

Samiksha

...by LEPRA Society

Condolences

He touched so many hearts, and opened so many minds!

We at LEPRA are deeply saddened by the demise of Dr. K.V. Desikan. He was the Founder Chairman of LEPRA, a renowned Leprologist, Pathologist and Researcher. He was a very humble and affectionate person and was an amazing mentor to many. His work and dedication will always be cherished and acknowledged. May his soul RIP.

With great admiration and respect - LEPRA Society



PEOPLE REACHED - Around 3800

(Training programs/ camps & IEC/Awareness activities etc.)

- Through training programs at various project locations.
- IEC activities by way of:
- Eye screening camps and rallies.
- School health education programs.



- DPMR (Disability Prevention and Medical Rehabilitation) and self-care camps.
- LCDC (Leprosy Case Detection Campaign) programs.



- The Health and Family Welfare Minister inaugurated our new eye hospital in Jharsuguda, Odisha on 19th October 2022.



- The Resource Mobilization and Communications Unit (RMU) established a new partnership with Lions Clubs International Foundation, Secunderabad and were invited to take part in their Diamond Jubilee celebrations on 28th October. Our team spoke about the importance and need for customized protective footwear and the foundation supported us by providing two pairs of customized protective footwear for 35 beneficiaries.



- World Sight Day, was observed on 13th October by MNC (Mahanadi Netra Chikitsalaya), Sonepur and JNC (Junagarh Nethra Chikitsalaya) Junagarh.



- The EdCIL team organized a donor visit for around 2000 people at one of our project locations in Gaya, Bihar where our donor interacted with our beneficiaries and also learned how our mobile footwear unit provides much-needed access to customized protective footwear for people affected with leprosy.



State specific key updates

AP and TS

- Foster care support for orphans and HIV-positive children from KCP Cements Limited got approved in Krishna District for one and a half years - November 2022 to March 2023 and from April 2023 to March 2024.
- A separate room space was acquired through the Vizianagaram Referral Center for the shoe unit services of the Maharaja District Hospital for taking up Leprosy-related services.



- DPMR services were initiated at the Damien Leprosy Center, Vegavaram for comprehensive care, which is a private partnership in Eluru District.
- The "Gift of Vision" project was initiated in the Eluru District, where 26 cataract surgeries were performed and spectacles were provided to 101 needy people in A.P.



M.P.

- On 30th October, we completed LCDC Programs in 35 districts of Madhya Pradesh.

Research

New collaborations initiated with:

- The Abertay University, UK for diagnostics in leprosy and NTDs.
- The Bombay Leprosy project for the DIARAPHTE proposal.
- The Department of Community Medicine of the Apollo Institute of Medical Sciences and Research for short-term training of MD students.
- BPHRC@25 events were planned, which will kick off during the ILC.
- Two research fellowships from ICMR were officially initiated; one on microscopy and the other on Disability Screening.

Bihar

- LCDC programs were completed in 11 districts.
- Four pilot projects were initiated in Samastipur.
- The Uplift project was funded and approved by the International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations (ILEP) of India, Bangladesh and Ethiopia.
- Robert luff 3rd Phase initiated in Jharkhand.



Finance and Operations

- 2nd Forecast 2022 was compiled and is ready for submission.
- Finance workshop for finance teams was planned on 30th October and 1st November 2022.
- Income Tax returns were filed for the financial year of 2021 -2022.

EyeCare

- Around 2500 cataract surgeries were performed at our eye care hospitals - MNC & JNC
- Four Reconstructive Surgeries (RCS) were performed at the District Headquarter Hospital (DHH) and post-operative care was provided at our Sonapur Care Center (SCC) to those who underwent those surgeries.



- Rallies and eye screening camps were held for vulnerable groups at all vision centers.



- The first-ever diabetic retinopathy camp was inaugurated by the ADM&HO (Additional District Medical & Health Officer), on the eve of World Sight Day on 13th October in Sonapur.



"I am presently working as a Technical Engineer at LEPRAs IT department based in our head office. I am a postgraduate in Computer Applications". Below is more of our conversation with him.

How many years have you been associated with LEPRA?

I have been working here for the past 15 years. I joined this organization on 18th September 2006, which also coincides with my birthday.

Share your experience and learning's at LEPRA?

It is and has been a learning experience for me as I get to address and solve IT-related issues for the teams based in 11 states. The virtual assistance I provide is many times challenging due to different geographies and finding workable solutions with limited resources is hard but also gives me a sense of achievement when accomplished.

A memory at LEPRA which you would like to share?

I remember receiving an appreciation during the Management Committee Meeting on 29th February 2020 in front of all the Board members.

What makes LEPRA a unique organization?

LEPRA is one of the few organizations where the knowledge of Leprosy and other NTD's are deeply rooted in most of the staff since its inception in 1989. As many colleagues are old-timers and have been working for many years, the collective knowledge and experience are an asset and this makes LEPRA unique.



"Neeru Bai Chouhan's journey with Leprosy"

"I am a labourer from M.P. and I visited the Sendhwa Referral Center on 23rd Dec 2021, for treating my skin disease. The clinical diagnosis determined modular leprosy all over my body. I consulted the RBSK (Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram) medical officer through our Anganwadi program and started my multi-bacillary MDT (Multi Drug Therapy) treatment. The lesions subsided after regular treatment and I'm happy with the improvement of my skin condition. I was initially very shy in participating in the community events and continue to happily participate in all the community activities. Now I Am confident in sharing my story and letting people know that there is a cure for Leprosy."

[Click here to read the rest of the story of Neeru Bai Chouhan.](#)

Prasant's message

October has been a festive month with celebrations across all our operational areas. Our teams provided monitoring support for the LCDC campaigns in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Delhi, which was appreciated by the Central Leprosy Division(CLD) and the State Leprosy Officers of the respective states. Attended a two-day meeting organized by the World Health Organization and CLD for the finalization of the National Strategic Plan for Zero Leprosy by 2030.

Preparations for ILC are in the final stages for LEPRA, with presentations of 50 papers and leading quite a few sessions. A Social Inclusion Programme has been approved and started in the Mandla district of MP. There was an event organized by the RMU with Lions Clubs International Foundation, Secunderabad. RMU initiated and established this new exploratory journey and it is a great opportunity for us to pursue similar partnerships with Lions Clubs in all our project areas. Also attended the advisory board meeting of our MNC hospital, which we managed to hold after a few delays. Looking forward to visiting the programs to finalize the budget and action plans for next year.



Lastly, Pritha, my colleague and CMT member moved on from LEPRA on 21st October 2022. During her time in LEPRA, she was the state coordinator of Odisha and Chhattisgarh and successfully lead many programs and teams. On behalf of all of us at LEPRA, I wish Pritha all the best for her future endeavours.

Account Number 0132 0030 06100 **IFSC Code** IBKL0000002 **Account Name** LEPRA Society **Type of Account** Savings

Bank Name IDBI Bank Limited **Branch Name** Basheer Bagh **Bank Address** Mahavir House, Basheerbagh Square, Hyderabad - 29



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