One of the privileges I have at India Vision Institute is to continue making a difference to the lives of many individuals who have limited access to our existing healthcare systems due to several reasons. My team at IVI with our partners have performed vision screenings across the country: from the accident-prone firecracker workers in Sivakasi, the inmates of Puzhal Prison in Chennai, to children in the remote villages of Mizoram and the children of the people affected with Leprosy at Mother Teresa’s home in Kolkata. It allows both the communities as well as us to see the world in a positive light, and I am delighted that we will continue to make this difference to the lives of tens of thousands of Indians over the coming months. I am pleased that Optometry Giving Sight, CooperVision, Essilor Vision Foundation, Allergan, the Australian Consulates in Chennai and Mumbai and several others, including the Rotary Club of Madras East, are continuing to support us. We would be keen to multiply this several-fold over the coming years considering the huge need in India.

The short-term fellowship for Optometrists in Diabetic Retinopathy will have a direct impact on eye care imparted to diabetic patients; also the Eyeteach: Education Design for Learning will mentor educators from six selected schools to approach teaching so as to inculcate a lifelong learning aptitude among Optometry students. These are just two among the many continuous education programs that will create a long-term impact on the quality of Optometry practice in the country. I thank Optometry Giving Sight, Alcon Foundation, Brien Holden Vision Institute Foundation and others for their continued support to our education initiatives.

A big forthcoming event is the 2nd World Congress of Optometry being organised in Hyderabad during September 2017. The congress has received a lot of attention in the past few months; 662 abstracts have been submitted, promising this to be the best Optometry conference in Asia. If you haven’t registered, please do so now at www.worldcongressofoptometry.org

IVI congratulates our initiator, trustee and inspiration Dr G N Rao on being inducted into the Ophthalmology Hall of Fame at the opening ceremony of the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery annual meeting in Los Angeles. He along with another legend, the late Prof Brien Holden, have possibly influenced eye care in every country in the world. We shall be ever thankful to them for their vision and help in setting up India Vision Institute.

- Vinod Daniel
IVI, in collaboration with LV Prasad Eye Institute, organised a comprehensive Workshop on Diabetic Retinopathy for Optometrists at NSHM Knowledge Campus, Kolkata on 20 March 2017.

Facilitators of the one-day workshop were Dr. Padmaja Kumari Rani, Vitreo-Retina Consultant, L V Prasad Eye Institute; Karnati Bharath Kumar and Ms Sudipa Sahu, Consultant Optometrists; and Mrs Kanuri Santhamma, Centre for Viteo Retinal Diseases, L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad.

The workshop focused on concepts of Diabetic Retinopathy, latest optometric investigations and management options in Diabetic Retinopathy.

Over 75 Optometry practitioners, educators and students from the states of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar, as well as from various Optometry institutes and eye hospitals across India participated in the workshop. The participants expressed their appreciation about the workshop.

**IVI acknowledges the support of Optometry Giving Sight in association with Alcon Foundation for funding the program**

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**Online Seminar on Eye care and Public Health**

The 18th IVI Online Seminar Series was presented by Dr Srinivas Marmamula (M.Sc - Community Eye Health, PhD), Optometrist & Public Eye Health Specialist, Section Leader - Primary Eye Care, Community Eye Health Education and Research, GPR ICARE, LVPEI, on 27 March. The topic of discussion was ‘Eye Care and Public Health’.

Attended by over 300 optometry students from 11 schools across the country, the session focused on the concepts in Epidemiology, study designs and basic Biostatistics. Participants were given quick exercises during the presentation that helped keep the momentum of the talk and the motivation level high.

**IVI acknowledges the support of Brien Holden Vision Institute Foundation and Optometry Giving Sight in funding the program**

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**EyeTeach: Education Design for Learning**

As part of the Optometry School Development program, 18 educators from six selected Optometry institutions attended the two-day ‘EyeTeach: Education Design for Learning’ workshops – 4-5 April and 8-9 April at Amity University-Gurgaon and NSHM Knowledge Campus, Kolkata, respectively.

The selected six optometry institutions were:

1. Department of Optometry, Amity Medical School, Amity University, Gurgaon
2. Department of Optometry, Teerthanker Mahaveer University, Moradabad
3. Hari Jyot College of Optometry, Navsari
4. Shree Bharatimalia College of Optometry, Surat
5. Bansara Institute of Ophthalmic Sciences, Shillong
6. NSHM Knowledge Campus, Kolkata

Facilitated under the aegis of the Brien Holden Vision Institute Academy, the eight-week-long course began on 23 February 2017. Comprising four modules, the face-to-face workshop followed the completion of Module 3. It wrapped up on 30 April.

The Optometry Council of India (OCI) awarded 10 credit points to EyeTeach: Education Design for Learning.

**IVI acknowledges the support of Brien Holden Vision Institute Foundation and Optometry Giving Sight for funding the program**

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**37th Low Vision Awareness Program (LAP)**

The 37th Low Vision Awareness Program (LAP) was held from 31 March-1 April at LVPEI’s KAR campus in Hyderabad. It was conducted in collaboration with India Vision Institute.

Forty-seven delegates from India, Ghana, Mozambique and Nigeria attended. The participants included Optometrists, Optometry students, Ophthalmologists and low vision practitioners.

The topics of presentations ranged from the global burden of vision impairment to assessment and management of various cases with vision impairment. In addition to didactic lectures, hands-on sessions about the basics of assistive devices, multidisciplinary low vision rehabilitation services and daily living skills for people with low vision were organized.

Patients who are now employed with Wipro shared their experience of living with vision impairment and how they have benefited from comprehensive low vision rehabilitation intervention. Participants were divided into eight groups and were assigned to present a case with vision impairment and its management.
IVI launched a vision screening campaign in Delhi on 7 April for screening the vision of 4,500 underprivileged children. Free spectacles were provided to those diagnosed with refractive errors.

The campaign entailed the vision screening of 4,500 underprivileged children in Delhi. An additional 15,600 underprivileged children from the suburbs of four other cities are to undergo vision screening during 2017 as part of the campaign.

The IVI Delhi campaign launch distributed 26 free spectacles to the children diagnosed with refractive errors at the Salam Balak Trust. The distribution followed a vision screening program which screened over 140 children under the ‘One Bright Vision Child Eye Health Program’ initiative of CooperVision.

Rishi Suri, Editor, International Affairs, The Daily Milap newspaper, was the Guest of Honour at the event. Vinod Daniel, CEO of India Vision Institute, and Michael Wilkinson from CooperVision distributed the spectacles.

The campaign drew wide and positive coverage in the online digital news media and print press.

IVI acknowledges the support of CooperVision and Optometry Giving Sight in funding the program

Online seminar on Convergence Insufficiency and Near Stress

An online seminar, Convergence Insufficiency and Near Stress, was presented by Julius Liubinas, MSc. Optometry, FACBO, FCOVD, Optometrist - Melbourne, Australia on 21 April.

Over 700 students from 16 Optometry institutions attended the seminar along with their respective faculty.

Nineteenth in the IVI Online Seminar Series, the seminar focused on differentiation between near stress and convergence insufficiency, the link between cognitive styles and ocular motor patterns, as well as IQ ranges of Esotropes and Exotropes.

Undergraduate and postgraduate students attending the session connected well with Mr Liubinas’ colloquial way of demonstration and presentation.

IVI acknowledges the support of Brien Holden Vision Institute Foundation and Optometry Giving Sight for funding the program

IVI participates in WOD event to promote 2nd WCO

IVI participated with a booth to promote and highlight the 2nd World Congress of Optometry at an event conducted by the Alumni of School of Optometry Association, Tamil Nadu. The event was part of the ‘World Optometry Day 2017’ celebrations conducted at Ethiraj College, Chennai on 16 April.

Around 800 participants including faculties and students from over 10 Optometry institutes were present at the event. As one of the sponsors, IVI addressed the gathering with a view to promoting the conference.

Many participants evinced a keen interest in registering for the conference. There were over a dozen stalls by manufacturers of Optometry industry products.

IVI thanks the office bearers and Secretary, G. Vivekanandan, for all assistance.

Young Leaders Program Batch V (2017 – 18)

IVI announced the successful candidates for YLP (Round V) in Hyderabad on 26 April:

1. Anirban Dey, Faculty, NSHM Knowledge Campus, Kolkata
2. Gaurav Dubey, Faculty, UP UMS, Saifai
3. Harish Kumar, Senior Program Manager, Operation Eyesight Universal, Hyderabad
4. Kitchwa Dkhark, Optometrist, Bansara Institute of Ophthalmic Sciences, Shillong
5. Mosaib Omaer, Assistant Professor / In charge, C L Gupta Eye Institute, Moradabad
6. Paras Desai, Assistant Professor, Harijyot College of Optometry, Navsari
7. Pawan Kumar, OT Grade I, All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi
8. Rahul Roy, Lecturer, Nethradhama School of Optometry, Bangalore
9. Salai Dhavamathi, Assistant Professor, Amity Medical School, Gurgaon
10. Shaik Faheemuddin, Key Accounts Manager, GKB Rx Lens Pvt Ltd, Hyderabad
11. Unnati Vaish, Assistant Professor, Teerthanker Mahaveer University, Moradabad

This was the concluding batch of IVI’s five-year Young Leaders Program, which would have trained 50 young Indian professionals to be the future flag-bearers for eye care in India.
As a part of its **Eye See & I Learn** initiative, IVI screened 2,618 underprivileged children from schools in and around Kanchipuram and Thiruvallur districts of Greater Chennai during March and April. As many as 150 free spectacles were distributed.

These vision screening programs were conducted at Sri Krishna Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Pazhaverkadu, Thiruvallur District; Karpaga Vigneshwara Vidyalaya, Ullagaram; Government Adi-Drawidar Welfare group of schools at Alathur, Thairur, Paduvancherry, Melkottaiyur, Pudupakkam, Pattipulam suburban and rural areas in Kanchipuram district.

**IVI acknowledges the support of the Allergan International Foundation and Optometry Giving Sight for funding the program**

IVI along with Rotary Club of Madras East (RCME) distributed 41 free spectacles on 19 April at AJS Nidhi Aided Higher Secondary School, Alandur, Chennai, following a vision screening program where 297 underprivileged children were screened on 5 April.

Meenakshi Sundaram from Rotary Club of Madras East; Vinod Daniel, CEO, India Vision Institute; Mani Srinivasan, Shiva Kumar and other dignitaries of AJS Nidhi Trust were present for the spectacle distribution program.

**IVI - Rotary Club initiative**

As a part of the IVI-RCME vision screening project, IVI screened a total of 1,109 underprivileged children at two government-aided schools and five orphanages in suburban Chennai. 81 free spectacles were distributed in April.

Under the **Eye See & I Work** initiative IVI screened around 348 underprivileged people in Neelankarai, Kanchipuram, Greater Chennai on 4 and 11 March. Around 245 people diagnosed with refractive errors would be provided free spectacles.

**IVI Vision Screening Programs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No of programs</th>
<th>193</th>
<th>43</th>
<th>236</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals screened</td>
<td>72896</td>
<td>38426</td>
<td>111322</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spectacles distributed</td>
<td>5086</td>
<td>6036</td>
<td>11122</td>
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**Upcoming Programs and Registration Deadlines**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Details</th>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) YLP Combined workshop</td>
<td>17 &amp; 18 June 2017</td>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>Registrations Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) IVI Summer Internship</td>
<td>June 2017</td>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>Registrations Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) 2nd World Congress of Optometry</td>
<td>11th - 13th Sept, 2017</td>
<td>HICC, Hyderabad</td>
<td>Registrations Open</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your contribution of INR 500/- will help to screen the vision of 20 underprivileged children and provide spectacles to those in need; or offer opportunity to an individual from the underprivileged community to work to their full potential through a pair of spectacles.

**DONATE ONLINE**

To DONATE ONLINE and for additional information, please visit www.indiavisioninstitute.org or call 044 - 24515353

All donations shall qualify for deductions u/s 80 G of the Income Tax Act 1961

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Watch the video on
www.youtube.com/indiavisioninstitute

IVI Job Portal (www.eyecarejobs.in)
Launched in September 2014, IVI's sector specific job portal is available free of cost to both recruiters and job seekers. This industry and education support initiative has over 400 registered members.

Optometry professionals across India are invited to sign up.

Companies wishing to advertise a current job opening can forward details to murali.krishna@indiavisioninstitute.org or call +91 - 9703138588

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