

# Samiksha

...by LEPRA Society

putting **people** first

since 1989



**Yay !!! We are 33 years old. . .**

For any queries, please email us at [rmu@leprahealthinaction.in](mailto:rmu@leprahealthinaction.in)

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We celebrated our birthday event in an innovative way.  
**Our chief guests were our beneficiaries!!**

**Beneficiaries speak. . .**

[Click here to read more such testimonials](#)

**Maleswara Rao says**

It all started with skin patches without sense of touch and . .



**Sujatha says**

I have been affected with HIV for the last 10 years. . .



**Ratnamma says**

Firstly, I wish LEPRAs a very happy birthday. . .

**Rehman Jadhav says**

I just want to convey heartfelt thanks to LEPRAs for. . .



[Click here to see some more pictures/videos of our birthday celebrations](#)

# SOME KEY HIGHLIGHTS

## 12 editions of our newsletter 'Samiksha'

We have successfully completed one year of Samiksha - our newsletter. The compiled version of the 12 editions from Jan 2021 to Dec 2021 were shared with all our staff across all the projects and also with our donors.

We thank our readers and supporters for making Samiksha a success.

[Click here to access the compiled version](#)

## Re-opening of our Sonapur Care Centre (SCC) in Odisha

Our care centre in Sonapur was officially re-opened on 04th Feb with a 5 bedded in-patient ward.



This opening ceremony was done in the presence of our Odisha ambassador - Mr. Gorekhnath Sahu, government officials and health staff, Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) and our beneficiaries.

## Social media reach on the occasion of Anti Leprosy Fortnight (ALF) - 30 Jan to 13 Feb

The facebook live events which we organised for the ALF to showcase the work we do on-ground, spread awareness on leprosy and reach more people was a great success.

In the span of 15 days through 15 events, we managed to reached over 16000+ people and actively engaged with 5500+ audience/followers through these live sessions.

This was made possible with active involvement of our field teams and all our supporters & beneficiaries.

## Bhagwan Mahavir Medical Research Centre (BMMRC) visit

The team of BMMRC led by Dr. Vijaya Lakshmi (ex-staff of LEPROA Society - BPHRC) visited our head office on 16th Feb and spoke about her research work and shared some of the experiences and lessons gained in establishing a successful research centre in Mahavir hospital.

It was a great session and we are looking forward to explore areas of potential collaboration in the future.



## ANDHRA PRADESH & TELANGANA

- In collaboration with 'Giffard Memorial Hospital' in Nuzvid - AP, 4 eye screening camps were conducted. Through these camps, around 174 persons were screened, spectacles were distributed to 57 people and 19 persons were identified for cataract surgeries.



- On the occasion of anti-leprosy fortnight, the updated Information, Education & Communication (IEC) material was unveiled by the state leprosy officer in General Govt. Hospital, Vijayawada. Dry ration and hygiene kits were also distributed to 30 beneficiaries as a part of this activity.

- Our mobile health unit in Telangana serves in hard-to-reach areas in 16 districts and distributes customised protective footwear (to people affected by leprosy & lymphatic filariasis). In the last year, around 2000+ customised protective footwear were provided to the beneficiaries right at their door steps.



We are looking for potential collaborations/partnerships to scale up this initiative to many other hard-to-reach remote areas/communities in our operational areas.

## BIHAR

- We organised a sensitisation programme to 36 Panchayat Raj Institution (PRI) members and 10 key social influencers on ending Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) through women-led Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) in 130 villages of Kalyanpur in Samastipur.



- At Little Flower Hospital in Raxaul, 250 students attended a sensitisation programme where they were educated on leprosy about early diagnosis & treatment, prevention of disability and student scholarship schemes.

## MADHYA PRADESH

- In coordination with the National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) team, we conducted 3 Prevention of Disability (POD) camps to 91 leprosy affected beneficiaries. These camps help the patients in understanding the importance of self-care, usage of customised protective footwear etc.
- The team also conducted a virtual CME (Continuing Medical Education) on leprosy for private sector dermatologists as a part of anti-leprosy fortnight activities. This initiative ensures capacity building for early leprosy detection & treatment to private practitioners.



## ODISHA

- 18 leprosy affected/infected women underwent skill development training in which we trained them on soft toys manufacturing at our Koraput care centre.
- The team received an appreciation letter from the District Medical Officer (DMO), Nayagarh for training all the health staff on lymphatic filariasis and supervising the Mass Drug Administration (MDA) programme which resulted in exceptional compliance.



## EYECARE

- We signed an MoU with Bolangir district to carry out outreach activities in four blocks - Puintala, Patnagarh, Gudbhela & Belpada. This partnership will help us reach more people and provide them access to eyecare facilities through our eye hospitals - MNC (Mahanadi Netra Chikitsalaya) in Sonapur & JNC (Junagarh Netra Chikitsalaya) in Junagarh.



- 1,703 cataract surgeries were performed at our eye care hospitals - MNC & JNC.

## RESEARCH

- We initiated the collaboration with Gandhi Medical College, Hyderabad to set up a satellite referral centre in their premises for carrying out diagnostics, therapeutics & research related activities.



- The BSL (Bio Safety Level) - 3 certification of our research centre - BPHRC has been successfully renewed by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India.

## Meet our staff

Bibhu joined LEPRA in 2005 at our eye care hospital - Mahanadi Netra Chikitsalaya (MNC) in Odisha and currently working as a Programme Manager.

### What made you choose eye care as a career?

To be honest, while shaping my career as an eye care professional, employment opportunity was the dominant factor rather than serving the blind people. But once I was into this profession, it was just the opposite. Experiencing the happiness of thousands of blind persons after their vision restoration is simply awesome and this made me to stick to eye care as my life-time career.

**Bibhu Prasad**

### A memory with a beneficiary which you would like to share?

During 16 years' of my service at LEPRA, I have witnessed a large number of happier moments & some really sad moments. I still remember Raghunath who had pathological myopia, a Low Vision (LV) identified student who got LV services from us. When he cleared his 10th examination securing 1st division with the help of prescribed LV devices, he was so excited about it & expressed his gratitude hundreds of times which made me truly emotional and happy.

### What makes LEPRA an unique organisation?

To keep it simple - persistency, flexibility, never-say-never attitude of all the staff and sticking to the ethos of organisation are some traits which makes LEPRA unique.



Be a part of LEPRA  
[\(click here to watch the video\)](#)

LEPRA's activities have recovered after the 3rd wave of COVID19 affecting many colleagues and people we are working with. The live streaming of our activities at different project locations as a part of the Anti-Leprosy Fortnight was well appreciated by different stakeholders.



Happy to see the Sonapur Care Centre in Odisha and the ulcer dressing facility at Balaji Nagar leprosy colony of Telangana up and running. Attended the International Leprosy Congress (ILC) preparatory meeting with other stakeholders. Now, LEPRA is an official partner of the ILC. Met the head of Damien Foundation India Trust (DFIT) to strengthen our collaboration especially in Bihar and Jharkhand. Also, had a detailed discussion with the

senior management of Schieffelin Institute of Health - Research & Leprosy Centre (SIHRLC), Karigiri for coordinating the capacity building arrangements for female physio-technicians under the Rotary project. Had a brief visit to our partner CBO (MAP+) at Mahbubnagar wherein I had the opportunity to interact with the people we are working with. Looking forward to further scaling up of our activities in the coming days with most of the COVID19 related restrictions lifted.

**“UNITED FOR DIGNITY”**



**GIVING**  
can **SAVE**  
you **TAX**



*Donations made to LEPRASociety are exempted under Section 80G (50%) of Income Tax Act 1961*

## Some of the ways you can make an impact. . .

With donation of	Will help us reach	Services provided
INR 400	1 person affected by leprosy/LF	Self-care kit
INR 600	1 person affected by leprosy/LF	Customised protective footwear
INR 1,200	1 person belonging to marginalised community	COVID19 vaccination journey
INR 2,000	100 children in a school	Health camp for one school
INR 2,000	1 family (4 members) belonging to marginalised community	Nutritional support
INR 2,200	1 person affected by leprosy/LF	Aids/appliances for one year
INR 3,000	75-100 people in rural areas	Awareness generation programmes in hard-to-reach & rural areas
INR 5,000	50 affected people	Disability care camp
INR 6,000	1 person	cataract surgery to treat avoidable blindness
INR 9,000	1 affected person	Livelihood training support
INR 10,000	1 person affected by leprosy	Reconstructive surgery, physiotherapy & medical rehabilitation
INR 12,000	1 child affected/infected by leprosy	Education scholarship support

**Account Number** 0132 0030 06100 **Type of Account** Savings **Account Name** LEPRASociety

**Branch Name** Basheer Bagh **Bank Name** IDBI Bank Limited **IFSC Code** IBKL0000002

**Bank Address** Mahavir House, Basheerbagh Square, Hyderabad - 29



For any queries, please write to us at [rmuleprahealthinaction.in](mailto:rmuleprahealthinaction.in)

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