



**VISION 2020: THE RIGHT TO SIGHT – INDIA  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE: A PLATFORM FOR  
SHARING OF KNOWLEDGE AND BEST PRACTICES  
SEWA SADAN, BHOPAL  
6 & 7, APRIL, 2013**

## 9<sup>th</sup> annual conference: A platform for sharing of knowledge and best practices

Exchange of knowledge and sharing best practices across 8 tracks, 7 sessions in each track, a total of 56 topics and a total of nearly 520 participants that is the 9<sup>th</sup> annual conference in a nutshell that concluded in Bhopal recently.

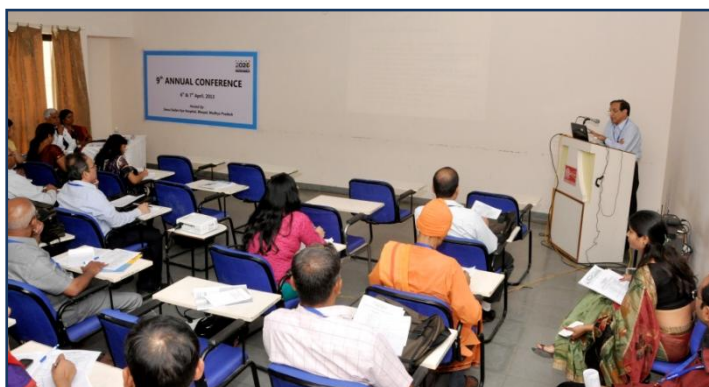
The two – day conference 'Achieving Excellence in Comprehensive Eye Care Management' held on April 6 & 7 and hosted by Sewa Sadan Eye Hospital, Bhopal included a range of topics and received a tremendous response in terms of participation from our members.

The one foremost concept while designing the conference tracks was to incorporate topics that would benefit the clinical and also the supportive departments that are the backbone of any organisation. To include topics that would also be in the sphere of VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India's objective of comprehensive, equitable and quality eye care.



And to a large extent the conference has been successful in achieving that goal. If there is one common comment in almost all the feedbacks that have been received is that it was a platform that gave an opportunity and had topics for almost all the departments in a hospital.

"The sessions covered many areas of interest and I feel confident that it did stimulate a lot of enthusiasm especially among the young audience" said Dr Pararajsegram of the conference.



Commenting on the exclusiveness of the conference, Dr Santosh Moses, Assistant Director - Eye Health, Operation Eyesight Universal (India) said, "This is perhaps the only conference in ophthalmology that provides an opportunity to the supporting staff in an eye hospital to attend a conference and more importantly, an opportunity to share their thoughts."

The participants for the conference included head of organisations, ophthalmologists, administrators, programme managers, optometrists and in addition to this, 123 management students from local host's organisation!

In the feedback that was collected one of the participants – OT In - charge has said that a conference like this provides a chance to ophthalmic nursing assistant to share their knowledge and thought.

From the feedback forms received, from among the 8 tracks that were designed, the most popular track is the 'Reaching the unreached through service demand generation' followed by Organisational Development and Leadership and then the one on 'Towards Quality Excellence in Operation Theatre'. From among the three new tracks that were introduced this year, the most sought after has been one on 'Technology and Innovation in Eye Care'. This feedback and also suggestions will help a great deal in selecting sessions for the next year's conference.

### **One more award instituted this year**

In 2012, VISION2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA instituted Shri Dharamsey Nansey Oman Award for Outstanding High Quality High Volume Comprehensive Eye Care Service Delivery. The award is meant to recognise the exemplary contribution of an organisation in the field of community eye care, delivering eye care that is Equitable, Comprehensive and of Quality and has made lasting impact on community eye care work in India.



*Dr BK Jain receiving the Shri Dharamsey Nansey Oman Award ( left) and Mr Govind Hari receiving the Shri S.N. Shah award for Equity*

The award, comprising of a cash award of one lakh and a memento is given at the annual conference. The award was made possible by the kind donation of Shri Ashwinbhai Dharamsey, philanthropist and a businessman from Muscat, Oman. Mr. N.P.Pandya, Director, Resource Mobilisation, VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA was instrumental in successfully mobilising funding for this award and we thank him for his laudable efforts.

It is VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India's endeavour to promote equity in eye care: i.e. equality in providing eye care for all in the society with a special focus on women and children. To recognise such commendable work being done by our members, we have decided to honour it with an award.

This year, we were able to offer our members one more award to encourage and recognise the work that they do in equity: the Shri S.N. Shah award for Equity: to provide comprehensive primary eye care screenings with a focus on women and children.

The awards were presented at the inaugural of the annual conference. The Shri Dharamsey Nansey Oman Award for Outstanding High Quality High Volume Comprehensive Eye Care Service Delivery award was given to Shri Sadguru Nethra Chikitsalya, Chitrakoot while the Shri S.N. Shah award for Equity: to provide comprehensive primary eye care screenings with a focus on women and children went to Pushpagiri Eye Institute.

In addition to the regular sessions, the 9<sup>th</sup> annual conference also had a special session 'Forum of Visionaries in Eye Care' where some of the stalwarts in eye care shared their thoughts on what is the road for VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India. The speakers were: Dr Pararajsegaram, Prof Rajvardhan Azad and Dr GN Rao.

### **HMIS Training**

The conference also offered a special training session for HMIS. The two hour session was chaired by Ms Sujaya Krishnan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India and Dr. V. Rajshekhar in- charge of training on the HMIS at the Govt of India level conducted training session on HMIS. Many local hospitals representatives and government of MP's DPMS took part in the training session.

Dr NK Agarwal, DDG (O), NPCB, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India who attended on the second day of the conference was gracious to Chair session in the Outreach and also participated in the panel discussion on "Medical Curriculum"

We were fortunate to have the presence of Dr N Ravichandran, Director, IIM, Indore and Dr. Ranjeet Nambudiri, Faculty, IIM Indore grace the conference

### **Inauguration**



*Chief Guest for the inaugural, Shri Kailash Joshi addressing the audience*

The inauguration of the annual conference was a grand affair held on the evening of April 6, 2013 where Sri Kailash Joshi, MP & ex-CM of MP was the chief guest and Mr. Jeetendra Daga, MLA was the guest of honour on the occasion. From the host organisation, Shri ( rev) Sidh Bauji graced the occasion as special guest.

At the inauguration, VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India felicitated its two members who were honoured with one of the highest award by the government recognising professional excellence. Dr TP Das and Dr Natarajan were felicitated for being conferred Padma Shri this year.

VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India also felicitated its members who had volunteered to conduct hospital based skill transfer programmes and member organisations where the team building and strategic planning programmes were held.

The inaugural programme was also an opportunity to felicitate some of the special guest in eye care fraternity.

The manual on Leadership that was developed with the support from ORBIS International was released during the inaugural.

The inauguration saw a graceful classical dance recital by renowned odissi dancer. Ms Bindu Juneja and her troupe.

However a conference of such a magnitude is the well coordinated effort of a team. It is of course largely due to the cooperation and collaboration of all VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India members and the effective roles that each one played.

The track on 'Towards Quality Excellence in Operation Theatre' was made possible with the support from Dr Usha Gopinathan and Dr RR Sudhir.

The entire track on 'Optometry: advocacy, refractive errors and visual fields' was designed by Dr Lakshmi Shinde, CEO, Optometry Council of India with very valuable inputs from Dr RD Ravindran and Dr Asim Sil.

Sewa Sadan Eye Hospital the host for the conference did a commendable job in meticulously executing the entire conference, in working out the logistics and extensive arrangements and being a very generous host. We thank them again for their stupendous support.

The VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India members from central zone provided able support to make the Bhopal conference a success: Sri Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya; MGM Eye Institute; Choitram Eye Hospital; Sadguru Sankalp Netra Chikitsalya; Gomabai Eye Hospital; INGO Sightsavers and many other central zone members gave their valuable inputs and were part of the core committee. Dr Rajiv Raman, heading the scientific committee provided his support for screening and selecting the abstracts.

INGO Sightsavers, especially from Bhopal office, supported us by facilitating resource persons.

After a trend was set in the Madurai conference, this year also there was a large presence from the trade. There were 20 stalls from equipment manufacturers to pharma to some supporting businesses.

We had a galaxy of distinguished guest speakers and participants from many organizations from all over India including Dr. C. Shetty; Dr. R D Ravindran, Dr. Dr. RV Ramani; Dr. S. Haldipurkar; Mr. Nitin Desai; Dr. (Mrs.) Biseria Gupta; Dr. Ashok Grover; Dr. Kulin Kothari; Dr. V. Joshi; Sri Swami Biswanathananda; Dr. Usha Gopinathan; Dr. Dr. RR Sudhir, Dr. Sara Varughese; Ms. Laxmi Jhala; Dr. Kavitha Kumar; Dr. Ajeet Bharadwaj; Ms. Lakshmi Shinde; Ms. Prema Chande; Dr. Monica Chaudhry; Dean JK Medical College; Dr. B.K. Jain; Dr. Vishnu Jobanputra, Dr. S. Chandrashekhar, Dr. Dolly Chandra; Dr. Vinay Nangia; Dr. Hemant Karad; Mr. Govindhari; Dr. Y K Mahendra; Dr. Rajiv Raman, Dr. Vinay Nangia; Dr. G. Chandra Shekar; Dr. Deepshika Agarwal; Dr. Paul Madan; Dr. Thomas Cherian; Dr. Uday Gajiwala; Dr. Asim Sil; Dr. Jennifer B; , Dr. Jatin Shah; Dr. Rahul Ali; Dr. Mehul Shah; Mr. Kashinath B; Mr. N. Pandya; Ms. Tanuja Joshi; Dr. Mahesh Panjabi; Mr. Gimms Andrews; Ms. Manimala; Dr. Neepa Thacker; Dr. Rita Dhamankar; Dr. Krishna Prasad; Dr. Srinivas Reddy; Dr. Ashi Khurana; Ms. Renu Wadhwa; Dr. Prathiba; Ms. Aarthi Rajesh; Dr Srinivas Joshi; Dr. D Zarekar; Dr. Radhika Krishnan; Dr. Swati Zohar; Dr. Sudhir Mahashabde; Dr. Arun Sethi; Mr. Aswin Verma; Mr. Tejah B; Mr. G. Ganesh; Mr. Yogesh Jadhav; Mr. Saurabh Biswas; Mr. Pankaj V; Ms. Archana B; Ms. Jayashree Kumar; Ms. Manish Kumar; Mr. Umesh Baurai; Mr.

Madhavan; Dr. Sunder Ram Shetty; Dr. Pranab More; Mr. Nana Gaikwad; Ms. Mamta Singh; Dr. Arun Jain; Dr. Prerana U; Mr. Mahesh; Ms. Shera Ghosh; Ms. Sheeba Qumar; Ms. Sridevi S; Ms. Monu Ravindran; Dr. Ashok Rangarajan; Mr. Subramanyam; Ms. F. Soji; Mr. Prateep C; Dr. Santosh Mosses; Mr. Daniel F; Dr. A. Dagar; Dr. Elesh Jain; Mrs. Jubairiya; Dr. R N Lakhotiya; Mr. Rajesh Kapse; Dr. Sumit Malhotra; Mr. Parvez Bilimoria; Anup Zimba; Mr. Alok Sahu; Dr. Kaushik Murali; Dr Aditi Modi; Mr. Ravi; Dr.Ch. Satyanarayana Murthy; Dr. Galum Sorum; Mr. Viral Purohit; Dr. Avinash Pingale; Dr Anupam Sahu; Ms. Sashipriya; Mr. Satya Bebartia; Fr. Jeejo Antony; Mr. Narendra Rath; Dr. Jauhari Lal; Ms. Menka Tilwani; Ms. Sonia Panthri; Mr. Somesh Dwivedi; Mr. Anil Goyal; Mr. Aditya Goyal; Dr. Krishna Kumar; Mr Nitish Thite; Dr. S Ve Ramesh; Dr. Shrikanth Bharadwaj; Ms. Rizwana; Mr. Deepak; Ms. Jayashree; Mr. Vijay Reddy; Reps of Bosch & Lomb; Alcon; Essilor; Optomed; Mr. K. Chandrasekhar of Forus Health; Mr. Amarjeet Kadam of Bosch & Lomb; Mr. Abhijat Sahoo; Capt KK Dey; Dr. Shivam Maini; Ms. Harsha Tahalani; Mr. V. Madan; all other INGO country heads & representatives, Board members and many other delegates and participants from member organizations and outside Vision 2020 the Right to Sight India.

This time we could also get guest speakers from Chetna Ms. Indu Capoor; Mr. Mukesh Kumar Sinha, MPVHA; Dr. Suneela Garg, Soundhearing 2030, Dr. S. A. Pillai, IIMSHE Educational & Professional Services; Dr. Yogesh Agarwala, Fortis Memorial Research Institute, Dr. S. Venkatraman, Helpmesee; Mr. Bijay Mishra, Helpage India; Dr. Uday Kelkar and many others.

We would like to thank the entire team of Sewa Sadan team; staff; volunteers; executive members; management students for their outstanding support. We would like to thank the traders, media, Government of India and Govt of MP, participants; local NGO hospitals for extending their support and participating in the conference.

**The next conference is scheduled to be in Cochin in 2014 and we hope to see you all there.**