

Samiksha

...by LEPRA Society

Training programs

- Training for frontline workers was organised by team Jagruti at CHC Kalyanpur. A total of 46 ANMs took part in the NTDs and WASH training, which was evaluated through pre and post-tests of the participants. Meetings were held with CRPs at CLF Upkar regarding the Jagruti Project in Bihar.
- Four APAL volunteers received survey training at the Sparsh Center in Jamadoba, Dhanbad.
- The IMA workshop for the upcoming MDA program in Bihar's 22 districts will begin on February 23. LEPRa is the partner for the state LF program.
- Under the UEH project, an urban ASHA training was organised at the State Institute of Health and Family Welfare, Sheikhpura, Patna.

New initiatives

- Mr. Ashok Ponda, Odisha's Minister of Science and Technology, hosted the inauguration of an urban eye care mobile van in Bhubaneswar to commemorate World Disability Day.



IEC

- A contact survey was organized at the Mothinagar colony in Mahaboobnagar, Telangana.
- 26 ASHAs and PHC staff attended the ASHAs orientation program at Kolakaluru PHC, AP.
- 78 ASHA and PHC staff attended the ASHA orientation at Topchachi PHC in Dhanbad, Jharkhand.
- 75 ASHAs and general health staff attended the ASHAs orientation program at the Rakodu PHC of Vizagnagaram Dist.
- An awareness camp on Leprosy was conducted on the 28th of December at the Tahirpur Leprosy Complex.



Others

- On the occasion of World AIDS Day, many awareness programs and activities were conducted in all our operational areas (AP, Telangana, Bihar, Odisha and MP).
- The International Day of People with Disabilities was also observed in various project locations throughout India.
- On account of International Disability Day, an awareness event on Diabetes was held for the patients. 20 patients were provided with specialized protective MCR footwear and 8 patients were provided with walking sticks. The program's resource person, Grama Sarpanch, ward members, locals, PHC staff, ASHAs and AWWs were among the 46 people who attended the event in Telangana.
- Eye testing van at Pustaka Mela in Patna and people standing in line for eye testing.
- MCR footwear was distributed by the mobile foot care unit in Ghorasahan Leprosy colony, Bihar.



State specific key updates

AP & TS

- An awareness program on Leprosy was conducted for students of the Government Ashram School, in Jadcherla.
- The Panchayat Sarpanch of Kalwa village in Nirmal spoke about the importance of World Disability Day and also distributed MCR footwear.
- A sensitization program was held for students of the Government High School at Jadcherla, Mahaboobnagar.
- A certificate of appreciation was awarded to the State coordinator of AP from the Andhra Pradesh State AIDS Control Society.
- An eye screening camp was conducted in the MPUP school in Gogulampadu village, where 108 school children and 34 villagers were screened. 2 people were identified for cataract surgeries and 5 people were referred for computerised eye screenings to check their vision.
- An IPOD camp was conducted at Vutukuru PHC, which was attended by 12 Leprosy and 6 LF patients. The Physio-technician gave a demonstration of self-care practices and ulcer dressing, along with appropriate exercises in the program.
- School survey programs were conducted in various operational areas of LEPRO, where a session on awareness of Leprosy was conducted along with a physical examination of students for the detection of suspects and cases.

MP

- ASHA training on LF and leprosy was provided to self-help groups in the Rajnagar town Gaurihar block of Chhatarpur District.
- Self-support group members (LF and Leprosy patients) after receiving MCR footwear at Luvkush Nagar block.
- Self-support group training was held at Luvkush Nagar and Rajnagar block.
- Self-Care demonstration given by Block Coordinator during IPOD camp in Gaurihar block.



Bihar

- The ASPIRE project started a Rapid Enquiry Survey (RES) for targeted diseases (Leprosy, Lymphatic Filariasis (LF), Scabies, Post Kala-Azar Dermal Leishmaniasis (PKDL) and Cutaneous Leishmaniasis (CL)) in all 10 blocks of Jamui District. Their investigation revealed 79 new cases of leprosy, 423 cases of LF, and 177 cases of scabies.
- A health awareness IEC van was flagged off by Mr. Sanjay Rajoria from the Tata Central Hospital, Jharia Division, with the objective to fight for the reduction of stigma around Leprosy and LF along with the detection of new cases in eight blocks of Dhanbad district. The van, which runs with the support of TATA Steel Rural Development Services (TSRDS), will ensure intensive microphone exhibitions, the distribution of pamphlets in the village, a weekly haat, as well as a film show in the evening. The team will also conduct a school health education program and a group meeting for a period of 60 days.

Odisha

- Two PMP/RMP sensitization programs were organized in Kalampur CHC of Kalahandi district and Jharbandh CHC of Bargarh district. 56 PMPs, RMPs, and doctors were made aware of leprosy and LF and also got enrolled in the programs.
- Two self-help groups were formed, with 33 participants from Sonepur's Birmaharajpur and Bamunigaon of the Koraput District.
- The IEC van was used during the LCDC campaign in the Jagdalpur (Baster) district of Chhattisgarh. Mass propaganda was held in 18 villages along with four group meetings and video shows. 15000 people were covered, and two new cases were discovered.
- 32 cases of leprosy were treated in a special DPMR clinic that was established at Bhanpuri CHC in the Chattisgarh district of Jagdalpur (Bastar), with the assistance of government authorities and project representatives.



[Click here to see some pictures related to the above activities](#)



Mangineni Subba Rao is presently working as a Physio Technician (PT) at LEPRa and has completed his B.A. Degree. He previously worked as a Non-Medical Assistant in the AMG Organisation for 9 years and also as a physio technician at GLRA for 5 years. Below is a brief conversation with him.

How many years have you been associated with LEPRa?

I have been associated with LEPRa from 2002 (13th Feb) as a Physio Technician in the Krishna District of A.P.

Share your experience and learning's at LEPRa?

During my service, I treated nearly 5,000 leprosy patients and helped raise funds for leprosy programs in Andhra Pradesh. I also learned good coordination skills for the benefit of the people affected by diseases and maintained a good rapport with the Health Department personnel at various levels. We also got recognized by the Government for the services we provide at our referral centre in Vijayawada.

A memory at LEPRa which you would like to share?

I feel proud when I recall the memory of people from the leprosy colony honoring me for the services I provided as a PT and also for the recognition of my work at LEPRa.

What makes LEPRa a unique organization?

Having a field presence and working for the cause and benefit of the people who are neglected in the communities makes LEPRa a unique organization.



I am Shivamani, age 29 years and a resident of Hyderabad. I was infected by leprosy during my early childhood. The local government health staff referred me to the Referral Center for treating and managing my multiple deformities and ulcers. I started working as a supporter for a transport truck that often lead to wounds and bleeding on my limbs.

Later, I was made aware of my government entitlements and now I receive a monthly pension of Rs. 3000. I am very thankful to LEPRa for facilitating me with Social Welfare Schemes besides my medical treatment.

[Click here to read the whole story.](#)

Prasant's message

Finally, we have reached the end of 2022. It has been quite an eventful year for LEPRa Society with its participation in the International Leprosy Congress held in Hyderabad. Specific to the month, the Odisha Urban Eye Health Program launched a specialized mobile eye care van for Bhubaneswar supported by SSI, which will go a long way in diagnosing different eye problems, including Diabetic Retinopathy and Glaucoma. I had the opportunity to meet all the finance colleagues across all the programs offices of LEPRa. The UN HRC Rapporteur report was finalized with support from UK colleagues and submitted successfully. LEPRa formally embarked on a collaboration with iProbono, Delhi (a legal aid firm) and Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad (for BPHRC). I also participated in the 18th Foundation Day celebration of MNC at Sonapur this month. I wish you all a great new year and hope to see LEPRa reach great heights in 2023!



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