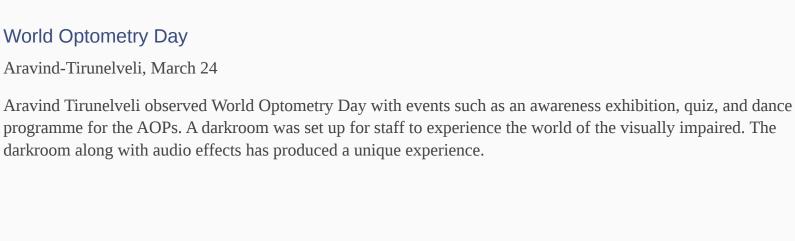


World Optometry Day

Aravind-Tirunelveli, March 24

*Aravind-Tirupati, March 18* 







The workshop was conducted by the Biomedical Engineering Team of Aravind Eye Hospitals. A total of 89 participants, including 20 ophthalmologists, OT technicians, ophthalmic technicians, ophthalmic assistants, and biomedical technicians from in and around Andhra Pradesh and Telangana took part. About 20 faulty equipments brought in by the participants were repaired free of cost during the workshop. During the workshop, A Hand Book on Ophthalmic Instruments and Equipment Maintenance developed by the biomedical engineering team of Aravind-Madurai was launched by Dr. Sri Hari, Former President, Andhra Pradesh Ophthalmic Association. The book will serve as a good resource material for allied ophthalmic personnel.

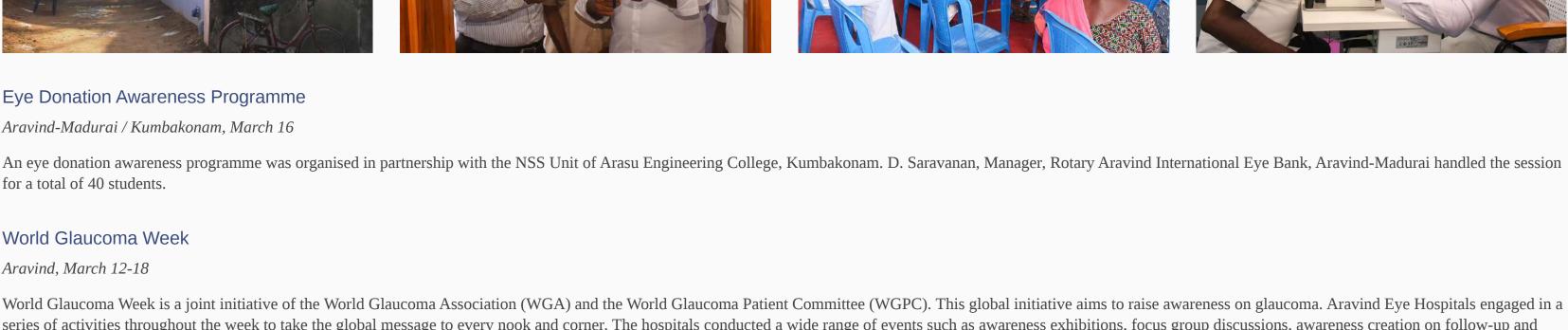
Pondicherry rises to 17 and the total number of all Aravind Vision Centres to 108.



106<sup>th</sup> Vision Centre of Aravind Eye Care System was inaugurated at Vikravandi by M. Abdul Salam, Chairman, Town Panchayath – Vikkravandi, V. Thirunavakarasu, Retired General Manager of MAC Agro Industries and Dr. R. Venkatesh, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind-Pondicherry. The centre will be managed by Aravind-Pondicherry and is funded by the SEVA-SCB grant. With the establishment of this centre, the number of vision centres run by Aravind-







WELCOME



Children's Champion

Children's Champion

**DUNES ACHIEVEMENT AWARD** 

Aravind, March 12-18

series of activities throughout the week to take the global message to every nook and corner. The hospitals conducted a wide range of events such as awareness exhibitions, focus group discussions, awareness creation on follow-up and family screening, radio talks and interactive sessions with the public, quiz programmes, press meets, published awareness articles in newspapers, awareness walk, etc. Moreover, short video clips on glaucoma were shared via social media and displayed in the patient waiting areas of the hospital. Patient interaction meeting and awareness talks were organised for the attenders of daycare patients. Glaucoma screening camps were conducted in which patients identified with glaucoma were advised for further treatment at the base hospital. Glaucoma consultants participated in various CMEs and educated undergraduate and postgraduate students, optometrists, and nursing students.

## Banners were displayed at prominent places in the hospital to create awareness. Pamphlets on glaucoma and the importance of family screening were distributed to patients and attenders. A flash mob dance was performed by students of Mahatma Gandhi Medical College, arranged by Aravind-Pondicherry. Throughout the month of March, an awareness message on glaucoma was set as a caller tune on the hospital landline phone number.

for a total of 40 students.

World Glaucoma Week

Aravind - Pondicherry

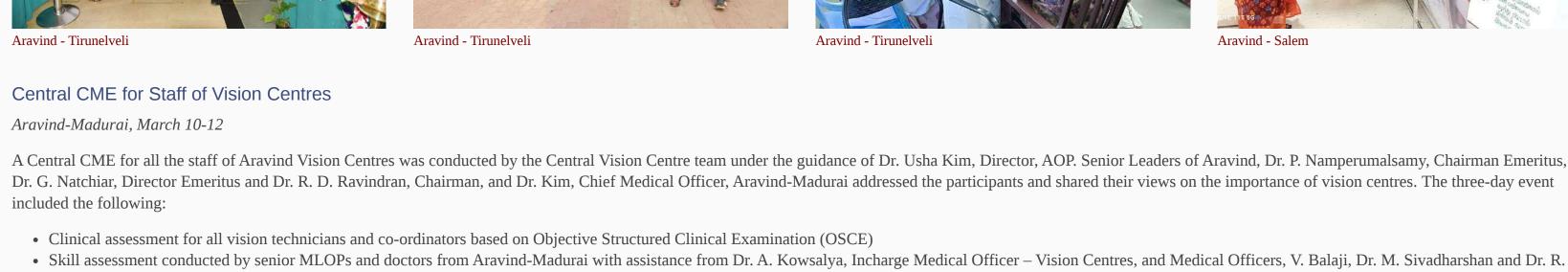


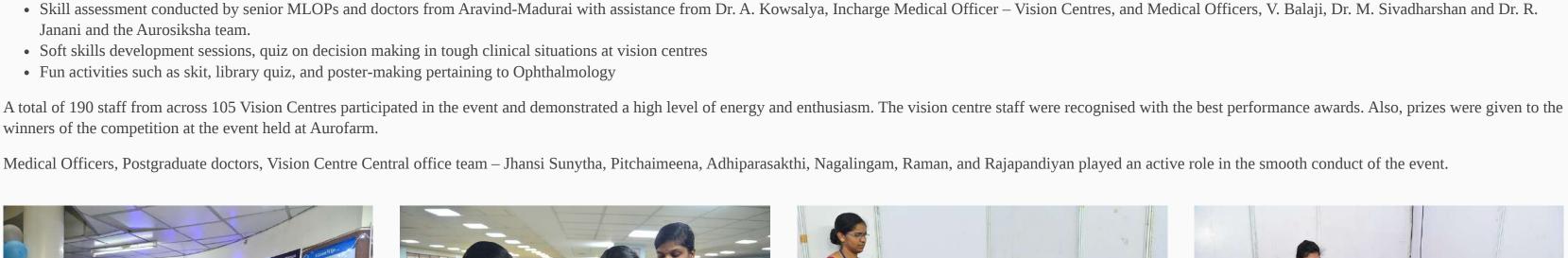


Aravind - Madurai

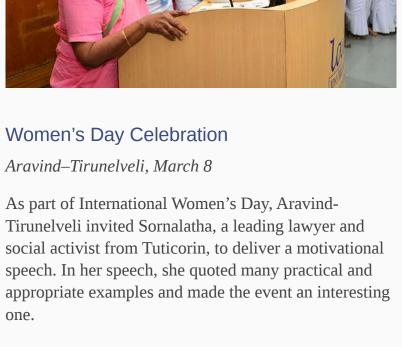






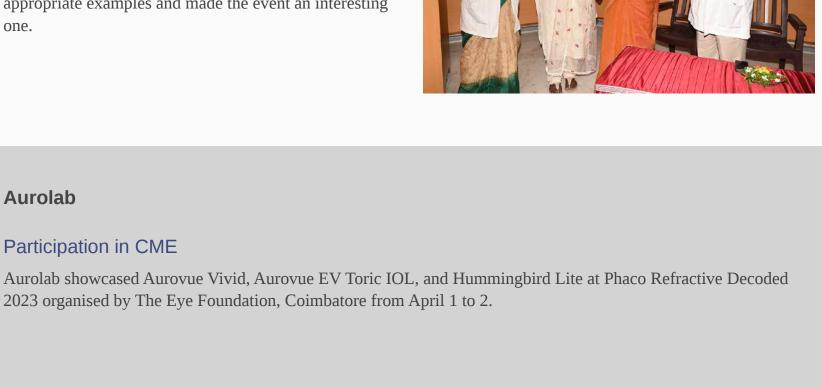


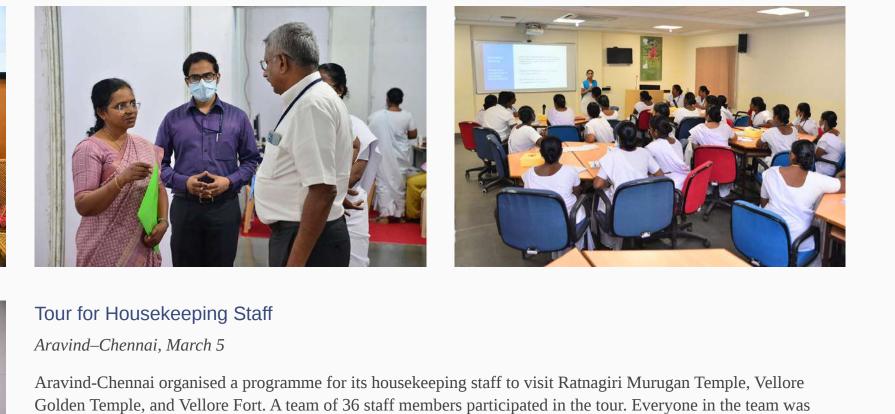




2023 organised by The Eye Foundation, Coimbatore from April 1 to 2.







aurolab

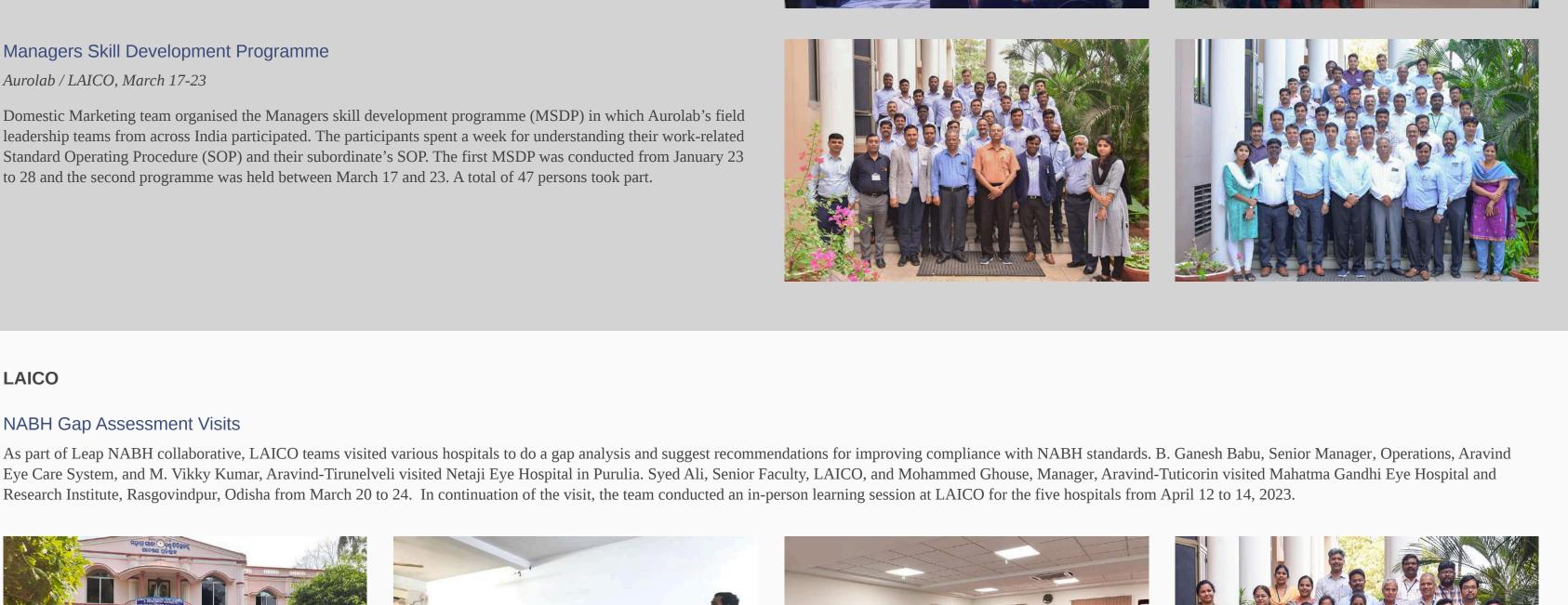
extremely delighted and grateful for arranging such a memorable trip.

Managers Skill Development Programme Aurolab / LAICO, March 17-23

Domestic Marketing team organised the Managers skill development programme (MSDP) in which Aurolab's field leadership teams from across India participated. The participants spent a week for understanding their work-related Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and their subordinate's SOP. The first MSDP was conducted from January 23

to 28 and the second programme was held between March 17 and 23. A total of 47 persons took part.

**LAICO** NABH Gap Assessment Visits



one.

**Aurolab** 

Participation in CME

LAICO, March 20-25

**Conference Attended** 

– Subretinal membrane removal

Bathinda, Punjab, March 9 – 10

Dr. D. Bharanidharan, Scientist, AMRF

Challenging case scenario

Reticon 2023

Chennai, March 19

Netaji Eye Hospital, Purulia Mahatma Gandhi Eye Hospital, Odisha In-Person Learning session, LAICO ACCESS Project Wrap-Up Meeting

Aravind has been working with five partners from Sub-Saharan Africa since 2012 through the ACCESS Initiative (African Centres of Excellence in Cataract Services). This project was supported by the Hilton Foundation through a twotime grant that concludes in May 2023. The partners are from Kenya, Zambia, Ethiopia, and Nigeria. The final meeting of the ACCESS Initiative was held at LAICO from March 20 to 25, 2023. The team from Nigeria joined the meeting



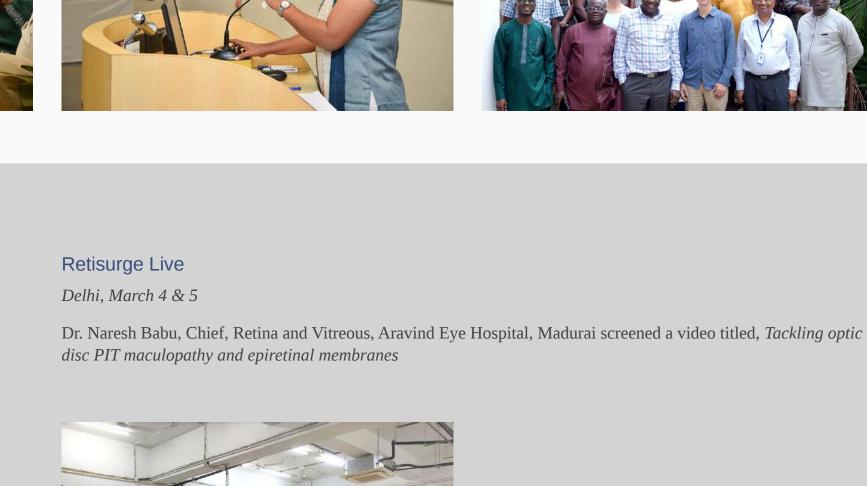
Dr. Kim, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind-Madurai

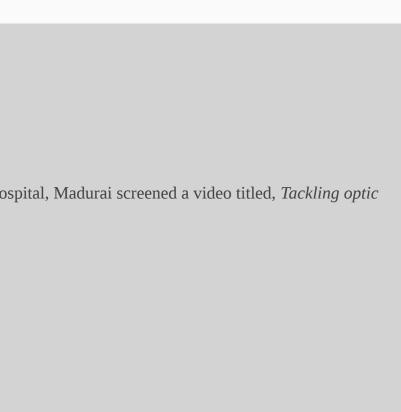
Next Generation Sequencing Data Analysis

He also conducted a practical session on exome/genome data analysis.

- Hunting disease-specific pathogenic variants from genome/exome sequencing with a focus on eye diseases.







#### International symposium on Mitochondria, Cell death and Human diseases Delhi, February 18- 19 Dr. P. Sundaresan, Senior Scientist, AMRF - Mutation profile and functional studies of neurodegenerative mitochondriopathy – LHON.

Invited talks

More

**Publications** 1. Bansal R, Kim RU, Bhaskaran S, Spivey BE, Honavar SG. **Through the prism of inspiration – Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2023 Mar;71(3):693-696. View More

PLOS Glob Public Health. 2023 Feb 22;3(2):e0000631. View More

**Long Term Fellowship Programmes – For Ophthalmologists** 

**Short Term Training Programmes – For Ophthalmologists** 

Fellowship in General Ophthalmology

Fellowship in Paediatric Ophthalmology

Fellowship in Retina

Management of ROP

3. Rodriguez SH, Ells AL, Blair MP, Shah PK, Harper CA 3rd, Martinez-Castellanos MA, Prakalapakorn SG, Denis E, Lusobya RC, Greenwald MJ, Isenberg SJ, Lambert SR, Vaucher YE, Carroll A, Namakula L. Retinopathy of

10. Manayath GJ, Ninan RS, Verghese S, Narendran V. Multimodal imaging of epiretinal neovascularization associated with type 3 macular neovascularization. Eur J Ophthalmol. 2023 12:11206721231163618. [Epub] View More 11. Gurnani B, Kaur K. Successful management of delayed hyaluronidase hypersensitivity after subtenon's anesthesia during the COVID-19 pandemic: A rare case report. Indian J Pharmacol. 2023 Jan-Feb;55(1):59-61. View

12. Ramke J, Silva JC, Gichangi M, Ravilla T, Burn H, Buchan JC, Welch V, Gilbert CE, Burton MJ; Cataract Access Study Group. Cataract services for all: Strategies for equitable access from a global modified Delphi process.

13. Babenko B, Traynis I, Chen C, Singh P, Uddin A, Cuadros J, Daskivich LP, Maa AY, Kim R, Kang EY, Matias Y, Corrado GS, Peng L, Webster DR, Semturs C, Krause J, Varadarajan AV, Hammel N, Liu Y. A deep learning model

14. Maneksha V, Aparna KS, Kavya S, Debaruna G. Lacrimal Sac Rhinosporidiosis: Clinical Profile and Gram Stain as a Method of Preoperative Diagnosis. Ophthalmic Plast Reconstr Surg. 2023 Mar 27. [Epub] View More

4. Chandratreya MP, Mudduluru D, Venugopal A, Varghese AK, Ghorpade AS. A study on childhood microbial keratitis in South India. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2023 Mar;71(3):841-846. View More

8. Dogukan SB, Somanath A. Commentary: Optical coherence angiography in intermediate uveitis: What is the scope? Indian J Ophthalmol. 2023 Mar;71(3):1038-1039. View More

5. Krishna U, Odayappan A, Venkatesh R, Kavitha S. Changes in emergency glaucoma care during the COVID-19 pandemic in South India. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2023 Mar;71(3):864-868. View More

7. Vivekanandan VR, Dhanaseelan T, Benzy M, Venkatesh R, Odayar V. Single haptic iris fixation of posterior chamber intraocular lens. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2023 Mar;71(3):1016-1020. View More

9. Jeyaprakash K, Thirumalairaj K, Kim U, Muthukkaruppan V, Vanniarajan A. **RB1 transcript analysis detects novel splicing aberration in retinoblastoma.** Pediatr Blood Cancer. 2023 Mar 14:e30290. View More

**Training Enrolments for April 2023** Course title **Training Centre** No. of enrolments

16. Maitra P, Shah PK, S P, Das A, V N. **Knobloch syndrome – a rare collagenopathy, revealing peripheral avascular retina.** Ophthalmic Genet. 2023 Mar 30:1-5. [Epub] View More

2. Babu N, Kohli P. Commentary: Techniques for removal of posteriorly dislocated lens fragment. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2023 Mar;71(3):789-790. View More

6. Babu N, Kohli P. Commentary: Retinal changes after internal limiting membrane peeling. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2023 Mar;71(3):933-934. View More

for novel systemic biomarkers in photographs of the external eye: a retrospective study. Lancet Digit Health. 2023 Mar 23. [Epub] View More

15. Soundaria S, Kavitha S. Occult iris holes in Rieger anomaly. Digit J Ophthalmol. 2023 Mar 25;9{1). View More

Madurai

Tirunelveli

Pondicherry

Coimbatore

Coimbatore

Madurai

Tirunelveli

Coimbatore

Prematurity in the 21st Century and the Complex Impact of Supplemental Oxygen. J Clin Med. 2023 Feb 3;12(3):1228. View More

Madurai 1 Fellowship in Cornea Coimbatore 1 Pondicherry 1 Coimbatore Fellowship in Glaucoma 1 Madurai 2 Pondicherry Theni 1

2

1

1

3

2

1

# Phacoemulsification

Paediatric Eye

**RoP Screening** 

**Vision Centres** 

Community /

City Centres

**Examinations** 

**Total number** 

of camps

Surgeries

Cataract

\*Other

Surgeries

**Total Surgeries** 69,009

**Total OP** 

screening

218

1,933

90,660

19,177

208

44,301

24,708

542,773 | 138,345

340

27,386

10,520

43

11,937

6,970

18,907

318

16,191

3,199

66,492

25

3,998

3,129

7,127

237

6,605

2,602

26,174

32

1,304

479

1,783

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

Archives

704

6,211

69,707

32

6,182

4,665

10,847

Learn more about the happenings at Aravind

Pondicherry 1  Coimbatore 2				
Small Incision Cataract Surgery  Pondicherry  1				
Pondicherry 1  Coimbatore 2				
Short Term Training Program – For Paramedicals				
Fundus Fluorescein Angiography & Ultrasonography Madurai 1				
Ocularist Madurai 1				
Instrument Maintenance – For Technicians				
Instrument Maintenance for Technicians LAICO 6				
Management Courses				
Management Training and Systems Development for LAICO 12				
Hospital Administrators / Managers				
Patient Statistics – March 2023				
raticit Statistics – Maich 2025				
Hospitals Total Madurai Tirunelveli Theni Coimbatore Pondicherry Tirupur Dindigul Salem Tuticorin Udumalpet Cbe	€CC Chen	Chennai	Tirupati	Kovilpa
Hospital Out-patient visits				
Paying (New & Review) 267,880 61,420 31,828 9,706 34,991 28,138 5,117 9,679 12,844 6,251 5,055 4,	,844 40,	40,521	14,495	2,99
Free: Direct	– 13, <sup>-</sup>	13,739	14,183	
Review)				
Review)  Outreach Out-patients  Comprehensive Eye Camps  40,558 10,998 4,533 1,937 7,631 7,214 602 - 1,438 606 255	- 3,9	3,903	3 1,441	8:
Review)  Outreach Out-patients  Comprehensive 40.558 10.998 4.533 1.937 7.631 7.214 602 - 1.438 606 255		450		8
Review)         Outreach Out-patients           Comprehensive Eye Camps         40,558         10,998         4,533         1,937         7,631         7,214         602         —         1,438         606         255           Diabetic Retinopathy         2,407         1,094         —         286         786         91         —         —         —         —         —				8
Review)     Outreach Out-patients       Comprehensive Eye Camps     40,558     10,998     4,533     1,937     7,631     7,214     602     -     1,438     606     255       Diabetic Retinopathy Camps     2,407     1,094     -     286     786     91     -     -     -     -     -       Glaucoma     1,178     -     446     732     -     -     -     -     -     -     -	- :	150	) –	8
Review)     Outreach Out-patients       Comprehensive Eye Camps     40,558     10,998     4,533     1,937     7,631     7,214     602     — 1,438     606     255       Diabetic Retinopathy Camps     2,407     1,094     — 286     786     91     — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	- :	2,644	) – – – 1 –	8

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2,030

9,984

1,171

1,231

60

4,844

315

167

482

222

2,617

64,352 30,149

17

5,277

3,298

8,575

26

11

3,125

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4,521

3,869

303

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343

Submit

214

86

9,524

759

90

849

4,617

10

8,295

636

108

744

9,679 26,068

714 2,432

1,259

3,691

87

801

More Archives

15,479

2,856

67,156 17,659

28

6,148

2,960

9,108