

Message from the CEO

We have launched a facility in Chennai for coordinating all our vision screening and free spectacle distribution programs. It was a real privilege to have the Tamil Nadu Minister for Tamil Official Language & Tamil Culture, K Pandiarajan, and the Australian Consul General in Chennai, Ms Susan Grace, at the official launch of the Vision Centre and distribute 25 spectacles to members of the fishing community and daily wage laborers from nearby communities who we had screened earlier. The centre functions both as a walk-in facility for any underprivileged person to have their vision screened and receive a pair of spectacles if needed, as well as a facility for over 70,000 people we have screened in greater Chennai over the past few years to come and replace or repair any damaged spectacles. The Vision Centre was made possible through a grant from the Australian Government's Development Assistance Program (DAP).

The flagship IVI awareness initiative 'Walk in the Dark' held in Kolkata on 29 April in partnership with Victoria Memorial Hall and Essilor India's 'Think About Your Eyes' campaign was a huge success

with over 600 participants, including several local and national dignitaries, participating in the march. Print and TV media ran news articles and features on the Walk, disseminating a strong message widely. Over 30 media stories appeared in the following days. We plan to have at least one walk in every State and Union Territory in India, with the next one planned for Mizoram.

I congratulate Ms Jyothi Thomas, one of our PhD grant recipients, on being granted her doctorate from Manipal College of Allied Health Sciences, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal. I am delighted at the interest Optometry schools are taking in competing for student research grants and for the research rolling trophy. IVI has delivered more than 185 education programs, and we are currently working with our initiators, LV Prasad Eye Institute and the Brien Holden Vision Institute, to develop and deliver several new initiatives focusing on identified needs and requirements.

To strengthen Optometry in India and to provide vision screening for the

underprivileged, we need on-going support from our current partners as well as new partners to join us. I look forward to personally working with you over the coming months. Meanwhile, I wish you all in the Northern Hemisphere a happy and refreshing summer holidays.



Vinod Daniel

IVI Vision Centre in Chennai

On 10 May, Tamil Nadu Minister for Tamil Official Language & Tamil Culture K Pandiarajan and Australian Consul General in Chennai, Susan Grace, launched IVI's Vision Centre at Palavakkam for coordinating IVI's vision screening and spectacle distribution programs.

The centre functions as a walk-in facility for any underprivileged person to have vision screened and receive a pair of spectacles if needed, It will also serve

as an accessible facility for over 70,000 people from greater Chennai whom IVI has screened over the past few years to replace or repair their damaged spectacles.

The Vision Centre was made possible through a grant from the Australian Government's Development Assistance Program (DAP) through Australian Consulate General, Chennai.



IVI is an initiative of



LV Prasad Eye Institute

TOGETHER, WE MUST
CONVINCE GOVERNMENTS
THAT EYE CARE FOR SCHOOL-
AGED CHILDREN IS CRITICAL
TO EDUCATION AND HEALTH
OUTCOMES.

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Kolkata Walks in the Dark

A 'Walk in the Dark' in Kolkata on 29 April drew an enthusiastic response from citizens, children and leading luminaries.

Over 600 turned up at the historic, and Kolkata's iconic, Victoria Memorial, to highlight eye health care and preventable blindness issues.



Participating in the walk were around 100 visually impaired children from Ramakrishna Mission's Blind Boys' Academy. Their enthusiasm had to be seen to be believed as participants marched carrying placards and banners

with eye care messages.



The march, organised alongside the monument, was led by Australia's High Commissioner Harinder Sidhu, Victoria Memorial Hall (VMH) Secretary and Curator Dr Jayanta Sengupta, Srenik Sett, IVI CEO Vinod Daniel, and Ramachandran P, Group COO, Essilor India Pvt. Ltd, among several other prominent citizens, including Dibyendu Barua, Gurbux Singh, Victor Banerjee, Shanu Nag and Cecil Antony.

Spectacles distribution in Pune

A total of 112 children in Pune received free spectacles in March following vision screenings organized by IVI in partnership with the PBMA's H. V. Desai Eye Hospital, Pune.

The spectacles distribution at Shrimati



K.D. Kotwal Madhmic, Vidyalay, Laxmi Nagar at Hadapsar is part of the 3,345 screenings being undertaken by IVI in Pune and suburbs, under the Eye See & I Learn campaign.

The spectacles were distributed in the presence of Anand Nayal from CooperVision and Dr.Pravin Narwadkar from PBMA's H.V.Desai Eye Hospital Pune.

The campaign screened children from poor and underprivileged backgrounds drawn from schools in Pune's suburbs.

The CooperVision-IVI joint initiative launched in September last year, aims to screen over 22,000 children across India, including Chennai, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Pune and Delhi and provide free spectacles as needed.

IVI acknowledges the support of Cooper Vision for funding this program.

The march was hosted by Victoria Memorial Hall and organised by IVI and Essilor India's 'Think About Your Eyes' campaign' with the support of NSHM Knowledge Campus, Kolkata and AllSports Foundation. IVI also gratefully acknowledges the support of Essilor-Kolkata and Vision Rx, for assisting with the turnout at the Walk.

Diabetic Retinopathy Fellowship for Optometrists

The fourth and final round of the 'short-term fellowship for Optometrists in Diabetic Retinopathy' concluded at L V Prasad Eye Institute on 22 March.

Ugandhar Reddy completed the program over August 2017-March 2018 and topped from among a group of eight fellows, all selected after a competitive selection process. Dr Padmaja Kumari Rani MS, FNB (Retina), Vitreo-Retina Consultant, LVPEI, distributed the fellowship completion certificate.

Carved up to three segments – observation, clinical training and community screening - the fellowship aims to equip the trainees with required skill sets in screening and management of Diabetic Retinopathy.

The fellows were actively involved in clinical training to plan, manage and evaluate a comprehensive diabetes eye care model.



IVI acknowledges the support of Alcon Foundation in funding this program

Diabetic Retinopathy workshop for Optometrists, Shillong

In collaboration with L V Prasad Eye Institute, IVI organized a day's comprehensive workshop on Diabetic Retinopathy for Optometrists at Bansara Eye Care Centre, Shillong, Meghalaya on the occasion of World Optometry Day on 24 March.

The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Padmaja Kumari Rani, Vitreo-Retina Consultant, LVPEI, HariKumarP, Consultant Optometrist, Kanuri Santhamma Centre for Vitreo Retinal Diseases, LVPEI.

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

Optometry practitioners, educators and students from Optometry institutes and eye hospitals in and around Shillong attended the workshop.

The program is awarded 05 credit points by Optometry Council of India



IVI acknowledges the support of Alcon Foundation in funding the program

IVI Young Leaders Program

IVI has instituted and given direction to leadership development initiatives led by its flagship 'Young Leaders Program' (YLP). Initiated in 2013, YLP aims to inspire and train young eye care professionals to take up leadership roles in achieving excellence in eyecare through initiatives that would nurture and promote leadership skills. These leaders are expected to assume higher roles in their current capacity or take up new and larger roles in another organization.

Over the five years, IVI has groomed and trained 44 young, dynamic professionals from institutions such as LVPEI, Amity University, Gurgaon, Hari Jyot College of Optometry, Navsari, Bansara Eye Care Centre, Shillong, NSHM Knowledge Campus, Kolkata, CL Gupta Eye Institute, Moradabad and several others from all over India.

The program comprises of three two-day workshops and a field project on a relevant issue. The YLP trainees also got involved in conducting eye care awareness programs and vision screening programs, especially during World Sight Day and World Optometry Day. They also organized and or facilitated capacity-building programs for Optometry professionals and students and managed Optometry/eye care programs at their individual levels, independently taking forward the cause of Optometry and eye care in the process. The trainees are also sought after by leading hospitals and

eyecare organizations in the country.



The program covers a wide range of topics including leadership and management, leading and managing change, creativity and out-of-the-box thinking, social enterprise management, corporate social responsibility, communication, business writing and presentation skills, sustainability and resource management, and community health and eyecare delivery.

The fifth batch of YLP comprising 12 young professionals from various Optometry disciplines concluded with a two-day workshop in Chennai on May 5 and 6.

In the words of our YLPers

"Meeting with eminent personalities in eyecare during the conference and the YLP sessions was extremely valuable. I believe that sharing of experience and expertise by Optometry leaders will help us in our professional as well as personal life" - *Runa Talukdar, Lecturer, Vidyasagar College of Optometry & Vision Science Institute, Kolkata (Young Leaders Program, Batch1 2013).*

Spectacles distribution in Ahmedabad

On 28 March, 49 children from Ishanpur, Ahmedabad received free spectacles following screenings organized by IVI in partnership with Clear Vision Eye Hospital, Ahmedabad.

The spectacles distribution at the Samjuba Vidhyamandir, Govindvadi, at Ishanpur is part of 3,345 screenings in Ahmedabad and suburbs under IVI's Eye See & I Learn campaign. Present at the distribution were Vinay Bandekar, Business Development Manager, and Sachin Ambulkar, Area Sales Manager, CooperVision.



So far, 2,645 children from poor and underprivileged backgrounds have been screened. The spectacles were distributed to those found with refractive errors.

IVI acknowledges the support of Cooper Vision for funding this program

"The IVI YLP initiative has been an enriching experience for me and I am sure my fellow YLPers would agree no less. I would try to incorporate the learnings of the workshop in every aspect of my life. I look forward to keeping in touch with IVI and also support the cause undertaken" - *Anitha Arvind, Assistant Professor at Sankara College of Optometry, Bangalore (Young Leaders Program, Batch2, 2014).*

"It was a great opportunity and experience during our program. I would like to thank the entire IVI team and all the speakers for providing us this opportunity." *Sunny Mannava- Program Officer, Operation Eyesight Universal (Young Leaders Program, Batch2, 2014).*

Watch 'In conversation with Vinod Daniel' video series only on www.youtube.com/indiavisioninstitute

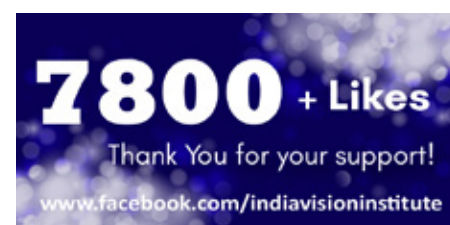


Steve Borgia, Managing Director of INDeco Leisure Hotels



Srinivasan R - Editor, The Hindu Business Line

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EyeTeach course on Clinical Teaching & Learning: Taking Optometry a step forward

The EyeTeach: Clinical Teaching & Learning online course for optometry professionals and educators who have completed EyeTeach courses will draw on aspects of theory and research that inform about optometric clinical education practices.

Conceived by the Brien Holden Vision Institute Academy and implemented by IVI in India, the course is designed to be an engaging learning experience with online modules, course materials, live webinars, instructional videos, interactive activities, and assignments.

It is facilitated by Ms Helen Dalton and Ms Judith Stern of Brien Holden Vision Institute with other eminent guest speakers from Brien Holden Vision Institute, Australia.

The EyeTeach: Clinical Teaching & Learning online course started from May 7 with 34 participants from across India.

The program has been awarded 10 CE points by Optometry Council of India

Ms Jyothi Thomas IVI PhD scholarship recipient, on completion of her doctorate degree

The kick-start of my PhD journey was challenging and exciting. The research area that I was passionate about was rather difficult in the eyes of my advisers and well-wishers. However, the relevance of the area was acceptable to most of them in the clinical field. "How to go about dealing with tiny tots?" was the question raised by many. I had done my homework, consulting experts in the field of pediatric eye care, and all of them readily gave their inputs in this field. Now, the challenge was to narrow down to the research question. It was a broad area, full of controversies and debates. The literature search brought out diverging conclusions and stressed the need for further research. Slowly, I became rather confident about the area of my research. The major hurdle was getting an appropriate guide and narrowing down to the research topic. I approached quite a lot of researchers. The full-time researchers were hesitant to guide because of lack of clinical expertise. At the end of the search, I was happy to get competent guides. As per the advice of the guides and inputs from the Institutional Research Committee, the research topic was finalized - "Development of a protocol for screening visual impairment in children aged 3 to

6 years". Scantiness of published data regarding preschool vision screening in India was obvious. Dearth of protocols for preschool vision screenings (PVS) with ongoing disputes on screening batteries and referral criteria was reported in literature. There was no consensus regarding the PVS protocols globally. There were hurdles in every phase of data collection. My zeal to examine children helped me tide over many of the issues in data collection. I had to collect data from children who slept off during vision assessment; those who were reluctant to open their mouth but responded very well to lap cards; kids who refused to take chocolates and children who used to get up and move towards the vision chart during testing. I met fathers who did not know their child's age and rang up their wives to confirm the age. In toto, the data collection phase was full of childhood dramas and naughtiness, which was at times troublesome. Yet I enjoyed it.

I had progress report presentations every six months and appropriate inputs were incorporated. It was pretty hectic due to my administrative, academic and clinical responsibilities. Being an academician and a doctoral student at the same time was really tough. Hard work and time

Spectacle distribution for daily wage workers at Saidapet

At Saidapet, Chennai 183 people diagnosed with refractive errors of a total of 300 daily wage laborers screened were given spectacles. M Subramaniam,



MLA and former Mayor of Chennai Corporation, was the guest of honor.

Mr Subramaniam said, "I could not let another moment pass before I express my appreciation regarding the vision screening and free distribution of spectacles to the Saidapet society. A simple pair of eye glasses could help to see well and help in their work, which thereby increase their work productivity. The program benefitted 183 people and the free spectacles will help them to earn a better livelihood."

IVI acknowledges the support of 'Essilor Vision Foundation' for providing the free spectacles

management helped me to tide over all odds. I could complete all the University requirements for the doctoral program in time. I had five conference presentations and three publications in scopus indexed journals from the study.

Above all, the strength showered on me by the Lord Almighty, the encouragement and support of my guide Dr Parikshit Gogate and my co guide, Dr B.Rajashekar, was a motivating force for my research work.

I would like to acknowledge India Vision Institute and the JSW Foundation for partly funding my research work.

Jyothi Thomas

IVI Vision Screening Programs

	Children	Community	Total
No of programs	279	73	352
Individuals screened	116112	42570	158682
Spectacles distributed	9393	8451	17844

Eye See & I Learn (March – April 2018)

IVI screened 2,907 underprivileged children from government and government-aided schools in Nellithope, Thengaihittu, Mudaliarpet, Velrampet, Nainarmandapam suburbs in Pondicherry and 301 children diagnosed with refractive errors were given free spectacles.



43 children diagnosed with refractive errors were provided free spectacles.

IVI acknowledges the support of Dr. Thamizhvanan and Mr. Devaraj for supporting vision screening program logistics at Pondicherry and Madurai respectively

IVI acknowledges the support of the 'Allergan International Foundation' for funding the program

As many as 879 underprivileged children from government aided schools at Ambattur were screened and provided 108 free spectacles to those diagnosed with refractive errors.

IVI acknowledges the support of 'Mr. Bharat Somashekarappa' for funding the program

A total of 1,055 underprivileged children from Government, Govt-aided and Panchayat Union schools in Melur, Madurai district were screened and

What people say about IVI

"The YLP training was most useful and informative. I learned new skills that I can put to practice. Earlier I found leadership and entrepreneurship challenging and daunting. YLP provided me a platform where I got to interact with successful entrepreneurs and leaders from different fields" - *Md Mosaib Omaer, Assistant Professor, CL Gupta Eye Institute, Moradabad.*

"We extend heartiest greetings and thanks to IVI for successfully conducting a vision screening camp at our school. The camp was conducted most professionally and deserves our highest appreciation. The report submitted by IVI is well structured and most informative. The camp has enabled us to detect 96 cases of refractive errors, with 11 referrals. We wish to continue the camp year after year" – *Mr D.Sivakumar, President, Avichi Alumni Association.*

Eye See & I Work (March – April 2018)

The campaign screened 1,283 underprivileged community workers at Kan-naginagar, Perumbakkam, Nesappakam, Chemmencherry, Erukancherry, Vadapalni, Pattinampakam. A total of 715 free spectacles were distributed to those diagnosed with refractive errors. At Puzhal Central Prison, Chennai 80 women and 65 juvenile inmates were screened, and provided 45 and 33 free spectacles respectively.

At Ankur Garden, Kilpauk, IVI screened the vision of 110 daily wagers and household workers and 83 people diagnosed with refractive error will receive free spectacles.

IVI acknowledge Montfort Community Development Society (MCDS), Krupa Foundation and Mr. Prakash Shah, Managing Partner of Prakash Plastics Pvt Ltd for helping with the program logistics.



IVI acknowledges the support of 'Essilor Vision Foundation' for providing free spectacles

"The beneficiaries are more than satisfied with the standards of testing and patient counselling. We are happy to be a part of the excellent community service provided by IVI" – *Mr Syed Sulaiman, Volunteer, Kundrathur cluster community vision screening camps.*

"This was the first workshop on clinical aspects hosted with IVI in the North-east region. It was much appreciated by the participants. The information about DR was so very well simplified in a few steps that it made comprehension easy. We congratulate the efforts of IVI along with the speakers from LVPEI. Most participants who attended have said they are keen to have workshops in other clinical fields as well for this region in the future" – *Ms Deepa Lamin Khonglah, Bansara Eye Care Centre, Shillong.*

Current project supporters



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"We are very pleased to collaborate with IVI to raise awareness about prevention of blindness through Walk in the Dark on 29 April at Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata. The walk created a big impact in raising awareness about preventable blindness issues among the general public. It was a successful campaign and we look forward to working with IVI in supporting such initiatives in future" – *Mr Soumendranath Head of Optometry Department, NSHM Knowledge campus, Kolkata.*

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