

# VISION 2020: The Right to Sight- INDIA

Quarterly Report

October—December 2015



Dear Esteemed Members,

*Greetings from VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA and Season’s Greetings for the New Year ahead. We are hoping for a stronger partnership towards our collective goal of quality eye health.*

*Reflecting on the year gone by, it was a year when we advocated with the government for several important areas - be it the Guidelines for diabetic eye care, series of meetings with the ministry officials to discuss issues related to delays in DBCS reimbursements, the need for a hassle-free faster reimbursement process, technical glitches in HMIS software, NGO guidelines and WSD funding.*

*Towards the end of the year, we successfully conducted a National Consultation to develop a Country Action Plan for Eye Health. This was in line with the Global Action Plan of WHO. The meeting witnessed a constructive participation from the Government, IAPB, WHO, INGOs and our members.*

*Towards our commitment for equitable eye care, we made a beginning for situational analysis of two districts of geographically challenged Arunachal Pradesh for a State plan. This will be expanded to Assam soon.*

*In our attempt for advocacy at the State level, we touched base with the health Secretaries of all the States in the country introducing our zone representatives. We received positive response from some that has potential of shaping into action points. We have our zone representatives to thank for following it up with the state governments for these meetings.*

*The global awareness day - World Sight Day - for advocating universal eye health was a thumping success ably supported by our Bengaluru partners and participation and support from the central and state health machinery. With large media coverage, we reached out to the larger public with the message on eye health.*

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*We are committed to building a stronger relation with our partners and provide a platform for state level networking to identify opportunities for supporting them. We could connect with our zonal members through meetings held during the year. A couple of thematic workshops were held through the year for developing skill development.*

*We thank all our partners for their support and look forward to their continued support for reducing the burden of avoidable visual impairment by ensuring comprehensive, quality and equity services in eye care.*

*We once again announce the next VISION 2020 – INDIA annual conference on ‘Eye Care for All’ during 4 & 5 June 2016 at H V Desai Eye Hospital, Pune.*

**Dr Sara Varughese  
President**

**Phanindra Babu Nukella, Ph.D.  
Chief Executive Officer**



## ADVOCACY & UPDATES



### Developing a Country Action Plan for Eye Health: A way forward to 2020



*Dr NK Agarwal, Dr Jagdish Prasad, Dr Sara Varughese and Dr TP Das at the inauguration*

Towards developing an India country Action Plan for Eye Health, a national consultation meeting was held on 29-30 October 2015 in New Delhi. This consultation was an outcome of the south-east Asia regional meeting of operationalising the Global Action Plan 2014-19 conducted in Hyderabad during 18-20 November 2014.

The Hyderabad meeting recommended developing/updating national eye health policies, plans and programmes. As per the recommendation, in close collaboration with International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB), and WHO India Country office, VISION 2020: The Right to Sight-INDIA organised one-and-a-half day national consultation seeking inputs to help draft country action plan for operationalising the WHO global action plan to prevent avoidable visual impairment including blindness.

The main twin objective of the meeting were to:

- Identify gaps and needs in eye care provision in order to facilitate implementation at the WHA66.4 Universal eye health: a global action plan 2014-2019 for India
- Develop India country action plan for improvement in eye care scenario.



*Participants at the meeting*

A total of 42 eye care professionals including 14 government officials from the national and state units participated. These groups deliberated upon the gaps, needs, issues and challenges of eye care scenario to come up with recommendations to fulfill developing action plan of the objective. We were fortunate to have the Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Government of India and Special Director General of Health Services, MoH&FW who shared their valuable inputs at the meeting.

The way forward for the report is to submit the final report to NPCB for its acceptance, use it as an advocacy tool and develop future plans for NPCB and other key stakeholders and finally prioritise actions recommended and consider making them part of annual plans of VISION 2020 INDIA.



*Group 1*



*Group 2*



*Group 3*

*Group work in progress. Participants were divided into three groups.*

## ADVOCACY &amp; UPDATES

### Visit to Arunachal Pradesh for Situation Analysis: a story of inaccessible terrain and eye care facilities

We are committed to equitable eye care in making eye care facilities accessible to all. The geographically challenged Arunachal Pradesh is a step in that direction.



*Enroute to Changlang, reaching through the ferry*

VISION 2020 INDIA conducted Situation Analysis in Changlang and Lower Subansiri districts of Arunachal Pradesh during 24 -29 November 2015. Dr Taba Khanna, SPO, Arunachal Pradesh, who had been involved in the planning of the exercise from the inception, having had meetings at the pre-planning stage, played an active role in guiding the team and participating in the exercise throughout.



Recalling the situational analysis, CEO-VISION 2020 India says “*Good that VISION 2020 India took up the northeast region especially Arunachal Pradesh. I have personally witnessed the difficulties involved in delivering eye care services there. Community mobilization is a challenge at one hand, and on the other the provision of comprehensive services reaching out everyone*”.



*Planning meeting & consultation at Lower Subansiri*

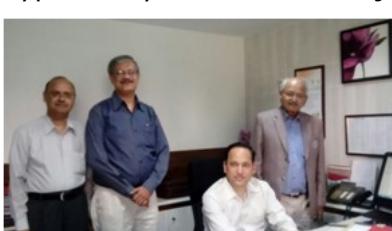
There are also plans on developing state action plan for improvement in eye health in Arunachal Pradesh taking cues from findings of situational analysis. We would like to see Arunachal Pradesh is fully prepared and supported in achieving the goal of eliminating avoidable blindness.

*Planning meeting & consultation at Changlang*

**Advocacy at State Level:** With a view to take our advocacy pan – India, VISION 2020 – INDIA had written to all State health Secretaries about the work we do and introducing our zone representatives. We have received positive response from some States. There were also meetings in Assam and Punjab last quarter.

**Meeting with Gujarat Health Commissioner:** Col (Retd.) Dr. M Deshpande, VISION 2020 – INDIA West zone representative along with Dr Uday Gajiwala from Tejas Eye Hospital, Gujarat met the Gujarat Health Commissioner on 23 November 2015. A suggestion from the meeting was to call a consultative meet of experts to further refine the idea of comprehensive coverage of all types of eye diseases in Gujarat and come up

with a plan of action for comprehensive universal coverage.



*Col Deshpande and Dr Gajiwala with Gujarat Health Commissioner*

**Participation of Joint Secretary-NPCB in 48<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting:** Joint Secretary-NPCB currently serves as an Advisor to the Board of VISION 2020-INDIA. She visited VISION 2020-INDIA secretariat and participated in 48<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The following issues were discussed and advice sought:

- DBCS reimbursement and alternate model Joint Secretary will write to Principal Health Secretaries to help resolve the outstanding issue
- Consider optometry and ophthalmic nurses programmes under allied health sciences
- Suggested to write to DGHS furnishing all details
- Special provision for patient transport cost in hilly areas
- Expressed willingness in principle. State like Arunachal and other hilly areas could be considered
- Delivering eye care – addressing inequities

## ADVOCACY & UPDATES

- NPCB consented to have a VISION 2020-INDIA representative in the committee being formed to develop national guidelines.



*Joint Secretary, NPCB, Ms Dharitri Panda and Dr Sara Varughese, President, VISION 2020—INDIA at the 48th Board meeting at Delhi.*

**Second Regional Meeting of the Implementation of 'Universal Eye Health: A Global Action Plan, 2014' in SEARO Member States:** CEO, VISION 2020 – INDIA, Phanindra Babu in his capacity as the India Country Chair, IAPB, South East Asia, participated in the IAPB regional meeting held on 15 and 16 December 2015 at Nepal. **Read More:** <http://www.iapb.org/blog/2nd-regional-meeting-implementation-universal-eye-health-searо-member-states>



## NEWS AND EVENTS

### Thematic Workshop on Human Resource Management

A one – day workshop on 'Human Resource Management for NGO Hospitals in Eye Care' was held on 11 December 2015 at Laxmi Eye Institute, Panvel, Navi Mumbai.

This workshop was designed to understand one of the most important foundations of any organisation - Human Resource.

Six resource persons through their presentations spoke on different aspects of Human Resource Management. **For report** <http://bit.ly/1Paix2M>



*Thirty two delegates from 21 organisations participated in the workshop ( above)  
Management games being conducted at the workshop ( below)*



## NEWS AND EVENTS

Three significant global days marked this quarter: World Sight Day, World Diabetes Day and International Day for Disabled Persons.

World Sight Day is an annual day of awareness held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of October to focus global attention on blindness and vision impairment. This year WSD was on 8<sup>th</sup> October and the universal message was 'Eye Care for All'.



Walk, Radio messages and Biker's rally marked the World Sight Day 2015 organised by VISION 2020 – INDIA. The 'Walk for Vision' in Bengaluru was a show of partnership with NPCB at the Centre and Karnataka State and All VISION 2020 – INDIA members in Bengaluru with a participation of 650.

[Read More...](http://vision2020india.org/index.php)

Several of our members observed these three significant days. World Sight Day World Diabetes Day and International Day for Disabled Persons.

We are glad to bring you a report from our members. [For Report....](http://bit.ly/1TU19Ug)



Dr NK Agarwal, DDG, NPCB and Mr Atul Kumar Tiwari, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka flagging off the walk.



Senior Karnataka state government officials blindfolded beginning the walk.



## UPDATES FROM MEMBERS

Inauguration in Rayagada, Odisha

LV Prasad Eye Institute's (LVPEI) Naraindas Morbai Budhrani Eye Centre, in partnership with Mission for Vision (MFV), was inaugurated on 31 August, 2015 in Rayagada, Odisha. The Centre was inaugurated by Shri Naveen Patnaik, The Hon. Chief Minister of Odisha.



## UPDATES FROM MEMBERS

### The 5th "Knights of the Blind Awards" by Lions Service Trust

The Lions Service Trust organised the 5th "Knights of the Blind Awards" function on 27 December 2015 in New Delhi. The awards are given to encourage Lions/Lions Clubs/NGOs to do better in the field of 'Sight First' towards free cataract surgery. Lion Naresh Agarwal, 2nd Vice President of Lions International was Chief Guest and Dr. M.C. Mishra, Director All India Institute of Medical Sciences was Guest of Honour. Dr. Phanindra B. Nukella, CEO VISION 2020—INDIA graced the occasion.

Best Excellence Award went to Jan Sewa Foundation.



### **Tejas Eye Hospital's new training centre goes Green**



Tejas Eye, Hospital, Mandvi's new training centre building has received the platinum category certificate by Indian Green Building Council at the IGBC National Congress in Gandhinagar. This is among very few hospitals and in particular eye hospital to receive this certificate in India.

Green building rating brings together a host of sustainable practices and solutions to reduce the environmental impacts. Green building design provides an integrated approach considering life cycle impacts of the resources used. To give an example..to go green the training centre has used 100% natural stone used for construction, no tiles, ensured cross ventilation in all the rooms of the building, recycled wood used - no fresh wood and minimum aluminum used and many more such environment friendly steps.

### **Blind View Exhibition**

Sightsavers India exhibited photographs captured by the visually impaired at the British Council during the week of World Disability Day. Renowned photographer and photojournalist, Mr Raghu Rai, RN Mohanty, CEO, Sightsavers (India), Gill Caldicott Director Operations, British Council India and Partho Bhowmick, Founder, Beyond Sight Foundation were at the inauguration.



The exhibition showcased a display of about 30 photographs depicting different themes which blind participants had taken of other blind or visually impaired participants doing a series of interesting activities. Each picture portrayed a unique story in itself representing different aspects of the blind experience.

### **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium of COSI**

COSI held its **9<sup>th</sup> annual symposium** at Amity University, Gurgaon on 27 November 2015. Programme Manager, VISION 2020 – INDIA, Mr Mrinal Madhaw participated in the symposium.

## ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Board Meetings of VISION 2020 - INDIA

The 47<sup>th</sup> Board meeting was held on 8 October 2015 at CBM office at Bengaluru.



The 48<sup>th</sup> Board meeting was held on 7 December 2015 at Delhi. Ms. Dharitri Panda, Joint Secretary, NPCB also participated in the meeting as an Advisor to the Board.



### Zonal Meetings of VISION 2020 - INDIA



**North Zone Meeting** was held at Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital, New Delhi on 17 November 2015.

**West Zone Meeting** was held at Laxmi Eye Institute, Panvel, Navi Mumbai on 17 December 2015.



**Administration:** FCRA (FC06) Returns for FY 2014-15 was filed online on 25 November 2015.

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

### Online renewal process for FCRA registration

FCRA Dept. has finally announced the online renewal process for FCRA registration. Thus all organisations who have already applied or even those who have not applied will need to apply online through **FC3 application**. Last Date of submission is 15<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

[https://fcraonline.nic.in/home/PDF\\_Doc/merged.pdf](https://fcraonline.nic.in/home/PDF_Doc/merged.pdf)

Fee for Renewal of Rs 500/- will need to be paid online through FCRA Payment Gateway. For organisations who have already sent their DD/cheques are likely to receive these back, unless your organisation name is appearing in the below list given by FCRA authorities.

[https://fcraonline.nic.in/home/pdf\\_doc/associations.pdf](https://fcraonline.nic.in/home/pdf_doc/associations.pdf)

Weblink to access the new FCRA online website is:

<https://fcraonline.nic.in/home/index.aspx#>

Link showing step-by-step process for filing FCRA Renewal application:

[https://fcraonline.nic.in/home/Documents/Instruction/FC3\\_Renewal.pdf](https://fcraonline.nic.in/home/Documents/Instruction/FC3_Renewal.pdf)

Do visit the FCRA website to stay tuned with FCRA updates. You may forward this email to your legal/finance department.

### FCRA Annual Return filing date extended to 15thMarch 2016

Vide a notice of 22nd December 2015, FCRA Dept has extended filling date of Annual Return (now under FC4) to 15thMarch 2016.

This has been done to allow FCRA users to become used to new rules as well as to allow time to stabilise to new online website.

Changes in online FC4 Form (Annual Return)

In addition, it is observed that now Investment in Fixed Deposit has been disabled under Utilisation column. So investment in FDs would not be treated as Utilisation. This was pointed by several persons that how one could treat investment in FDs as Utilisation, and was causing a lot of confusion.

This indicates that the form is currently being debugged and possibly the reason for extending the annual return filing date.

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