



PRASANT'S MESSAGE

Dear colleagues, partners, and friends, September has been a month of pride and inspiration for LEpra Society. We are honoured to receive the Mahatma Award for Social Good and Impact – Good Health and Well-Being and the WHO South-East Asia Public Health Champion Award (Institutional Category) — a recognition of our collective commitment to improving health and restoring dignity across India. I dedicate these honours to our team, partners, and supporters. On the governance front, we successfully held the Extraordinary General Body (EGB) meeting for audit approval, reaffirming transparency and accountability. We also signed a new MoU with Educational Media Research Centre (EMRC) to launch podcasts that will share stories of resilience with wider audiences.

In Odisha, I met the Collector of Sonepur, reviewed the Sonepur Care Centre (SCC), and outlined plans for its long-term sustainability. Our ongoing collaborations with Mahanadi Netra Chikitsalaya (MNC) and discussions at the SEVA meeting reinforced shared priorities in inclusive eye care. We engaged in the GoodBye Leprosy Trust (GBLT) Board Meeting in Bangalore, and I had the privilege of speaking at a Leprosy Awareness Programme at Christ University, highlighting empathy, inclusion, and early detection.

As we expand our impact, we are preparing to launch podcasts that amplify the voices of those driving change every day. Together with our teams, partners, and supporters, we continue to uphold our mission of health, dignity, and lasting change for every individual we serve.

IMPACT STORY

Restoring Confidence and Health – Trilochan Gaadaba Journey

Trilochan Gaadaba, a 30-year-old farmer from Kadamguda village, Jeypore block, Koraput district, Odisha, lives with his family of six. Belonging to the Scheduled Tribe (ST) category and a Below Poverty Line (BPL) household, he strives to provide a better life for his children.

Challenge Faced

In January 2023, Trilochan developed prolonged fever and blisters and was diagnosed with leprosy at the Koraput Care Centre (KCC), Odisha. He began multi-bacillary (MB) multidrug therapy (MDT) but stopped treatment to try traditional remedies, which triggered repeated leprosy reactions, including fever, joint pain, and low haemoglobin, requiring multiple hospitalizations.



LEpra Society's Intervention

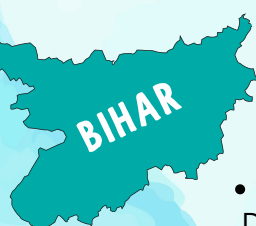
He was admitted to KCC in May 2023 with severe reactions and received prednisolone therapy, counseling, and reinstatement of MDT through the Community Health Centre (CHC). In November 2023, during his sixth blister pack, he experienced recurrent reactions and low hemoglobin, requiring further hospitalization. Again in July 2025, he was admitted for reaction management. Following sustained treatment and follow-up at KCC, Trilochan's condition improved, and he expressed heartfelt gratitude to the LEpra Society staff for their care and support.



- LRI Dissemination Meeting held in Vijayawada with participation from State and District NLEP staff, partner NGOs, and LEPRA Society staff.
- Disability Prevention and Medical Rehabilitation (DPMR) and Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention (MMDP) camps held at Pedana PHC, Narva, and Vegavaram, self-care kits was distributed, and foot care with simple exercises demonstrated.
- 10 Livelihood cheques distributed in Gampalagudem with support from IADHO.
- 10 Higher education cheques distributed in Eluru through the District Leprosy, AIDS, and TB Officer with support from Tenali Double Horse.
- School awareness programmes was conducted across AP operational areas; awareness programmes held in schools at Jaggaiahpetta and Tenali.
- Foster care support, Clinic support with medicines and Nutrition support was provided to 135 CLHIV and PLHIV with support from KCP Limited, Ramco Cements and Tenali Double Horse Foundation along with regular follow-up in Jaggaiahpetta.



- Our new referral center in Tinsukia, Assam, inaugurated on 8th September 2025, will provide integrated leprosy and filariasis services. It offers early detection, rehabilitation support, and customized protective footwear to help prevent disability and improve mobility and dignity for patients.



- Effect Hope donor visit and Gram Panchayat Planning and Facilitation Team (GPPFT) meeting held at Barhat Community Centre, Jamui, with LEPRA Society Bihar team discussing the upcoming LCDC program, leprosy screening support, and participation in SSG and ASHA meetings.
- Strategic review meeting on leprosy and LF elimination along with Dr. Rajesh Panday (WHO), Dr. Sarvartha Roy (Damien Foundation), and Effect Hope team to strengthen collaborative efforts toward 2027 targets.



- Collaborative session was held with Piramal Foundation to align GPPFT implementation in Jamui, enhance leprosy screening, and boost community engagement.
- SSG leaders' review conducted at NTD Clinic, Samastipur, focused on Kobo data, structured meetings, accurate reporting, and accountability.
- Training conducted at CHC Kalyanpur, Samastipur, for 45 ANMs and staff on MMDP, early detection, treatment, and stigma reduction in leprosy and filariasis.
- District-level LCDC review and orientation conducted at Sadar Hospital, Bhabua (Kaimur), with MOICs, BCMs, and PMWs on leprosy signs, referrals, reporting, and IEC activities, in the presence of Civil Surgeon Dr. Chand Eshwari Rajak and ACO Dr. Shanti Kumar Manjhi.



- The Shakthi Project strengthened its presence with the recruitment of 21 new Community Health Workers and the induction of key team members.
- Clinical services supported 64 OPD cases, 26 nerve function assessments, 17 new case registrations, and treatment of reactions and ulcers at Jagdalpur referral centre.
- Follow-ups, contact surveys, and focal surveys were carried out across Nangoor, Madpal, Bastar, and Bakawand blocks.
- School health education training conducted in Nangoor spread awareness among students.





- Leprosy awareness and training activities included sessions at a Rotary Club seminar demonstrating MCR/MCP footwear and self-care kits, Training 23 health workers on detection and referral at Sitapuri Government Dispensary.
- MCD School students, Engaging 300 students and 12 staff on self-care and stigma reduction.



- IEC session at Pandav Nagar trained six RMP doctors on early detection, referral, and stigma reduction.
- LCDC meeting at Sub-Divisional Medical Office, reviewed leprosy control progress with NLEP and district officials, emphasizing early detection, treatment adherence, and community coordination.



- Meeting was held at the District Leprosy Office, Dhanbad, with NLEP staff, Tata Sparsh and Nirmala Leprosy Hospital, Gobindpur.



- Footwear camp was organized at RC Ranchi; all received protective footwear and were trained in self-care practices, focusing on ulcer prevention.

- Customized MCR footwear(41) were distributed across Nirsha, Barmasia, and BMP Leprosy Colonies, supporting individuals affected by leprosy to aid mobility.



- Integrated Training was conducted at Vidisha covering modules from NVHCP and NLEP held for Block Medical Officers (BMOs) and Medical Officers (MO)- Total of 37 staff members attended.
- Leprosy awareness sessions were organized in schools at Sendhwa and Alirajpur districts, educating students on symptoms, prevention, and free treatment availability.



- Students were encouraged to identify early signs, avoid stigma, and spread awareness within their families and communities through interactive discussions led by teachers and health workers.



- A leprosy awareness session by Physio Care Assistants (PCAs) was conducted for a women's group at the Pipiri Gram Panchayat office in Gondpipari, Chandrapur district.



- LEPRO empowered communities across Puri, Nayagarh, Rairangpur, Koraput, and Junagarh. Self-care camps, school programs, and village forums helped patients manage leprosy and LF with dignity, while footwear, ulcer care, and support for disability certificates improved daily life.
- Plantation drives were organized under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign.
- In Pipili and Gaudakera, strengthened community participation and created sustainable opportunities, reflecting our commitment to holistic well-being and hope for every life we touch.





- Inner Wheel Club of Banjara members interacted with beneficiaries at Nallakunta Referral Centre and extended support.
- Leprosy awareness and community outreach activities included a session at Shiridi Sai Baba High School, Addagutta, engaging 432 students and 18 staff.
- Health camps and surveys were conducted across districts at Arogya Matha Rehabilitation Centre,

TELANGANA

Kollapur; Lingapur village, Nirmal district; Madhapur village, Nirmal (MMDP camp); and Dabba village, Asifabad.

- DPMR camp was held at UHNC Golkonda by providing MCR footwear, self-care kits, and physiotherapy services.

UTTAR PRADESH

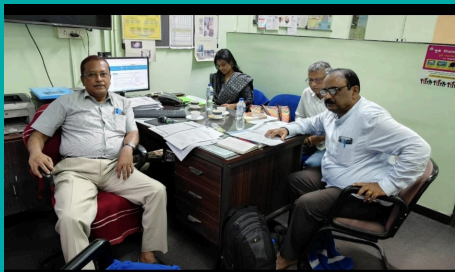
- A new Referral Centre at Chhawakaghat, Varanasi, was inaugurated on 17th September 2025 by the Medical Officer In-Charge (MOIC).
- This centre represents a major step forward in improving local access to leprosy and lymphatic filariasis (LF) services. It will play a vital role in early detection, referral, and rehabilitation of affected individuals, while also promoting awareness, self-care, and disability prevention through integrated outreach and patient support activities.

BPHRC

- The Personalized Footwear for Foot Ulcers in Leprosy project funded by LRI concluded, with state dissemination meetings organized in Patna, Bihar, Vijayawada, AP, and Koraput, Odisha.
- Integrated medical camp conducted at Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) Hyderabad in collaboration with NTEP- Medchal team, and Urban Primary Health Centre (UPHC) Cherlapally.
- An active leprosy case detection survey was carried out in Vizianagaram district, AP, under the LRI-One Health Project.
- Examination of healthy household contacts and sample collection conducted under the ICMR project at Kushnapally, Kumuram Bheem District, Telangana.



Key Highlights



LEPRA Society participated in the Leprosy Case Detection Campaign (LCDC) in West Bengal (8-12 Sept) as a Central Monitor, working closely with state and district officials to enhance surveillance, early detection, and timely treatment.



The second batch of ANM training was completed at CHC Kalyanpur, covering suspect screening, referrals, treatment adherence, disability care, and awareness of social entitlement schemes including BSKKY, LF disability pension, Parwaris, UDID, and Ayushman Bharat.



A Referral Centre was inaugurated at Chhawakaghat, Varanasi, enhancing access to leprosy and lymphatic filariasis services. The centre focuses on early detection, referral, rehabilitation, awareness, self-care, and disability prevention.

Key Highlights



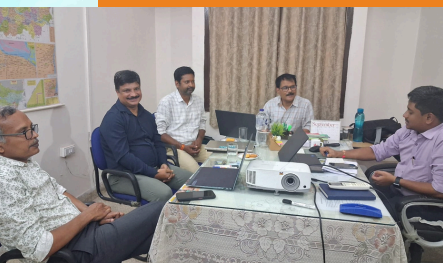
LEPRA Society signed an MoU with EMRC to strengthen collaboration in research, education, and awareness initiatives, including the recording of podcasts to promote knowledge sharing and public awareness on leprosy and related health issues.



LEPRA Society representatives participated in a Rotary seminar as panel experts discussing "Challenges in Leprosy Elimination by 2027 and Beyond" and were recognized for contributions to leprosy care and awareness.



A Referral Centre was inaugurated the new Referral Center in Tinsukia, graced by Dr. Pinky Shraff, Aparajita Das, and Ananto Ram Das. The center will enhance leprosy care through treatment, physiotherapy, and rehabilitation services.



Insightful meeting held at the DFIT Office, Patna, Bihar, with Dr. Shiva Kumar, CEO of DFIT, and Dr. Sarbartha Roy, State NLEP Consultant, DFIT to explore greater partnership initiatives

An Integrated Health Camp was held at IOCL, offering TB, eye, diabetes, and HIV screenings for staff and truckers in collaboration with local health teams and LEPRA staff.



Meet Our Staff

How did you join LEPRA, and what is your current role?

I joined LEPRA Society in August 2024 as a Field Coordinator in Alirajpur, Madhya Pradesh. I focus on active case detection, community outreach, and coordinating with healthcare teams to support people affected by leprosy.

How do you engage with local communities to raise awareness?

I regularly conduct awareness drives, health camps, and community meetings to spread knowledge about leprosy prevention and care. Building trust with local leaders and families helps break barriers of stigma and create a more supportive environment for those affected.

What are the most significant challenges you face, and how do you address them? The biggest challenges are misconceptions, stigma, and limited access to healthcare in remote tribal areas. I address these by educating communities, collaborating with health teams, and communicating in local languages to ensure everyone feels seen and understood.

Can you share a memorable experience from your time at LEPRA?

One moment I'll never forget is when we helped a woman affected by leprosy heal her wounds. The joy and relief on her face after recovery reminded me why our work matters it's about restoring dignity, hope, and happiness to people's lives.



Sonu
Field Coordinator
Alirajpur District,
Madhya Pradesh

Thank you to LEPRA Society team for your unending support
Facilitated by

Manohar Kulkarni
Social Media Consultant

Dr. Anantha Lakshmi Latchayya
Communications Officer

Dr. Khyathi Pilaka
Manager- Knowledge Management
and New Initiatives

Arun Kumar Kandukuri
Head - Programmes RM & C



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



Donate



Scan & Follow us on
Social Media

For any queries, please write to us at rmu@leprahealthinaction.in



@LEPRASociety1989



@LEPRA Society



@leprasociety



@LEPRASociety



@LEPRASociety1