

Samiksha

...by LEPRA Society

Observing
World Leprosy Day 2022 (30 Jan)
and
Anti-Leprosy Fortnight (30 Jan - 13 Feb)

People affected by leprosy experience extreme discrimination that may force them from their jobs, families and communities leading to emotional distress and isolation. The affected people, many a times face social exclusion not only from their families and friends, but also from the people within their community, with children sometimes not able to continue their education because of the age old myths associated with this disease.

As part of the Anti Leprosy Fortnight 2022 (Jan 30 - Feb 13), LEPRA is having a series of virtual events as a means of creating awareness, dispel the age old myths and provide accurate reliable information about leprosy. These events showcased through our social media channels give the audience an insight of our on-ground interventions and services.

Leprosy is a curable disease and we at LEPRA, will continue to be the voice of the people affected by leprosy for as long as it takes.

At LEPRA Society, we always stand "**United for Dignity**" for each one and every one.

Some of our board members sharing their thoughts on the occasion of

World Leprosy Day 2022 (30 Jan)

Rukmini Rao



Let us be 'United for Dignity'.

Work collectively towards early detection and treatment of leprosy affected to prevent deformities and stigma.

Meena Gupta



Many people believe that leprosy is a thing of the past, no longer a health problem. But while there have been significant achievements made in treating the disease and reducing its impact worldwide, leprosy continues to exist in some countries, India being one of them. Leprosy is insidious in its spread, and devastating in its impact on the physical, psychological, social and economic lives of people. LEPRO has, for decades, been in the forefront of fighting this disease, in partnership with the government and several other organisations. I am proud to have been part of LEPRO and its determined fight against leprosy. I look forward to a world without leprosy.

Meenakshi Batra



We stand together for people with leprosy and other neglected tropical diseases, especially during these challenging times where health care is getting challenged globally. While the world is talking about "New Normal", "Post COVID19 Normal", it was never normal for people who are affected by leprosy and other neglected tropical diseases. At the best of the times, they could not secure their rights to health, education and livelihoods. As we move forward, social inclusion, equity and dignity should be emphasised upon. This needs both a policy and mindset change and I hope we will all stand together for dignity of all.

With LEPRO, I stand "UNITED FOR DIGNITY".

Y B Jayanth Kumar



"FROM EXCLUSION TO EQUALITY - ENDING LEPROSY IN INDIA"

Do Join hands with LEPRO to observe the anti-leprosy campaign.

Donations made to LEPRO Society are 50%tax exempted under the section 80G of the Indian income tax act 1961.

An appeal to support the cause of leprosy and empowering persons affected by leprosy.

Urmila Pingle



Awareness that leprosy has not gone away but coming back with a bang has to be widely circulated. Leprosy has become a neglected tropical disease since it pre- dominantly affects the poorest of the poor especially in the remote corners. Hence, strong collective action by all stakeholders to address this inequity needs to be ramped up without further delay.

Anti-Leprosy Fortnight 2022 - Virtual Series

(30 Jan - 13 Feb)

Due to the imposition of the COVID19 restrictions, we had to scale down our on-ground events to a bare minimum and to overcome this, we focussed most on spreading awareness through virtual events. These events showcase our on-ground interventions & services we offer to our beneficiaries.



Click on each of the circles below to watch some of the live virtual events we organised.

Active Case Finding (ACF)

Bihar

(31 Jan 2022)

Sparsh Referral Centre

Jharkhand

(01 Feb 2022)

Footwear Unit
Andhra Pradesh

(02 Feb 2022)

Vijayawada Referral Centre

Andhra Pradesh

(03 Feb 2022)

St. Joseph Leprosy Centre

Madhya Pradesh

(04 Feb 2022)

Disability Prevention & Medical Rehabilitation (DPMR) camp

Andhra Pradesh

(05 Feb 2022)

Nirmal Referral Centre

Telangana

(06 Feb 2022)

Koraput Care Centre

Odisha

(07 Feb 2022)

Conversation with Gorekhnath Sahoo

Odisha Ambassador

(09 Feb 2022)

Mobile Health Services

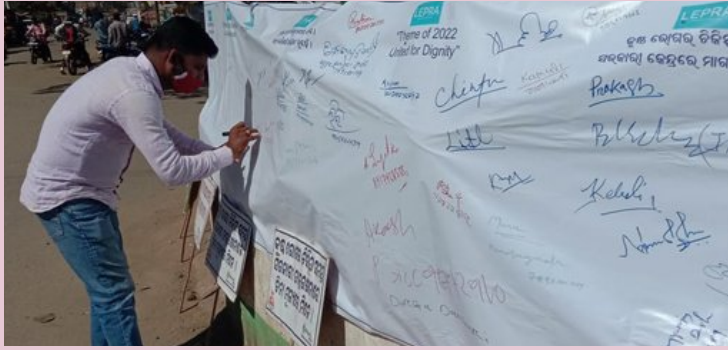
Bihar

(10 Feb 2022)

Glimpses of

WLD (World Leprosy Day) - 30 Jan & ALF (Anti - Leprosy Fortnight) - 30 Jan to 13 Feb

[Click here to read the media articles published on WLD & ALF 2022](#)



We are able to provide these services free of cost to our beneficiaries due to the constant support of our donors and partners. We are looking forward to your continued support to reach more people. [\(Click here to know more about how you can make an impact\)](#)



HIGHLIGHTS

Andhra Pradesh (AP) & Telangana (TS)

- Launched 'The KCP Limited' funded foot care unit and provided 153 customised protective footwear.
- Under the USAID - EpiC project, the Resource Mobilisation & Comms. team led the strategy discussions & meetings on the resource mobilisation components of 18 CSOs.

Bihar

- Training to CFAR (Centre for Advocacy & Research) staff was given on Morbidity Management & Disability Prevention (MMDP).
- Received kind donation of 1.05 tonnes of rice.
- Four new districts to be added under our Rural Eye Health (REH) programme.

Madhya Pradesh (MP)

- Provided technical support to the government in the Active Case Finding (ACF) activity covering a population of 34,000.
- Initiated a satellite referral centre in Maharaja Yeshwantrao (MY) medical institute, Indore.

Odisha

- Successfully re-opened our care centre - Swabhimani in Subarnapur. It offers end-to-end services for the leprosy affected.
- Training provided to government healthcare staff (medical officers, lab technicians, block nodal leprosy workers etc.)

MNC & JNC (Eyecare)

- Celebrated the 17th foundation day of MNC (Mahanadi Netra Chikitsalaya).
- 1,510 cataract surgeries were performed at our eye care hospitals - MNC & JNC (Junagarh Netra Chikitsalaya).
- Around 1200 people were screened for cataract through 11 eye screening camps.

Research

- 40 leprosy affected were assessed for COVID19 Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) post COVID19 vaccination.
- Clinical services were availed by 452 persons.

Meet our staff. . .

Vaheed Basha is our Project Associate from 2019 in Andhra Pradesh. We had a conversation about his journey and the below information gives a glimpse about his experience with LEPRO.



You have been working in the field of leprosy for over 25 years, share your observation?

One of the key things I observed is, in earlier days, people used to approach us when they start observing the skin patches on their body. Sadly, these days, people are approaching when the disabilities start to show up which makes it difficult for us to treat. Early detection and cure is the only way to fight leprosy.

Share any of your experiences with our beneficiaries.

During COVID19, people affected by Lymphatic Filariasis were finding it difficult to get vaccinated as they cannot stand for a long time due to swollen legs. It made them really happy when we facilitated the vaccinations. Also, it gives me immense pleasure to see the smile of our beneficiaries when we touch them with care in spite of having disabilities.

What makes LEPRO a unique organisation?

I am glad that along with leprosy as a key focus, we are also serving the people with Lymphatic Filariasis as there are very few organisations catering to their health needs. LEPRO is unique because we are working in 10 state, provide service to beneficiaries free of cost and have comprehensive interventions for affected by leprosy.

Prasant's reflections. . .

Celebrated the 73rd Republic Day, the World Leprosy Day 2022 & Neglected Tropical Diseases Day to remind ourselves that though we have come a long way we are still far from achieving a Leprosy free India. Stigma and discrimination exists and India still contributes more than 60% of the global new leprosy cases. In spite of the rampaging 3rd wave of COVID19 across the country, the team managed to reach out to the people affected by leprosy with services, emergency assistance and vaccinations. Managed to



interact and meet people affected by leprosy and LF in Nirmal (TS), Sonapur, Binka and Bargarh (Odisha). Attended the MNC advisory board meeting and the impressive 17th foundation day at Sonapur. Happy to have managed to restart the in-patient services at Swabhimani (earlier BOLEP) Care Center at Sonapur with five beds and quite a bit of support from the district administration and local residents. Joined the preparatory meeting for the International Leprosy Congress to be held in Hyderabad this year with Central Leprosy Division, ILEP, Indian Association of Leprologists (IAL) and other partners.

WELCOME
JIMMY INNES



We heartily welcome Jimmy Innes as the CEO of Lepira UK who was earlier the CEO of ADD International working for disability rights & inclusion in Africa and Asia.

Some pictures. . .

73rd Republic Day Celebrations



Self-care camp & IEC



Awareness for self-help groups



17th Foundation Day at MNC



Re-opening of Koraput care centre



Active case finding



Preparation for cataract surgeries



DONATE TO SAVE

Did you know that by donating to LEPRA Society, you can **save 50%** income tax under the Section 80G of Income Tax Act 1961.

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Bank Name IDBI Bank Limited

IFSC Code IBKL0000002

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