



VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA

QUARTERLY REPORT January – March 2012

The Quarterly Report is compiled by Team VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA:
Mr. Mahaveer Jain, Ms. Vrinda Arora, Ms. Sridevi Sunderarajan.





Greetings to all members of VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA!

The first quarter of 2012 has been a mix bag. We have witnessed some good news and some sad one.

At the onset, we would like to pay our homage to Mr. Sankar Rao, the founder trustee of Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital, Visakhapatnam – one of our esteemed members – whom we lost. Mr. Sankar Rao's selfless service for the community has been, and will continue to be, a source of inspiration to the future generations. His loss has created a vacuum in the eye care sector that will be difficult to fill.

Several in the field of ophthalmology have been felicitated for their work. Mr Niranjana Pandya, President of H.V. Desai Eye Hospital was conferred with the Padma Shri (social work) for his dedicated service for uplifting the eye care services.

Sankara Eye Centre Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu was given the Jindal Foundation Award for 2011 for their service towards Rural Development & Poverty Alleviation.

Two doyens of ophthalmology S. S. Badrinath, founder chairman Emeritus, Sankara Nethalaya, Chennai and B. Shukla from Gwalior were honoured with lifetime achievement awards for the service they have rendered to the society and for research in the field at the AIOC at Cochin. We salute their immense contribution to the field of ophthalmology.

We offer our heartiest congratulation to those who have been awarded and wish them many more accolades in the future.

We would like to congratulate Dr. N.S.D. Raju for taking over as the new President, AIOS. He was elected at the 70th AIOC, Cochin. We welcome Dr. Raju and hope VISION 2020 – INDIA and AIOS continue to have a fruitful collaboration.

We congratulate Ms. Sara Varughese who has taken over as Acting Regional Director, CBM SARO North & South and wish her all the best.

Best Regards

Col. M. Deshpande,
President

Dr. G.V. Rao,
CEO

For Our Members

Free Legal Consultation

It is our constant endeavour to offer our member organisations useful information in the sphere of training, information on courses etc. - information that can be useful in developing the organisation's capacity. One recent benefit that we have been able to extend to our members has been of legal advice free of cost from Dr. A.A. Deshpande.

Dr. A.A. Deshpande, a well known lawyer and ophthalmologist and on the AIOS legal cell, has agreed to offer his legal services on a voluntary basis to VISION2020: The Right to Sight - INDIA and to all our member organisations.

The Legal services will be in the sphere of legal advise to Vision 2020: The Right to Sight - INDIA in all sectors, in any legal complications, in forming MoU with Indian and international organisations, CPA advice in case of CPA cases on members and partners, legal educations by giving lectures symposiums, CMEs and publishing the material under the banner of Vision 2020 and all things related to law.

Members are requested to contact Dr. Deshpande at his e mail id: aawadgaonkar@gmail.com deshpande200@gmail.com. His mobile nos. are: 919850086491, 919890080875.

Scholarship for three hundred Indian Optometrists

We would like to inform our members that **India Vision Institute, Hyderabad through support from Brien Holden Vision Institute, Australia is providing scholarships for three hundred Indian Optometrists** to attend the 9th General Assembly of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness to be held in Hyderabad from 17th – 20th September 2012.

The attendance of Optometrists at this important international conference will enable the Optometric profession to raise their profile as well as awareness towards public health Optometry. We would encourage members to make the most of this opportunity. For scholarship request write to: ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org

Courses offered by our member organisations

We are in the process of collating information on various courses offered by our member organisations. These courses can be pertaining to any department in the hospital, full time or part time. This is an effort by VISION 2020 – INDIA to share this information within our membership base towards capacity building.

We would request all our members to kindly share information of courses they run giving information on duration, fees etc. in the template which has already been circulated. We will upload the information on our website. The information can be sent to Ms. Vrinda Arora, Program Manager at her e mail id: vrinda@vision2020india.org.

Updating the VISION 2020 – INDIA membership list

We are in the process of updating our member list. Mr. Mahaveer Jain, Administration Officer, VISION 2020 – INDIA has sent communication about the same to all our members. We will request all our members to kindly mail their updates to Mr. Mahaveer Jain at mahaveer@vision2020india.org or at info@vision2020india.org. This is to communicate to all our members better regarding all our updates and programmes.

Skill Exchange program for our members

VISION 2020 – INDIA is offering skill exchange programs for our member organization towards their capacity building. The proposed skill exchange program will be of 3 – 4 days and for upgrading the skills for ophthalmologists and will be based on the need of the hospital.

The faculty for this program will be drawn from a pool of voluntary faculty in different sub specialties of ophthalmology from our member organizations. We already have interest shown from nearly 40 ophthalmologists to volunteer as faculty. We would request other members also to give in their names and also their requirement in areas where skill up gradation is required.

Later we propose to expand this program to include skill exchange for nurses and para medical staff.

Advocacy

In a major progress towards our advocacy effort, the WHO Executive Board in January agreed unanimously to the decision to commence planning for the next Global Action Plan on Avoidable Blindness, for the period 2014-2019. VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India also submitted its recommendations for the next action plan.

Updated Government on VISION 2020 – INDIA's activities

Col. Deshpande, President and Dr. G. V. Rao, CEO, VISION 2020 – INDIA met Ms. Sujaya Krishnan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India; Dr. N.K. Agarwal, DDG, NPCB, and Dr. Rajvardhan Azad, Chief, Dr. R.P. Centre, AIIMS on February 29, 2012 to update them on the activities of VISION 2020 – INDIA and take guidance from them on the direction for future activities.

Program Development

VISION 2020 – INDIA at the 70th AIOC

The 70th All India Ophthalmological Conference 2012 was held at Cochin, Kerala from February 2 – 5, 2012. VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA participated in the AIOC through its trade stall for promotion at the AIOC Exhibit and held its Technical Session.

On the sidelines of the conference, VISION 2020 – INDIA initiated a first ever meeting with the traders of ophthalmic equipment and also met the VISION 2020 – INDIA members of Kerala state.

The Technical Session, which is held at the AIOC every year by VISION 2020 – INDIA, aims at discussing some of the current and emerging issues surrounding eye care in the country. This year's session was held on February 3, 2012 at Le Meridian – the venue of the AIOC conference and was chaired by Col. M Deshpande, President, VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA, Co Chaired by Dr. R.D. Ravindran, Executive Director and Chief Medical Officer, Aravind Eye Care, Madurai and moderated by Dr. Sara Varughese, Acting Regional Director, CBM.

Eight presentations were made on topics: Research Priorities for Community Eye Care, Quality Management of Eye Banking, Paediatric Cataract – Challenges, Eye Hospitals Management – Problems and Solutions, Quality and Productivity Monitoring in Eye Care and Eye Care Outreach Management. The sessions witnessed a lively interaction with nearly 60 guests attending it.



Col. Deshpande making his presentation at the technical session at AIOC.



The 33rd Board Meeting of VISION 2020 – INDIA in progress.

33rd Board Meeting

The 33rd Board Meeting of VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA was held on 3rd February 2012 at Le Meridian Convention Centre, Cochin. Ms. Lynda Cherry, Vice President - International Operations, OE Canada was a special guest at the meeting. In her special message to the Board members, Ms. Cherry observed that interesting activities were happening and the VISION 2020 - INDIA team could contact Dr. Naidu of Vision 2020 - Africa to have more interaction and cross learning.

Dr. G. V Rao, CEO, VISION 2020 - INDIA briefly described the major activities in the last year and the planned annual activities for 2012. Dr. Rao shared the very encouraging news that the membership of VISION 2020 - INDIA had increased to reach 107.

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held in conjunction with the AIOC held at Cochin.

Meeting with the traders of ophthalmic drugs and equipment

A first of its kind of meeting with the traders of ophthalmic drugs and equipment was initiated by VISION 2020 - INDIA and was held on 4th February, 2012 on the sidelines of the AIOC. It was an exploratory meeting to try and outline the role VISION 2020 - INDIA and traders can play in promoting eye health in the country. During the meeting several points were discussed and views shared to set a course of action for working together in the future.



Col. Deshpande addressing the meeting. Mr. A.K. Arora, Dr. G.V. Rao and Dr. R.D. Ravindran are also in the meeting.

Madhya Pradesh Eye Care State Plan

At the invitation of the Madhya Pradesh Blindness Control Programme VISION 2020 - INDIA facilitated a state level workshop 'Comprehensive Eye Care Strategic Plan' held on February 8th & 9th, 2012 at Bhopal to develop the state plan for providing a five - year strategic direction for a comprehensive eye care services and resources.

The workshop was organised by the Directorate of Health Services, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh with technical support from Dr. R. P. Centre, AIIMS. Resource persons and participants included: Dr. Uday Gajiwala, Medical Director, Divya Jyoti Trust, Surat, Mr. Anand Sudan, SSSN, Chitrakoot, Satna, Representatives, Sight Savers International, Representatives, CBM, Representatives, RIO Bhopal and Medical College Indore District Program Managers, Local NGOs.



Participants of the MP State Plan workshop

There was active participation from the top and mid level management and clinical

& non-clinical staff of District Hospitals, DPMs, RIO, Medical Colleges, Mobile Units, NGOs. Prior to the workshop, a thorough study of the eye care capacity & services was studied by the team by obtaining necessary secondary data from the State. The total participation was nearly seventy.

With efficient processes & systems put in place and improved human resource management, the State Blindness Control Society can reach to a level of high performance state for comprehensive eye care services. It is projected that if strategies are implemented, the State can perform nearly 24, 48,148 cataract surgeries from 2012- 2017 and will be able to generate sufficient resources from patient revenues for its management and future growth.

Diabetic Retinopathy Action Plan for Gujarat

A one - day workshop was held on March 25, 2012 at the Retina Foundation, Ahmadabad to develop a Diabetic Retinopathy plan for Gujarat. The workshop was led by National Programme for Prevention of Blindness (NPCB) and Dr. Pran Nagpal, Retina Foundation and facilitated by VISION 2020: The Right to Sight - INDIA. Dr. R.P. Centre was the technical advisor for the workshop.

The objective of the workshop was to identify the gaps in the service delivery of Diabetic Retinopathy – at all levels, HR, infrastructure, governance and prioritising the action plan. At the end of the workshop, a task force has been appointed to produce a comprehensive Diabetic Retinopathy State Plan with an action plan to implement it.



Group work at the workshop



Participants at the workshop

The workshop was attended by: Mr. P K Taneja, Hon. Commissioner, Health and Family Welfare – Government of Gujarat; Dr Paresh Dave, Director Medical & Health Services, Government of Gujarat; Dr B. Jesalpara, SPO, NPCB, Gujarat; Dr. Pran Nagpal, Chief, Retina Foundation; Dr. Praveen Vashist, Addl. Professor & Head, Community Ophthalmology, Dr. RP Centre, AIIMS; Mr. Jatin Shah, Technical Advisor, LCIF West; Col. Deshpande, President, VISION 2020 – INDIA, Dr. G.V. Rao, CEO, and Ms. Vrinda Arora, Program Manager, VISION 2020 – INDIA.

Preliminary meeting at North East

A two – day preliminary meeting to discuss the regional North East plan for eye care in the State was held on January 19 & 20, 2012 at Guwahti. Presentations were made by participants to provide an overview of the situation in north east and to use that information to develop an agenda for the workshop.



The meeting was attended by: Dr. C.K. Barua, Regional Institute of Ophthalmology – Guwahati; Dr. Harsh Bhattacharjee, Sankaradeva Nethralaya; Dr. Jennifer Basaiawmoit, Bansara Eye Care Centre; Mr. Sudipta Mohanty, Sightsavers International; Dr. Praveen Vashist, R.P. Centre; Dr. Col. Deshpande, Dr. G.V. Rao, and Ms. Vrinda Arora from Vision 2020 - India.

VISION 2020 – INDIA North Zone Meeting

A meeting with the North Zone members of VISION 2020 - INDIA was held on March 16, 2012 at the Dr. R. P. Centre, AIIMS, New Delhi. The aim of the meeting was to build stronger relations with VISION 2020 - INDIA eye care hospital members and provide a platform for state level networking.

Addressing the meeting, Prof (Dr.) Rajvardhan Azad, Chief, Dr. R.P. Centre, AIIMS emphasised the importance of mapping all human resources involved in eye care service delivery across India. He further suggested that IOF map their network of optometrists across the country within six months. Members who would be involved in mapping were identified with a timeline of three months to share the initial draft.

Dr. GV Rao made a presentation to all members about VISION 2020 India and the benefits/ services offered to its members.



Dr. Rajvardhan Azad, Dr. Praveen Vashist and others members at the meeting.



Standing (L to R): Ms. Vrinda Arora, Program Manager, VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India, Mr. Saurabh Biswas, SightLife, Dr. Subodh Sinha, Venu Eye Institute & Research Centre, Dr. Jauhari Lal, Anugraha Drishtidaan, Mr. Anil Tyagi, Indian Optometry Federation, Mr. Manoj Gulati, SightLife, Dr. Sandeep Buttan, Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital, Mr. Rajesh Wadhwa, Indian Optometry Federation. Seating (from left): Dr. Praveen Vashist, Dr. R. P. Centre, AIIMS, Mr. Arun Arora, Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital, Dr. G.V. Rao, VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India.

Program Development Meetings

VISION 2020 - INDIA team was invited to a meeting with Prof. Brien Holden, CEO, Brien Holden Vision Institute, Australia on March 21, 2012 at Delhi to discuss synergies between the two organisations and discuss broadly certain areas where the two organizations can work together. Brien Holden who is also the Co Chair, India Vision Institute, Hyderabad was in India for the World Optometry Day.

Mr. Neilsen De Souza, Executive Manager, Brien Holden Vision Institute, Mr. Vinod Daniel, CEO & Managing Trustee, India Vision Institute, Hyderabad; Mr. Rajesh Wadhwa, Indian Optometry Federation -IOF and Ms. Lakshmi Shinde, India Co-ordinator, International Center for Eye Care Education, Bangalore also actively participated in the meeting.



Further to this meeting, VISION 2020 - INDIA will be exploring avenues for a possible collaboration with IOF and similar associations and societies working in allied areas of eye care.

Highlights

The VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA national office shifted to a new address:

**Room no 205 A, (2nd Floor),
Enkay Tower B & B1, Vanijya Kunj,
Udyog Vihar, Phase V.
Gurgaon, Haryana: 122016
Phone: 0124 – 4301184.**



Dr. Jennifer V Basaiawmoit, Medical Director, Bansara Eye Care visited VISION 2020 – INDIA office. A fruitful discussion on developing eye care in the North east took place.

World Optometry Day

Indian Optometry Federation observed the World Optometry Day on March 23, 2012. To mark the occasion, they planned events for the ensuing two weeks and designed several IEC materials. IOF, who are members of VISION 2020 – INDIA shared these materials: Flip charts, posters and PPTs with all our members for observing the week and for use later.

Resource mobilization initiatives

Mr. N. Pandya, Member, Resource Mobilisation, VISION 2020 – INDIA led the team of Col. M. Deshpande, President and Dr. G. V. Rao, CEO, VISION 2020 – INDIA for a fund raising visit to Oman from March 26 – 29, 2012.

The 3 – day visit was aimed at fund raising for VISION 2020 – INDIA and exploring the possibilities of strengthening links between VISION 2020 - INDIA and VISION 2020 – Oman. The most important outcome of the visit was meeting with influential resource donor Sri Ashwin Dharamsey.

In a gracious offer, Mr. Dharamsey offered to sponsor an annual national award for organisation with best comprehensive eye care with effective outreach. The award will be decided by a jury. The ToR has to be developed along with the jury for the award. Mr. Dharamsey also agreed in principle to sponsor capacity building workshops and quality assessment trainings programs

During the visit, VISION 2020 – INDIA team called on the Indian Ambassador to Oman H. E. Sri Mukul and the Counsel Dr. Swati Kulkarni. The team was taken on a tour of the Dharamsey eye hospital, PHC, eye unit of Nizwa Polyclinic, Nizwa regional hospital, and Al Nahdhah Hospital and had meetings with Director General of Health Affairs, Oman and the Minister of Health/ Under Secretary of Health Affairs. Oman.

Following the visit, VISION 2020 – INDIA will further explore offering our expertise in the field of capacity building of the hospital systems and also training an eye care team at Oman.

We would like to thank Mr. Pandya for organising this fund raising event for VISION 2020 - INDIA from his known donors who had invited him to Muscat, Oman to felicitate him on being awarded the Padma Shri.

We thank Mr. Pandey for financing the entire trip for the President and the CEO, VISION 2020 – INDIA.

Resource Centre



At the release of the manual. From L to R: Dr. G.V. Rao, Mr. Manish Kumar, Dr. C. Shetty, Ms. Lynda Cherry and Col. Deshpande.

The latest addition to the manuals being published by VISION 2020 – INDIA is 'Vision Centre Manual' developed with financial support from ORBIS International. The manual was released at the Board Meeting in Cochin. The manual was dedicated to the ophthalmic fraternity by Ms. Lynda Cherry, VP, Operation Eyesight Universal and Dr. C. Shetty, Technical Advisor, Sight First. Manish Kumar, Program Manager, ORBIS International India Country Office, Col. Deshpande and Dr. G. V. Rao were also present on the occasion.

Upcoming Events

VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India's Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of VISION 2020 – INDIA will be held on July 21 & 22, 2012 at Aravind Eye Care System, Madurai, Tamil Nadu. The annual meeting will include the AGBM, the technical sessions and exhibition stall.

For the first time we will be having the technical session with five parallel tracks under the the themes: Leadership, Operation Theatre Management, Outreach Module, Optical Dispensing, and Achieving Excellence in Operations Management. Free Papers are also invited from participating hospitals under any of these themes. This year we have expanded the scope of the event to include participation from the traders and expect to provide a platform for an extensive discussion.

We request all members to block their dates for the event and avail this opportunity to benefit from the technical sessions.



We would like to inform you that International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) is holding its **9th General Assembly from 17th – 20th September 2012** in Hyderabad. We strongly

urge you to participate in this General Assembly as it will be a great platform to meet delegates from across the globe and interact with them to exchange views on eye care. IAPB's General Assembly is held in different continents after every fourth year and hence this is a very good opportunity for you to attend the meeting in Hyderabad. You may visit their website for details about the program schedule, registration details, supporters etc. <http://9ga.iapb.org>.

VISION 2020 – INDIA submitted six abstracts for the technical session that will be held at the 9th GA.

Upcoming Events in the Quarter April – June 2012

April 24 – 26, 2012, Meeting of the Central Zone members at Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya, Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh.

April 27, 2012: 34th Board Meeting of VISION 2020 – INDIA at VISION 2020 – INDIA national office, Delhi NCR.

Quality assessment workshop at SNC, Chitrakoot on 11th & 12th May and H.V. Desai Eye Hospital.

Workshop on 'Costing of eye care services' at H.V.Desai Hospital, Pune on June 22 & 23, 2012.

State level members meeting in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

Regional level workshop for developing a comprehensive plan for eye care services for the North East region.

Organisational Development

Ms. Sridevi Sunderarajan joined the VISION 2020 – INDIA national office as the Development Communication cum Public Relations Officer.



Ms.Vrinda Arora, Program Manager and Ms. Sridevi Sunderarajan, Development Communication cum Public Relations Officer attended the two week course on Management Training for Eye Care Managers conducted by LAICO, Madurai from 30th January 2012 – 11th February 2012.

The course fees for one participant from VISION 2020 – INDIA was sponsored by LAICO.

Participants for the LAICO course.

Member's Corner

New Members

The applications of eight were approved at the 33rd Board Meeting held at Cochin. We welcome all the new members to the VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA fold. With these new members, we are sure to grow from strength to strength.

AP Right to Sight Society, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Sadguru Sankalp Netra Chikitsalaya, Anandpur, Madhya Pradesh

Sewa Sadan Eye Hospital, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

K.B. Haji Bacholi Charitable Ophthalmic & ENT Hospital, Mumbai, Maharashtra

C.L. Gupta Eye Institute, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh

Indira Gandhi Eye Hospital and Research Centre, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Association of Community Ophthalmology of India (ACOIN), Kolkata, West Bengal

Sahyadri Society for Prevention & Eradication of Blindness in India, Aurangabad, Maharashtra.

Two of our members expanded their services. Pushpagiri Vitero Retina Institute, our member from Andhra Pradesh opened a super specialty eye care hospital 'Pushpagiri Eye Hospital' at Vizianagram, Andhra Pradesh. The hospital was inaugurated on March 4, 2012.

Sankara Eye Hospitals, Coimbatore opened its 11th comprehensive eye care facilities at Ludhiana, Punjab. The inauguration function for the hospital was held on April 2, 2012.

We wish all the best to them for their new ventures

NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBER ORGANISATION

We would like to use this section in the Quarterly Report to highlight any important achievement, news of our member organisation. We would invite members to send in their inputs to us with photographs. The news can be about awards, national, international recognition for the hospital or any of the staff, any new hospital, clinic opened, or any other news that has been instrumental in the development of the hospital/organization.

Feedback from members is welcome.
Kindly mail the information to Sridevi Sunderarajan: sridevi@vision2020india.org.