

VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA (Update for the Website)

VISION 2020 INDIA provides an invaluable, historic opportunity to Eye Care Organizations and allied stakeholders to become key part of a movement and team focused on eliminating causes of avoidable blindness from India, as was done for eradication of smallpox.

We are doing this by focusing on key strategic areas of Advocacy for eye health, Policy and Program development and quality in Eye Care.

Our group has worked with the Government of India in the formulation of the XIth Five Year Plan (2007-12) for Blindness Control which has led to a fourfold increase in resource allocation and a program which is more comprehensive.

To bring about a national wide, system level impact, our group is focusing on key areas of Health Management Information System (HMIS), Quality of service delivery and training of Human Resources.

**XI Five Year Plan
for BLINDNESS CONTROL**

**National Program for
Control of Blindness**
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Govt. Of India

● Rs. 1,250 Crores for 5 years
(2007 - 12)
● Focus on Comprehensive
Eye Care

Includes:

- Diabetic Retinopathy
- Glaucoma
- Keratoplasty
- Childhood Blindness - Squint, ROP, Retinoblastoma, Congenital ptosis, Intra ocular trauma in children and Low Vision

● 3,000 Vision Centres to be Established

Strengthen:

- 30 Eye Banks
- 130 Eye Donation Centres
- 40 Voluntary Organizations

VISION 2020
FOR BETTER VISION
INDIA

For more details and the complete memorandum look up at: www.mohfw.nic.in/default.htm & www.vision2020india.org

The other key initiatives include:

(1) Recently, we have reviewed and revised the **National Program for Control of Blindness** – through a VISION 2020 Regional Workshop conducted by LAICO & supported by IAPB



(2) Our Annual General Assembly focusing on **Public Private Partnerships: This was led by our former President of India, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam**. He has requested the NPCB Team and VISION 2020 INDIA Stakeholders to make all necessary effort to make Bihar a blindness free state in the presence of the State Health Minister, Shri Nand Kishore Yadav.



Technical capacities were enhanced by sessions on Resource Mobilization & Sustainability, Comprehensive Eye Care and Quality Assurance in eye care delivery

(3) Training of Hospital Based Ophthalmic Assistants

An initiative has been launched to address the growing need of standardization of the curriculum for training of Hospital based Ophthalmic Assistants (HB-OA). Workshops were held first in Madurai and Bangalore and will be followed by a meeting of the Academic Council in November, 2009.

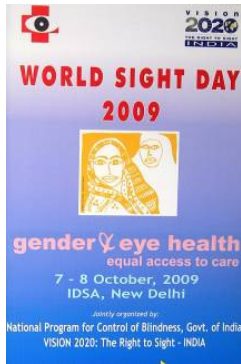
(4) 24th National Eye Donation Fortnight

29 out of the 75 VISION 2020 INDIA members have Eye Bank and/or EDC. These member organizations conducted sensitization & awareness building activities amongst the general population as well as Health Care Professionals.

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(5) World Sight Day 2009, New Delhi



This is the 9th Program in India organised in partnership with the National Program for Control of Blindness, Govt. of India and VISION 2020 INDIA Member organizations.

Key events included an exhibition of posters developed by members of VISION 2020 INDIA, National Symposium on the theme: "Gender & eye health" was organized on 7th October, 2009 with eminent resource persons from across the country. Keynote address was delivered by Dr. GN Rao.



VISION 2020 INDIA Brand Ambassador (Smt Hema Malini) also participated in the celebrations. A celebrity dinner was organized for the members of VISION 2020 INDIA and its guests on 7th October evening.

The events on 8th October unfolded with the sapling plantation by five prominent Dignitaries, Mr. V. Venkatachalam, Additional Secretary – MOHFW, Ms. Shalini Prasad, Joint Secretary – MOHFW, Brand Ambassador Smt. Hema Malini, Dr. GN Rao and Dr. (Mrs.) Rachel Jose, Addl DGHS – MOHFW.



Hema Malini mentioned in her speech "Let's us therefore pledge our physical eyes after our lifetime while we shall pledge our hearts loaded with love during our lifetime. My appreciation to those in the Secretariat who have pledged their eyes in this noble service!"



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This was also an apt occasion to felicitate Dr. (Mrs.) Rachel Jose for her 20 years of commendable service and leadership to the blindness control program in India.



Organizations interested in making India free of causes of avoidable blindness and joining our movement can become our members by writing to us for further information at rajeshnoah@vision2020india.org.