

VISION 2020: The Right to Sight—India

Quarterly Report

July - September 2013



Dear Esteemed Members,

Greetings from VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India

This quarter has been a very productive one as we held an important workshop on 'Comprehensive Primary Eye Care – Best Practices and Models'. As an outcome of the workshop, we will be developing a manual that will present some of the best models to integrate comprehensive primary eye care with primary health care. Dr. G. N. Rao, Chair of LVPEI & Advisor to VISION 2020: The Right to Sight - India provided direction and most practical inputs throughout the workshop.

We would like to thank LVPEI for hosting this workshop and all the participants, including Dr N K Agarwal, Deputy Director General (ophthalmology) who gave valuable inputs.

Another vital meeting held in this quarter was with the members of the North East region. We had an overwhelming response to the meeting with a majority of our members including SPOs from the region attending the meeting. The aim was to understand the gaps in eye care in the region and to map out a plan for the near future.

We thank Sri Shankardeva for hosting the meeting and Bansara Eye Care Centre for facilitating it.

We are grateful to all those who participated in the meeting travelling far in the geographical challenging region and also to all those who could not make it but supported us in our initiative.

We take this opportunity to thank Dr Praveen Vashist for being the key resource faculty for both the programmes.

We are glad to share with our members that VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India is now part of the committee to review the eye banking standards.

We have also been invited by the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust to be part of the DR stakeholders meeting and also in the national workshop on RoP.

We are proud that both the above are, in a way, an acknowledgement of the recognition of the work that we are doing. Our identity is because of our members and any recognition that we receive is thanks to the support from them.

We wish all our members a happy World Sight Day and we request all to observe this day to raise awareness on the need to get eyes tested regularly.

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Col. M. Deshpande,
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Deshpande".

Dr. G.V. Rao,
CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G.V. Rao".

ADVOCACY

Developing a Comprehensive Primary Eye Care – Best Practices and Models'

"Primary Eye care should not be centred around the institution but should be around the person who needs the care." Dr G Chandrashekar, Vice Chair, LVPEI, Director, Hyderabad Campus

"Primary eye care is foundation of eye care up to tertiary level," Col Deshpande

VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India organised a daylong workshop on 'Comprehensive Primary Eye Care – Best Practices and Models' to discuss and deliberate to propose a best model that would look at comprehensive eye care provided at primary level and also integrated with primary health care.

The programme was divided into three main sessions: Developing an efficient primary eye care system; Primary Eye Care Plus; Innovations in Vision centre Model.

Nearly 52 participants from some of the leading eye care organisations across the country presented various existing models of eye care at primary level and discussed as to the possibility of integrating it with health care at the primary level. The last session focussed on the technology available that

can make this integration possible.

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr G Chandrashekar, Vice Chair, LVPEI, Director, Hyderabad Campus who set the tone of the workshop by saying that "Primary Eye care should not be centred around the institution but should be around the person who needs the care."

Col (retd) Dr Deshpande, President, VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India Welcoming the participants to the workshop said that Primary eye care is foundation of eye care up to tertiary level. That there was a need to consider what was doable at comprehensive eye care at PHC level, sub centre level and the practicality of services at each level needs to be well defined.

The special guest for the workshop, Dr NK Agarwal, Deputy Director

General (ophtal), National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India shared that 'we are far behind in providing eye care to community'. He lamented that there was a deficit of medical personnel, medical supplies and even basic eye drops at PHC level. He further opined that private providers (both not for profit and for profit) should establish parallel structure to government to support it. The government, he said was "taking steps of developing a foldable IEC material covering 12 topics both in English and a regional language" and sought the support from organisations to develop such IEC materials.

Speaking at the concluding session, Dr GN Rao, Chairman, LVEPI said that four components of comprehensive eye care – prevention, promotion, treatment and rehabilitation should never be compromised. He further added that it was "unheard that primary health care self sustained anywhere in the world." According to him such initiatives were always supported by government and it serves for the poor and neglected.



Workshop on Comprehensive Primary Eye Care
Best Practices and Models
August 19 - 2013

PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

A possible partnership with the corporate

A first of its kind of meeting with the corporate was held at Bangalore on 12th July, 2013. The meeting was chaired by Dr TP Das, Vice President, VISION2020: The Right to Sight – India and co-chaired by Mr Nitin Desai, Advisor, Corporate, VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India.

Col (retd) Dr Deshpande, Dr GV Rao, and Dr Chandrasekhar Shetty headed the meeting. Dr. Rahul Ali and Dr. Santosh Moses were also present at the meeting. Five companies related to ophthalmology industry participated in the meeting.



- Alcon:** Capacity and Skill building, Awareness programs
- Allergan:** Academic; Research
- Carl Zeiss:** Training & Capacity Building
- Biomedix:** Relevant Program support
- Essilor:** working in the community in the area of refractive errors.

The purpose of the corporate houses meeting was to sensitise them about the work we are doing and explore areas where we can partner. Thanks Dr. Das, Mr. Nitin Bhai, Dr. Shetty, Dr. Deshpande, Dr. Rahul and Dr. Santosh for their support in this initiative.



Thematic Workshops: A New Initiative

As a follow up on a suggestion made during the central zone member's meet, a two – day Proposal Development workshop was held on 4 & 5 July, 2013 at Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh. This was a maiden attempt on the part of VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India to organise such a workshop specifically for a particular zone or neighbouring one so as to make it con-

venient for the members to attend it. For this particular workshop, members from the central zone and part of north zone participated. The two day workshop focused on hands - on training on proposal writing. The resource faculty for the workshop were Mr Kashinath B and Dr Santosh Moses from Opera-

tion Eyesight Universal (OEU). The participants were encouraged to follow up the learning of the workshop with the faculty. VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India will be announcing similar zone wise workshops in the very near future.



VISION 2020— India will soon be announcing similar workshops for different zones.



Mr Kashinath, from OEU was one of the faculty for the workshop (top)
Participants at the workshop (left)

PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

Team Building & Strategic Planning

Two Strategic Planning workshops were held in the last quarter:

Globe Eye Foundation,
Hoskote, Bangalore.

&

Little Flower Eye Hospital
& Research Centre, An-
ganmally, Cochin, Kerala

Sharing his team's experience of the two day workshop, Dr Sundar Ram Shetty, CEO, Globe Eye Foundation said that "it was a unique experience as we have never gone through such a training before." You held a mirror in front of us to show what we are capable of."



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President
Vision 2020: RIGHT TO SIGHT INDIA.

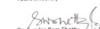
We, the members of Globe Eye Foundation, would like to extend our sincere thanks to you, Dr. G. V. Rao and Mr. Sridhar for organizing the workshop on strategic planning and capacity building for our hospital. Any amount of praise is too less for the pains you and your team has taken to put together a program to help us and guide us in improving in planning and managing our hospital.

It was a unique learning experience for all of us, as we had never gone through such method of training before. You taught us through fun and games. It indeed held a mirror before us to show who we are, what we are capable of.

We promise you to make the best use of the program and take our Hospital to greater heights. Ham saroor HONGE KHAMABHII!

Thanking you

Yours sincerely


Dr. Sundar Ram Shetty
Chairman & Medical Director

GLOBE EYE FOUNDATION

Hospital Based Skill Transfer

A three - day Hospital based Skill Transfer programme was held at Sankar Foundation from 28 – 30 July, 2013. It was in the area of squint and our voluntary faculty Dr Ravishankar Krishnamoorthy trained the ophthalmologist at the hospital.

A second one during this quarter was held at Gomabai Nethralaya on 13th & 14th September, 2013. Dr Sudhir Singh from Global Hospital Institute of Ophthalmology, Mt Abu, Rajasthan was the faculty.

We extend our sincere gratitude to both the faculty for devoting time for training

Member Organisations desirous of holding Hospital Based Skill Transfer programme for their hospital, can contact us.



Dr Singh at the training and with the faculty of Gomabai Netralaya.

Meeting of the northeast members

A one day meeting of the VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India members was held on September 1, 2013 at Guwahati.

Thirty two participants representing NGO's, INGO's government discussed, through group work, the gaps in eye care services in the region and the steps for a road ahead. Dr Praveen Vashist was the main resource faculty for the meeting. Sri Shankaradeva, Guwahati hosted the meeting and it was facilitated by Bansara Eye Care Centre.

Welcoming the participants, Col. Deshpande, President, VISION 2020: The Right to Sight—India said that the meeting was crucial to understand the situation in the northeast region and hoped that by the end of the meeting, an doable action plan will be ready.

Mr Klaus of the Light for the World appealed to all present to "join hands in this endeavour" to overcome the problems in the northeast region.

Dr Praveen Vashist, from RP Centre, AIIMS was the key faculty for the meeting.



The meeting was in two parts. In the first half the participants presented facts on blindness scenario in their states and in the second half, group work was held to identify gaps in each state and was presented at the culmination of the meeting.

Among the participants, RIO, Guwahati, Dr Dipali Deka; SPO, Arunachal Pradesh, Dr Taba Khanna and SPO, Assam provided their valuable inputs.



As a follow up of the meeting, more specific data will be collected and a collated presentation will be made during the World Sight Day at Shillong.

Visit to Member Organisation

It is our constant endeavour to visit our member organisations across the six zones in the country. This provides us with an opportunity to try and understand their working and get to know their team.

The team from VISION 2020: The Right to Sight—India visited the following organisations in the last quarter:

Niramaya Charitable Trust, Gurgaon Haryana. The team from VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India met the Dr Ahooja and his team.

The team also visited Arundhya Deseret Eye Hospital, Gurgaon, Haryana for a follow up on the Strategic Planning and Team Building exercise that was carried earlier.

Col (retd) Dr Deshpande, Dr GV Rao and Mr Mahaveer Jain visited Velemegna Good News Society, Bidar, Karnataka. They saw the good works Dr. (Mrs.) Sybil Meshramkar and her team were doing.

Col (retd) Dr Deshpande, Dr GV Rao and Mr Mrinal Madhaw visited one of our members in Assam: Nalbari Eye Hospital "Sight First Eye Hospital" in Nalbari. The team met Dr. Subhra Kinkor Goswami and his team.

Col Deshpande, Mr Mrinal and Ms Sridevi visited Ganga Ram Hospital's Vision Centre and I Care in NOIDA.



VISION 2020 India team at Niramaya Charitable Trust, Gurgaon Haryana & Dr. (Mrs.) Sybil Meshramkar Velemegna Good News Society, Bidar, Karnataka.

The VISION 2020—India team also continuously visits prospective members. The past quarter they visited: Vittala Eye Hospital, Bangalore and Dr Solanki at Solanki Eye Hospital, Bangalore.

Dr GV Rao and Mr Mrinal Madhaw visited two prospective members in Assam: Guwahati Lions Eye Hospital and Guwahati Eye Research Institute.

Other Highlights

The 39th Board meeting of VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India was held on 12th July, 2013 at Globe Eye Foundation, Hoskote, Bangalore. Among other points, the landmark 10th annual conference was discussed and for making it memorable conference.

Mr. Rolf Muggenburg, Director, Program Development, CBM was a special guest at the meetign .

The minutes of the meeting has been circulated.



Other Highlights

Initiatives of Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust:

Dr GV Rao attended a meeting at RP Centre, chaired by Dr. Rajvardhan Azad, to discuss on proposed National ROP summit, supported by the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust. The purpose of ROP summit is to bring together all the agencies, organizations, professional bodies, institutions and individuals involved in neonatal care and ROP screening and treatment, to increase awareness of ROP, to identify priorities for control, and delineate short and medium terms plans.

Dr GV Rao participated in the Diabetic Retinopathy stakeholders meeting. This is also funded initiative of Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust.

Eye Bank meeting conducted by IAPB regional Chair:

Col (Retd) Dr Deshpande and Dr GV Rao were invited to attend the IAPB Eye bank meeting held on September 12, 2013 at India International Centre, Delhi. The overall objective of the meeting was to identify key focus points of revision in the NPCB standards, based on reviewing international eye banking standards, and recommend those revisions to the NPCB.

Other meetings:

Col (reted) Dr Deshpande and Dr GV Rao was invited to attend the Leadership Summit at LAICO, Madurai and a two day workshop on 'Consultation on Primary Eye Care.

Meeting the new CEO of Sightsavers: The VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India team: Dr GV Rao, Ms Sridevi Sunderarajan, Mr Mahaveer Jain and Mr Mrinal Madhaw visited the new office of Sightsavers International in Delhi. The purpose of the visit was to meet with Mr R N Mohanty, CEO, Sightsavers International and introduced him to workings of the activities of VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India. The team also met Dr Sandeep Bhuttan.

Dr GV Rao and Mr Mahaveer Jain attended the **National Consultation on "Evolving Dimensions of Social Accountability in the Voluntary Sector"** held on September 23, 2013 at Indian International Centre, Delhi. As the topic suggests, the one day conference discussed the social accountability in the voluntary sector and leading speakers were from development sector from NGOs and also well known corporate.

Eye Donation Fortnight

For the **eye donation fortnight**, we circulated a message from our President, Col (Dr) Deshpande and President, Eye Bank Association of India, Dr Samar Basak to our members. For the benefit of our members, we uploaded a poster and pledge form on our website: <http://www.vision2020india.org/index.php>.

We have also been regularly uploading information on eye donation fortnight on our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/vision2020.righttosight.india>.

Mr Mahaveer Jain attended the programme organized by All India Ophtalmology Association (AIOS) at the MS Hindu Rao Hospital, Delhi to observe the eye donation fortnight. The programme included a poster exhibition, a walk. Ms Sujaya Krishnan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India addressed the gathering.

Organisational Development

Mr Mrinal Ray Madhaw joined as Programme Manager in VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India. He has joined in place of Ms Vrinda Arora. We welcome him and wish him all the best.

Membership Update

SN	Name of Organization	State/UT	Type
1	Jorhat Lions Service Trust	Assam	Associate
2	Alcon Laboratories (India) Pvt. Ltd	Karnataka	Corporate
3	Allergan India Private Limited	Karnataka	Corporate
4	BioMedix Optotechnik & Devices Pvt. Ltd	Karnataka	Corporate
5	Essilor	Karnataka	Corporate
6	Mission Trust	Meghalaya	Institutional
7	Project Drishti	Karnataka	Institutional
8	Vittala International Institute of Ophthalmology	Karnataka	Institutional

This quarterly newsletter is brought out by
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