

## Happy News...

We continue to be among the top 10 NGOs in India and are proud to be recognised as one of the best social organisations for volunteering. Read the news [here](#)



### 33rd LEPRa Society's Foundation Day

On the 22nd of February, 2021, LEPRa Society has completed 32 years as an organisation working for the people affected by neglected tropical diseases, especially in the disease areas of Leprosy and Lymphatic Filariasis.

It was a special day for us and we celebrated having multiple events across the states we are working in. We are thankful for the founders and this day reminded us that we need to be committed, resilient and dedicated to ensure their vision of making India leprosy free becomes a reality. And we also thank our beneficiaries, donors, and partners for their continued support and trust in us.

Some pictures of the Foundation Day can be seen [here](#).

### Anti-Leprosy Fortnight 2021 (Jan 31 - 14 Feb)

As a part of the Anti-Leprosy Fortnight, we conducted many awareness programmes. Because of COVID19, we could not organise any mega events like we did last year but we made this up by having a lot of virtual programmes. We also had a good media coverage to highlight this occasion and the disease. The articles can be found [here](#).

**In addition to the above mentioned, some other exciting events/activities which took place are represented below**

#### Leprosy awareness & COVID19 screening for nursing students



#### Beneficiary Story...

Laxmi first noticed she had numb patches and discoloration on her face five years ago. She visited her local... [Read more here](#)

#### Education support to children of leprosy affected families



#### Awareness by Ultratech Balaji Cement Works, Jaggayapeta



#### Information, Education & Communication activity, Baliyapur



#### Focal survey and footwear distribution, Koraput



### Some of our supporters in Feb 2021...

We thank **Tasha Lemley, Vipul More, Subodh Singh, Damodar Dass, Y S Sharma, Manish Kumar Sinha, Urmila, Annapurna Pasumarthi, Devraj, PVS Ananth, Prudhvi Peethala, Kirti Sharma, Keyur Joshi** for their valuable contributions.

We are GRATEFUL for the support received.

#### Key focus areas

Leprosy & Lymphatic Filariasis

#### Other disease areas

HIV/AIDS, Eye-care  
Tuberculosis, Mental Health

33rd LEPRa Foundation Day

We thank all our donor partners, beneficiaries and staff for taking forward the LEPRa Society's vision.

## Key Achievements

### Andhra Pradesh

- 102 customised footwear were provided to the people affected by leprosy and 66 pairs to people affected by LF.
- 12 persons with LF were referred to social schemes from the government.
- Two orientation programmes were conducted for 56 General Nursing students & 55 BSc. Nursing students on Leprosy during Anti-Leprosy Fortnight programme.

### Bihar

- 219 pairs of customised footwear were provided by Mobile Footwear Unit in 8 leprosy colonies.
- 97 persons affected by LF (Elephantiasis) were registered and trained on exclusive home-based care and management.
- 154 persons underwent hydrocelectomy during the last month.

### Odisha

- 17 new leprosy cases were diagnosed through ACF activities and linked to Multi-Drug Therapy (MDT).
- 128 pairs of customised footwear were given to people affected with leprosy.
- Anti-Leprosy Fortnight observed at multiple locations in 6 districts in collaboration with the District NLEP where ASHAs, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), students, health staff actively participated.

### Madhya Pradesh

- 13 persons affected by leprosy underwent reconstructive surgeries.
- 107 customised footwear were provided to the people affected by leprosy.
- 9 new leprosy cases were identified through surveys and field activities.

### Telangana

- 221 pairs of customised footwear were distributed to the beneficiaries through referral centres and mobile footwear unit.
- 3 LF camps were organised and 18 new cases were registered.

### Meet our staff . . .

Vilvanathan is currently a lab technician at our research centre, Blue Peter Public Health and Research Centre (BPHRC) who has been working with us from the last 18 years. Vilvanathan shared his experience working with LEPR.



#### **What made you choose the field of leprosy?**

There are many lab technicians for all the general diseases, but for leprosy, there are very less in number. Hence, I chose to serve leprosy patients by working in the field of microscopic diagnosis.

#### **What makes you happy to do this work?**

LEPRA offers end-to-end services to the people affected by Leprosy and myself being a part in that process (self-care,

ulcer dressing etc.) which can enable the beneficiary to be happy and lead a normal life. All the interactions with my patients and them sharing the different experiences in their lives and serving them makes me happier.

#### **What did you like the most about working with LEPRA?**

LEPRA is a NGO working across many states in India serving people with free treatment and also looking after their immediate needs. I get to see people smiling once they are done with the treatment and confident that they can lead a normal life. I am happy to be a part of the organisation with great values.

### Prasant's reflections . . .

February has been an amazing and eventful month for LEPRA. Despite the movement restrictions due to COVID19, the activity levels across all states reached the pre-COVID19 scenario. The visit to Mahanadi Netra Chikitsalaya (MNC), Sonapur and Junagarh Netra Chikitsalaya (JNC), Junagarh, along with the team of Sight Savers India, was fruitful and resulted in joint planning and strategising for the future of the partnership. Further to our continued advocacy efforts with the government in the states we operate, we engaged with the Home Minister of Government of Odisha (also the local MLA from Junagarh). The minister was supportive and has requested LEPRA to restart the Referral Centre in Junagarh, Kalahandi. Also, visited Nirmal with the American Leprosy Missions representatives who are launching the DHARA platform with LEPRA. We finally signed the long-pending MoU for cooperation with Sivananda Rehabilitation Home (SRH), which paves the way for better collaboration between two premier leprosy organisations. One of the month's pleasant highlights was the celebration of LEPRA Foundation Day on 22nd Feb across all project locations in all ten states where we are working.






#### **Join us in adding more smiles by donating at**

**Account Number** 0132 0030 06100 **IFSC Code** IBKL0000002 **Account Name** LEPRA Society **Bank Name** IDBI Bank Limited

(or)

[www.leprasociety.org/donate](http://www.leprasociety.org/donate)

For any queries, please contact 07893648360 or email us at [lsfund@leprahealthinaction.in](mailto:lsfund@leprahealthinaction.in)

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