

## Message from the CEO

The strength of India Vision Institute is the staff who look at what they do with passion and our supporters whose financial help make it possible for us to implement initiatives that specifically cater to promoting the profession of Optometry and contributing to good eye health practices in the country. The fact that our programs directly or indirectly help someone to study better, work more productively, or even avoid an accident is such a fulfilling outcome. Over the past two months, we continued conducting vision screening camps for the less privileged, supporting professional development of Optometrists and Optometry students and developing innovative approaches to achieve our objectives.

‘Sarvodaya – Gift the sight’ is our new nationwide program to celebrate Mahatma Gandhi’s 150th birth anniversary through provision of a pair of spectacles to the needy. We are also piloting an innovative program in Avadi near Chennai where we are training government school teachers to do the initial screening and an IVI Optometrist to follow up. The program, which aims to sensitize school teachers to good eye health practices as well as identify

children with vision problems, will greatly assist in reaching out to a larger number of children in government schools. It was also such a delight to associate with one of my childhood heroes, cricket legend Bishan Bedi, for the launch of a large screening program in New Delhi supported by CooperVision.

Our capacity building initiatives for optometrists and ophthalmic professionals were also very well received. Various programs conducted over the last two months drew participation of over 300 professionals. The workshops on Diabetic Retinopathy in Jaipur and Advancement in Progressive Addition Lenses in Hyderabad are few examples.

Our vision materializes into projects only because of the support offered by several institutions, funding agencies and individuals over all these years. The programs implemented over the past two months was made possible through generous support from a number of entities including LV Prasad Eye Institute, the Brien Holden Vision Institute Foundation, Essilor Vision Foundation, 2.5 New Vision Generation, CooperVision, the Australian Government

(DAP), OneSight India and Alcon Foundation as well as support from Ma Foi Foundation, Avichi Alumni Association, and the Rotary Club (Alandur). I am also delighted that we received funding support from several individual donors including Maurice Newman (Australia). Millions are still in the dark and we have several miles to go. I sincerely request each of



you to partner with us as we go forward.

**Vinod Daniel**

## Vision screening for school children in Delhi – an IVI-CooperVision initiative

Cricket legend Bishan Singh Bedi launched IVI’s CooperVision India-supported screening campaign in Delhi on August 20 with the distribution of 27 spectacles to underprivileged children at the Government Boys Senior Secondary School, Pandara Park.

Earlier in July, as part of the ongoing screening of 4500 underprivileged children in Delhi under the Eye See & I Learn program, 314 children were screened at the school. The Delhi screenings were organized with the support of Vision Spring.

The event drew an enthusiastic audience of Arnab Sarkar, Director, CooperVision India, senior representatives from CooperVision, IVI CEO Vinod Daniel,

local opticians, and cheering students who were the proud recipients of the spectacles.



Under the One Bright Vision Child Eye Health program of CooperVision, IVI has screened over 53,480 socio-economically disadvantaged school children in various parts of India with 4355 children provided free spectacles

through the program. Since 2016, states covered include Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra (Mumbai, Pune, Aurangabad), Mizoram, Telangana, Gujarat (Ahmedabad), Delhi and Pondicherry.

Mr Sarkar said he was very impressed with the school and even more encouraged by the students’ confidence and enthusiasm.

CooperVision will continue to work closely with IVI to build on the achievements nationwide so far, he added.

“The spectacles will not only help them learn better in class but also lead to a vision for themselves for the future,” Mr Bedi said.

## Capacity building program for ophthalmic professionals, Bangalore

IVI hosted a capacity building workshop in Bangalore from June 29-July 1.

Organized jointly with 2.5 New Vision



Generation (NVG), it benefitted 65

ophthalmic professionals from various districts in Karnataka.

Covering a range of topics including essentials of refraction, ophthalmic dispensing, ocular emergencies, soft skills and entrepreneurship development, the workshop comprised both technical and practical sessions.

IVI's Revanth Reddy, Jissa James and M Chandra Shekhar facilitated the workshop, which was the 14th in the series of capacity building workshops for members of the National Ophthalmic

Association organized in association with 2.5 New Vision Generation India Pvt. Ltd.

*IVI acknowledges the support of 2.5 New Vision Generation India Pvt Ltd for funding the program.*



## Eye See & I Learn – For the tribal children in Kolli Hills

Statistics and available data indicate that one-third of childhood blindness in India is caused by refractive errors. Vision impairment due to refractive error is a serious problem, affecting 1 in 20 children in India. Over 10 million children need spectacles. It is known that 80% of what a child learns is through visual processing. Without good vision, a child cannot expect to get good education, as it severely hinders academic performance, affecting their future career prospects. Worse still, quite often, the visual problems of underprivileged children go undetected due to lack of awareness and lack of access to eye care services.

Eye See & I Learn is IVI's national campaign to address uncorrected refractive error and visual impairment among underprivileged school children.

In Kolli Hills, IVI is attempting to combat the problem by bringing eye care services to the doors of schools and providing children access to free spectacles and appropriate tertiary care

services through referrals. Thanks to government's clearance to work among the tribal communities in Namakkal and Salem districts, IVI screened 3580 tribal children from the government residential tribal schools in the Kolli Hills zone in 2016. Ninety-nine children diagnosed with refractive errors were provided free spectacles. Sixty-nine children diagnosed with other eye ailments were referred for comprehensive care. The intervention is making an impactful difference in the region.

### An Appeal

We solicit your help and support to further extend our work among tribal children. There is a lot more to be done. There are 37,132 tribal students in 298 schools across Tamil Nadu. Our endeavor will be to reach out to as many of these children as possible. Your assistance will enable IVI to expand activities significantly and help address visual impairment among the tribal children.

## Cracking the code – Insight into careers in Optometry - Session II

On July 13, Kunal Shah, Founder & CEO of Eyesavers, facilitated the second session of the online career counselling series.

Mr Shah explained to students the approaches to setting up private practice and its basic requirements. "For setting up a private practice, there must be passion for the Optometry profession, self-confidence and belief in oneself," he said.

Attended by over 181 students from nine Optometry institutions across the country, the session concluded with a discussion on the various concerns about working in multinational companies and setting up a practice.

## IVI is an initiative of

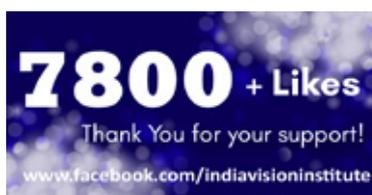


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for every child



## Join IVI on Facebook



## IVI Vision Screening Programs

	Children	Community	Total
No of programs	282	87	369
Individuals screened	119206	44056	163262
Spectacles distributed	9650	9407	19057

## Workshop on Advancements in Progressive Addition Lenses at Hyderabad

A comprehensive workshop on Advancements in Progressive Addition Lenses (PAL) at the Brien Holden Institute of Vision Sciences, Hyderabad on July 26 drew over 35 participants from optometry institutes and local optical outlets in and around the city.



The workshop was facilitated by Srikanth

Maseedupalli, Faculty and Optometrist, Brien Holden Institute of Vision Sciences, L V Prasad Eye Institute, and Haresh Potluri, Assistant Manager, Varilux (AP & Telangana), Essilor India Pvt Ltd, Hyderabad.

It focused on current trends and technologies in PAL, and included a hands-on session on troubleshooting PALs, role plays and product updates by Essilor.

The workshop was awarded seven credit points by the Optometry Council of India.

*IVI acknowledges the support of Essilor India Pvt Ltd in funding the program*

## Workshop on Diabetic Retinopathy at Jaipur

Over 40 optometrists and students participated in the workshop on Diabetic Retinopathy at Jaipur on August 18.

Participants included optometry professionals from Rajasthan and Gurgaon, Haryana, representing several optometry institutes and eye hospitals.



The sixth in the series, the workshop was organized with the support of the Rajasthan Ophthalmic Association and ASG Eye Hospitals, Jaipur, and covered a range of concepts in Diabetic Retinopathy, including latest optometric investigations and management options.

The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Padmaja Kumari Rani, Vitreo-Retina



Consultant, and Ughandhar Reddy, Consultant Optometrist, from LVPEI, and Dr Anoop Kishore Gupta, Vitreo-Retina Consultant from ASG Eye Hospitals, Jaipur.

The program drew all-round appreciation and was awarded five credit points by the Optometry Council of India.

*IVI acknowledges the support of Optometry Giving Sight and Alcon Foundation in funding the program.*

Watch 'In conversation with Vinod Daniel' video series only on [www.youtube.com/indiavisioninstitute](http://www.youtube.com/indiavisioninstitute)



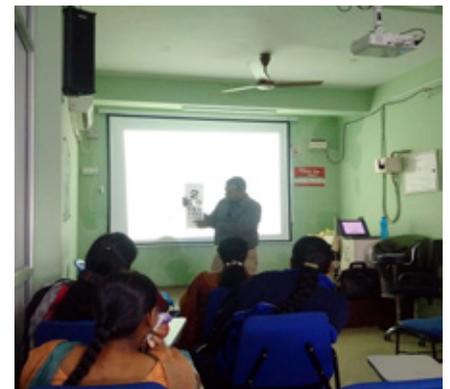
Kishor Sarsolkar, Managing Director, Mukta Opticians, Goa

## School teachers' training program

The Government Girls Higher Secondary School at Kamarajar Nagar, Avadi, in Tamil Nadu's Thiruvallur district, hosted a training program for 40 school teachers drawn from 25 schools on July 26.



This program is a new approach initiated by IVI to ensure good eye health practices among school children and to identify those who need professional intervention. Teachers were trained in basics of eye health practices and vision screening.



The teachers so trained are expected to lead vision screening in their respective schools and identify children who need subsequent examinations by an optometrist.

The schools were provided with the necessary screening kit to conduct the initial screening.

This model aims to strengthen the continuum of primary eye care services delivered to school children in government-supported schools in Tamil Nadu.

*IVI acknowledges MaFoi Foundation for supporting the program. IVI acknowledges Optometry Giving Sight and Brien Holden Vision Institute Foundation for funding the program.*

## Eye See & I Learn (July–August 2018)

As part of its Eye See & I Learn initiative, IVI vision screened 17,595 underprivileged children from government and government-aided schools in Pallikaranai, Palavakkam, Injambakkam, KannagiNagar, OkkiyamThoraipakkam, Shollinganallur, Neelangarai, Vettuvangani, Kottivakkam, and Thiruvanmiyur. A total of 1,912 children diagnosed with refractive errors will receive free spectacles.

*IVI acknowledges the support of 'Chennai District Blindness Control Society – KannoliKappomThittam initiative' for providing the spectacles.*



In association with the Avichi Alumni

Association, IVI screened 489 children of the Avichi Higher Secondary School, Vadapalani and 35 children diagnosed with refractive errors were provided spectacles. Eleven children with other ocular ailments were referred for higher care C Chockalingam, Secretary, D Siva Kumar, President, S Subramaniam, Treasurer, and other dignitaries of the association were present during the program.

*IVI acknowledges the support of 'Avichi Alumni Association' in supporting the vision screening program*

IVI screened 1130 underprivileged children from the Chennai Higher Secondary School, MGR Nagar. Free spectacles will be provided to 206 children diagnosed with refractive errors.

Dignitaries from the Rotary Club of Alandur, including C Chockalingam, President, D Siva Kumar, Chairman, Public Image, R Gunasekaran, Director, Community Health Services, CG Chakrapani, Director, Club Services, were

present during the screening program.

*IVI acknowledges the support of 'Rotary Club of Alandur' in supporting the vision screening program*

IVI screened 1500 underprivileged children from the Government Higher Secondary School Jaipur and distributed 102 free spectacles to those diagnosed with refractive errors on August 24.

*IVI acknowledges the support of the 'One Sight India' for funding the program. Dr Anshu Sahai, Director, Sahai Hospital, was present for the spectacles distribution.*



## Eye See & I Work (July–August 2018)

As part of its Eye See & I Work campaign, IVI screened 1,167 underprivileged community workers at Pattinampakkam, Injambakkam, Veetuvangani, Saidapet, Besant Nagar, Perungalathur, and Perumbakkam. Eight hundred workers diagnosed with refractive errors will receive free spectacles.

In other screening programs, 570 underprivileged community workers



from the following areas were covered: Aminjikarai, Veetuvangani, Injambakkam, Palavakkam Canal and Kolathur. Three hundred and thirty free spectacles to those diagnosed with refractive errors were distributed.

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

## Spectacles for daily wage labour in Kanchipuram district

Daily wage labourers from Irrandamkattalai, Tharapakkam, Bharathi Nagar and Pothavedu in Kundrathur, Kanchipuram received free spectacles from T M Anbarasu, MLA and former Minister in Government of Tamil Nadu.

Organized at Kundrathur, 226 spectacles were distributed at the event on September 3. Following the event, IVI screened 300 workers.

Mr. Anbarasu expressed satisfaction at the IVI initiative and said he was particularly pleased that IVI had

chosen to undertake vision screening and free distribution of spectacles to a marginalized section of the society.



*IVI acknowledges the support of Essilor Vision Foundation in providing free spectacles.*

### Volunteer with IVI

**We are looking for volunteers (Optometrists/Optometry students) who can support us in screening underprivileged children and adults in the community.**

**Write to us at**

**[ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org](mailto:ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org)**

**phone us on**

**91-44-24515353**

## What people say about IVI

"The session by Dr. Ramesh at the IVI online career counseling series was very informative for students, who got to learn new things, including about research prospects, PhD programs etc. We look forward for more such discussions." - Ms. Jasmine, Principal, Susruta School of Optometry & Visual Science, Kochi.

"The online career counseling session was informative. The experts gave clarity to our individual thoughts. We now have a better understanding about career options. The interactive session made it even more lively. I am thankful to IVI

for organising a wonderful session." -R Anjali, 3rd year student, University of Hyderabad.

"The School Teachers' Training Program provided eye care awareness, instructions and procedural details of the initial procedures to screen school students. The session was informative and benefited not only students but also those in the neighborhood. I thank IVI and Ma Foi Foundation for an informative training program and we look forward to attending such programs." - Ms A Shanthi, Biology Teacher, Government Higher Secondary

School, Thiruninravur, Avadi.

"Our knowledge about DR has improved vastly following the Jaipur DR workshop. We had not seen such an informative program in the last 30 years. I thank Dr Padmaja for facilitating the workshop. My thanks to IVI. We are happy to associate with IVI to conduct eye care events in the future." - S S Tanwar, President, Rajasthan Ophthalmic Association, Jaipur.

## Sarvodaya - Gift the sight

*This Gandhi Jayanti let us remember the Mahatma  
Join Sarvodaya. Help someone see better*

There are crores of Indians - several from underprivileged communities - who face vision-related problems. For many, all that is needed is corrective glasses.

**You can make a difference in the lives of these people.**

**Gift a spectacle, Gift the sight**

**Pledge to undertake any of the below in the month of October**

- \* Help at least one person you may know from a less privileged background by taking them for an eye examination and providing them with free spectacles if needed. Many the better!
- \* Organize vision screening programs and distribute free spectacles to those who need it in your locality if you own an optical outlet/ eye hospital/ institute.
- \* Donate for spectacles at <https://www.indiavisioninstitute.org/donate-now.php>. Your donation will help us to reach another pair of eyes that needs help.



**Your one step will help someone from the community see better, learn or work better and live better!**

**Pay the best tribute to Gandhiji on his 150th birth anniversary.**

**And do send us your story with a picture; your story will be featured on our digital platforms.**

*"Recall the face of the poorest and weakest man you have seen and ask yourself if this step you contemplate is going to be any use to him."*  
- Mahatma Gandhi

For enquiries, please write to [ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org](mailto:ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org) or call us: 9952000261

### LetzChange

**Contribute and help someone who lost their glasses during the floods in Kerala. For more details**

<https://letzchange.org/projects/back-to-light-with-spectacles-rehabilitating-kerala-flood-victims>

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