

GURUPRIYA VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Activity Report : April 2016 - March 2017



Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation

Our motto: Preventing Needless Blindness!

Blindness is an unfortunate occurrence and if the blindness could have been easily averted altogether, it becomes all the more tragic. There are three main causes of such **Needless Blindness** that continue to remain blinding in India today, thanks to poverty and/or lack of awareness. To list them: **ROP, Refractive errors in children and Diabetic retinopathy.**

- **ROP:** There are certain unique problems that a child that is born preterm faces, when compared to its more fortunate brethren that are born after completion of ten months. One Such problem is Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) which if untreated or treated late results in Blindness in 50% of cases. ROP is the commonest cause of childhood blindness in the west. In India, too its prevalence is on the rise. The incidence of ROP in various Indian studies varies from 38% to 51.9% and currently, we are facing what is called the third epidemic of ROP in the world today with middle income countries such as India contributing to a major part of the disease burden. Management of ROP is a team work between committed eye specialists, sensitized paediatricians, diligent paramedical staff, efficient social workers and compliant parents. The need of the hour is recognition of the infants who are at risk and prompt treatment.

- **Refractive errors in children:** Currently 5% of school going children in India need to Wear glasses. Thanks to changing life style, this percentage is on the rise. This has been our experience as well, after the perusal of the data collected at the school eye screening camps conducted by us. In fact the incidence is 30% in the camps conducted by us! If this refractive error remains uncorrected it affects the child's vision and overall Physical and mental development. Such children are also wrongly dubbed as being “dull” or “unintelligent” at school It is hence of paramount importance that such children are Identified and the best way to achieve this is, school screening camps conducted at the School premises itself!

Diabetic Retinopathy: Diabetes is on the rise and very soon India will become the diabetic capital of the world as per experts. A diabetic is 25 times more likely to become blind than a non-diabetic. Only a very small percentage of the diabetic patients are referred for an eye examination to rule out diabetic retinopathy (a sight threatening affection by diabetes of the retina the light sensitive layer of our eyes). Diabetic retinopathy occurs in 18% of the diabetic population, with treatable retinopathy occurring in 7% (rural) to 13% (urban) of the diabetic population. Not all ophthalmologists in India are trained to detect and treat Diabetic Retinopathy. India's VISION-2020 The Right to Sight Programme has clearly stated Diabetic Retinopathy as one of the priority areas.

Radhatri Nethralaya, a Chennai based tertiary eye hospital launched its charitable trust **“Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation (GVRF)”** on the occasion of its first anniversary on September 13th 2009. The trust was started with the sincere hope of eliminating the above mentioned three Principal causes of needless blindness. The trust has made provisions for free screening and treatment of infants with ROP belonging to the lower strata of the society, conducts extensive school screening camps including corporation schools and spearheads awareness about diabetic retinopathy through speciality diabetic eye disease Camps and awareness talks. In addition general eye camps wherein patients with cataracts are brought in from villages and slums, operated, kept overnight and dropped back the next day are also carried out under the aegis of the trust. The trust also proposes to ensure life long free eye treatment for children belonging to orphanages as well as mentally challenged children. As a long term goal, the trust also proposes to further combat the menace of ROP (Retinopathy of Prematurity) by screening the infants in hitherto unscreened rural areas in Tamilnadu, by Procuring the RETCAM Shuttle, a wide-field Digital portable imaging camera and using Tele-Ophthalmology to identify babies with ROP in the remote villages of Tamilnadu. The trust has Created a corpus fund for this purpose.

Our journey so far.....

Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation joined hands with Rotary and started the RADAR project (**Rad**hatri Nethralaya **Di**abetic Retinopathy Project in **A**ssociation with **R**otary club of Chennai towers) in 2010 which was inaugurated by the then District Governor of Rotary District 3230 Rtn Sampath. The trust since its inception, has so far conducted 58 Diabetic retinopathy screening camps (including the annual Project RADAR at Athiyandal village, Tiruvannamalai District from 2012 where in 1102 patients have been seen and treated so far and month long free diabetic eye disease camps at Radhatri Nethralaya). 1000 general eye camps (in which patients with cataracts are brought in from villages, operated, kept overnight and dropped back the next day) and 560 school screening camps under **Project RAYS (Radhatri Nethralaya Sight saving project for the Young)** have also been carried out till date. Free cataract surgeries have been carried out for **700** patients under the aegis of the trust so far. Weekly free screening and treatment of pre-term infants is being carried out at the Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (IOG), Govt hospital Triplicane (Gosha Hospital), RSRM, Stanley Government hospitals and Kilpauk Medical college.

We welcome volunteers and philanthropic organizations to come forward and help us in this effort to prevent needless blindness and all this will work only if we work together!

For more information please contact

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PAN No of the trust: AABTG3661J

(Please note that donations to the trust are exempted from income tax as per 80-G of the income tax act (DIT (E) No. 2 (683) 09-10, Dated: 28.04.2010)

We are happy to inform that our trust is now recognized under the FCRA (Foreign Currency and Regulatory Act) of the Govt of India, which enables us to receive donations in foreign denominations.

FCRA REG NO: 075901419

Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation Activity Report: April 2016-March 2017

We, from Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation, continued our public camps in villages around Chennai and in slums in Chennai. In this regard, we worked with NGOs such as Bharat Vikas Parishad, Rotary district 3230, Lions International and the Corporation of Chennai.



How we do the camps:

- We go to the villages, slums and public places such as parks and check patients for eye problems.
- Glasses are prescribed.
- Those requiring cataract surgery are brought in our van to Radhatri Nethralaya.
- Digital Biometry is done to calculate the Intra Ocular Lens (IOL) power.
- All the patients undergo state of the art suture less phacoemulsification surgery with IOL implantation the same day.
- They are given overnight accommodation and dinner at the hospital.
- The patients have breakfast the next day at the hospital.
- They undergo postoperative checkup by the operating surgeon.
- They are dropped back in the hospital van to their villages/place of screening.
- All these are done totally free.







Special mention about free cataract surgeries to 27 mentally retarded patients from anbagam, a home for mentally deranged destitutes.

1.) Free Cataract surgery camps:

This year from April 2016-March 2017, through Gurupriya Vision research Foundation we examined 3028 patients from villages around Chennai and slums in Chennai.

The list of camps is as follows :

Free Cataract Surgery Camps along with NGOs

S.NO	DATE	PLACE OF CAMP	NO OF PATIENTS SCREENED	SERVICES RENDERED
1	3/4/2016	CENTRAL	250	20 glasses prescribed
2	5/5/2016	KARUR VYSYA BANK ,G.N CHETTY ROAD	150	20 glasses prescribed
3	6/5/2016	INDIAN BANK,T.NAGAR	185	12 glasses prescribed
4	17/7/2016	OLD WASHERMANPET	260	20 glasses prescribed
5	24/7/2016	GUMMIDIPOONDI	106	11 glasses prescribed
6	7/9/2016	VELACHERY	180	3 glasses prescribed
7	19/9/2016	TRIPLICANE	118	24 glasses prescribed
8	1/10/2016	KOTTURPURAM	100	23 glasses prescribed
9	13/11/2016	ADAMBAKKAM	110	26 glasses prescribed
10	26/2/2017	K.K.NAGAR	191	14 glasses prescribed
11	5/3/2017	CHOLAI,THATTANGULAM	262	18 glasses prescribed
12	27/3/2017	GUDUVANCHERY	280	53 glasses prescribed
13	17/5/2017	IYYAPANTHAANGAL	285	25 glasses prescribed
14	17/6/2017	KOLATHUR	306	15 glasses prescribed
15	22/7/2017	WEST MAMBALAM	245	10 glasses prescribed





2.) Diabetic Eye Disease camps:

We have also continued the RADAR camps which we started in 2010:

Radhatri Nethralaya diabetic retinopathy project in association with Rotary district 3230.

In order to increase the reach of the project we did a month long free checkup of diabetic patients for diabetic retinopathy at Radhatri Nethralaya under the aegis of GVRF. A total of 150 diabetic patients were evaluated for diabetic retinopathy. In addition, we did one camp at Athiyandel Village, Tiruvanamalai on 17/12/16. **112** diabetic patients were screened and **10** PRP lasers were carried out.





The President and members of
Rotary Club of Chennai Towers
RI District 3230

cordially invite you to:

Project RADAR

Radhatri Nethralaya
Diabetic Retinopathy screening camp
in association with Rotary District 3230

on Saturday 17th December 2016 at 9.00 am

at Ramana Maharishi Hanganimal Hospital,
Kanjivaram Village, Thiruvananthapuram

Facilitated by RC of Moon City

The camp will be followed by Temple visit & Breakfast

Mr. Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham
President

Mr. Shale A Shah
Secretary

Mr. R.M. Suresh
Director - Community Service, Medical



Rotary



KODAMBAKKAM TIMES

No. 1 Neighbourhood Weekly

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Free eye screening camp

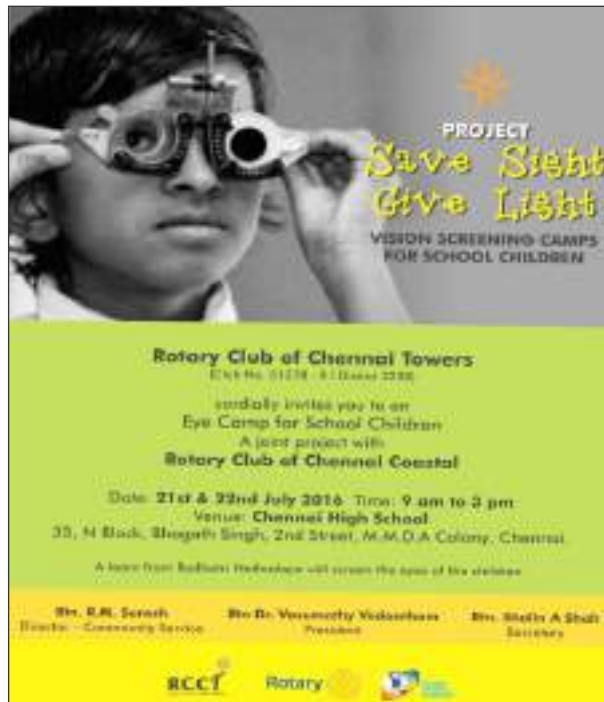
Radhatri Nethralaya (12, Hindi Prachara Sabha Street, T. Nagar, Chennai-17) will be conducting a free eye screening camp RADAR (Radhatri Nethralaya Diabetic

Retinopathy screening camp in association with Rotary) for diabetic patients to rule out the sight threatening condition of Diabetic Retinopathy from 9 am to

1 pm on Nov.14 on the occasion of World Diabetes day. Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham will screen the eyes of the patients during the camp. Those who are interested to participate in the camp may register their names by Nov.11. For further details please contact : 2433 2229 / 2431 1880 / 9445438681

3.SAVE SIGHT GIVE LIGHT-EYE CAMPS IN SCHOOL

Save Sight Give Light: A Series of 38 vision screening camps for school children were carried out benefitting 23,914 children. 2412 glasses were prescribed.



School Camps

S.NO	DATE	NAME OF SCHOOL	NO OF PATIENT SCREENED	SERVICE RENDERED
1	25/4/2016	JAIN VIDHYASHRAM HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	751	16 glasses prescribed
2	27/4/2016	JAIN VIDHYASHRAM HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	316	10 glasses prescribed
3	21/6/2016,22/6/2016	ANJUGAM HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	709	12 glasses prescribed
4	1/7/2016	ANJUGAM CAMBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL	120	15 glasses prescribed
5	1/7/2016	LPVKS HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	286	23 glasses prescribed
6	9/7/2016	MAHARISHI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL	337	34 glasses prescribed
7	14/7/2016	RBANC HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	517	56 glasses prescribed
8	15/7/2016	MEENAKSHI MATRICULATION HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	550	25 glasses prescribed

9	19/7/2016	DR.M.G.R HOME & HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	189	35 glasses prescribed
10	20/7/2016	BESANTH MATRICULATION SCHOOL	595	38 glasses prescribed
11	21/7/2016,22/7/2016	CHENNAI HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	651	46 glasses prescribed
12	23/7/2016	CHENNAI HIGH SCHOOL	200	12 glasses prescribed
13	26/7/2016	GOVT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	280	20 glasses prescribed
14	1/8/2016	SHRI KRISHNA SCHOOL & COLLEGE OF WOMEN	450	15 glasses prescribed
15	3/8/2016	JNN SCHOOL & COLLEGE	400	25 glasses prescribed
16	5/8/2016	ETHIRAJ COLLEGE	598	28 glasses prescribed
17	9/8/16,10/8/16	GOVT HIGHER SECONDATY SCHOOL	2080	30 glasses prescribed
18	11/8/2016,12/8/2016	ST.ANTHONYS ANGLO INDIAN SCHOOL	683	26glasses prescribed
19	19/8/2016	ARINGAR ANNA GOVT SCHOOL	512	30glasses prescribed
20	23/8/2016	CORPORATION GIRLS HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	521	35glasses prescribed
21	26/8/2016,27/8/2016	KAMARAJ GOV HIGHER SEONDARY SCHOOL	2982	102 glasses prescribed
22	9/9/2016	CHENNAI HIGH SCHOOL	92	25glasses prescribed
23	12/9/2016	MAHARAJ AGARESAN MATRICULATION HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	242	10glasses prescribed
24	15/9/2016	GOVT HIGH SCHOOL	147	5 glasses prescribed
25	14/10/2016	SRI TARACHAND GALADA HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	348	20glasses prescribed
26	19/10/2016	FATHIMA HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	180	12glasses prescribed
27	9/11/2016	TTV HIGHER SCHOOL	162	10 glasses prescribed
28	12/11/2016	MONT FORT SIRAGUGAL SCHOOL	50	10glasses prescribed

29	29/11/2016	JAIGOPAL GARODIA GIRLS HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	220	13glasses prescribed
30	29/11/2016	ALANDUR HIGH SCHOOL	139	10glasses prescribed
31	7/2/2017	MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE & HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	685	21glasses prescribed
32	8/2/2017	MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE & HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	597	18glasses prescribed
33	9/2/2017	PEARL MATRICULATION PRIMARY SCHOOL	183	10glasses prescribed
34	27/2/2017	SHREE NARAYANA MISSION SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL	357	13glasses prescribed
35	8/3/2017	ST.FRANCIS XAVIER HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	413	22glasses prescribed
36	9/3/2017	ST.FRANCIS XAVIER HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	263	25glasses prescribed
37	10/3/2017	MUNICIPAL HIGH SCHOOL	310	18glasses prescribed
38	28/3/2017	MPL HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL	212	20glasses prescribed









FOLLOW UP EXAMINATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN AT RADHATRI NETHRALAYA



4.) In the field of ROP:

Project “Balanethra: Tender Vision”

The Dreamchild of Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation!





The Rotary District 3230 governor Rtn.Natarajan Nagoji interacting with the Balanethra project beneficiaries.













Through EKAM foundation, which has a private public partnership with the Govt of Tamilnadu, we continued the free screening and treatment of preterm infants for the blinding disorder called Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP), at the Five Government hospitals:

- 1.) IOG (Regional Institute of Obstetrics & Gynaecology) every Saturday.
- 2.) RSRM (Raja Sir Muthiah Government Hospital) every Saturday.
- 3.) Stanley Hospital every Saturday.
- 4.) Kilpauk Government Medical College (KMC) every Wednesday.
- 5.) Govt hospital (Gosha hospital) Triplicane every Saturday.

Project Balanethra: Year 5 (2016-17)

Radhatri Nethralaya was recognised as a centre to perform free vision preserving laser surgeries for preterm babies with the blinding condition of retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) by Rotary International by a global grant of 37500 USD to Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation.

83 babies have undergone free ROP laser successfully.

April 2016- March 2017 to eliminate the risk of blindness.

S.NO	BABY NAME	EYES	DATE
1	B/O VIJAYAKUMARI	BOTH EYES	4/4/2016
2	B/O KANIMOZHI J	BOTH EYES	6/4/2016
3	B/O VIMALA	RIGHT EYE	9/4/2016
4	B/O JAYACHITRA	BOTH EYES	15/4/2016
5	B/O MARIYA	RIGHT EYE	16/4/2016
6	BABY BALAJI	BOTH EYES	24/5/2016
7	B/O ANBARASI	BOTH EYES	3/6/2016
8	B/O C KANIMOZHI	BOTH EYES	27/5/2016
9	B/O RAJESWARI	BOTH EYES	4/6/2016

10	B/O RAJESWARI	BOTH EYES	22/6/2016
11	B/O SEETHA DEVI	RIGHT EYE	27/6/2016
12	B/O PRASIKA	BOTH EYES	28/7/2016
13	B/O AMSAVALLI	BOTH EYES	23/4/2016
14	B/O SRITHA	BOTH EYES	30/4/2016
15	B/O MEENA	BOTH EYES	30/4/2016
16	B/O NANDHINI	BOTH EYES	30/4/2016
17	B/O MUTAMIL SELVI	BOTH EYES	9/5/2016
18	B/O GNANMALAR	BOTH EYES	9/5/2016
19	B/O REKHA.G	BOTH EYES	4/7/2016
20	B/O DILATH BEGUM	BOTH EYES	6/7/2016
21	B/O DIYASHREE	BOTH EYES	12/7/2016
22	B/O SUGANTHI	BOTH EYES	13/7/2016
23	B/O MYTHILI	BOTH EYES	14/7/2016
24	B/O BALA ABIRAMI	BOTH EYES	16/7/2016
25	B/O VALARMATHI	BOTH EYES	16/7/2016
26	B/O GIRIJA	BOTH EYES	19/7/2016
27	BABY.SANA FATHIMA	BOTH EYES	25/7/2016
28	B/O NISHA	BOTH EYES	27/7/2016
29	B/O MOUNA JOTHI	BOTH EYES	27/7/2016
30	B/O DHATCHAYANI	BOTH EYES	30/7/2016
31	B/O KAVITHA	BOTH EYES	30/7/2016
32	B/O ANITHA C	BOTH EYES	30/7/2016
33	B/O KOKILA	BOTH EYES	08/8/2016
34	B/O YOGALAKSHMI	BOTH EYES	12/8/2016
35	B/O DEEPA	BOTH EYES	22/8/2016
36	B/O SUBBULAKSHMI	BOTH EYES	22/8/2016
37	B/O REVATHI	BOTH EYES	22/8/2016
38	B/O KRITHIKA	BOTH EYES	27/8/2016

39	B/O KALYANI	BOTH EYES	3/9/2016
40	B/O SUMITHRA	BOTH EYES	3/9/2016
41	B/O KAMALAVANI	BOTH EYES	3/9/2016
42	B/O MICHELLE	BOTH EYES	3/9/2016
43	B/O S.SARASWATHI	BOTH EYES	3/9/2016
44	B/O THILAGAVATHI	BOTH EYES	13/9/2016
45	B/O GEETHANJALI	BOTH EYES	17/9/2016
46	B/O GAYATHRI	BOTH EYES	17/9/2016
47	B/O ALIVELU	BOTH EYES	17/9/2016
48	B/O GAYATHRI	BOTH EYES	17/9/2016
49	B/O NIRMALA	BOTH EYES	17/9/2016
50	B/O PREMA	BOTH EYES	17/9/2016
51	B/O JAYASHEELI	BOTH EYES	02/09/2016
52	B/O. KAMATHCI	BOTH EYES	15/10/2016
53	B/O LOURDHU MARY	BOTH EYES	22/10/2016
54	BABY.K. HARSHINI	BOTH EYES	26/10/2016
55	B/O YAMUNADEVI	BOTH EYES	31/10/2016
56	B/O S.PREETHI (TWIN 1)	BOTH EYES	02/11/2016
57	B/O PREETHI (TWIN 2)	BOTH EYES	11/11/2016
58	B/O DEEPA	BOTH EYES	11/11/2016
59	B/O MANJULA DEVI	BOTH EYES	14/11/2016
60	B/O KALVIKARASI.A	BOTH EYES	16/11/2016
61	B/O JANAKI.A (TWIN 1)	BOTH EYES	17/11/2016
62	B/O PADMAVATHY	BOTH EYES	21/11/2016
63	B/O SUVARTHAMMA	BOTH EYES	28/11/2016
64	B/O KALAVATHY	BOTH EYES	28/11/2016
65	BABY. SIVA SUTESH	BOTH EYES	09/12/2016
66	B/O PRIYA.P	BOTH EYES	10/12/2016
67	B/O INDIRA	BOTH EYES	10/12/2016
68	B/O J.MANJU (TWIN 2)	BOTH EYES	22/12/2016
69	BABY.D.HEMA	BOTH EYES	22/12/2016
70	B/O GUNASUNDARI	BOTH EYES	26/12/2016
71	B/O MEERA	BOTH EYES	26/12/2017
72	B/O R.JAYAKUMARI	BOTH EYES	09/01/2017
73	BABY. TESHITA	BOTH EYES	09/01/2017
74	B/O. POONKODI	BOTH EYES	18/01/2017
75	B/O ARCHANA	BOTH EYES	23/01/2017
76	B/O VIJAYALAKSHMI	BOTH EYES	30/01/2017
77	B/O GAYATHRI	BOTH EYES	13/02/2017
78	B/O ANANDHI	BOTH EYES	13/02/2017
79	B/O TAMIZHSELVI	BOTH EYES	15/02/2017
80	B/O SENBAGAVALLI	BOTH EYES	23/02/2017
81	B/O SAIZYA.V (TWIN	BOTH EYES	18/03/2017
82	BABY DIYANESHWAR	BOTH EYES	18/03/2017
83	B/O ARCHANA	BOTH EYES	23/03/2017



GLOBAL GRANT AWARDED BY ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Some of our balanethra babies.....





How can you help us?

In case of shortfall or lack of donations, we have utilized the resources of Radhatri Nethralaya eye hospital time and again to enable us to continue these free surgeries to save the vision of these tiny babies. The problem is huge....We therefore solicit a donation of 4000 Rs from philanthropists to cover the cost of laser surgery for a single eye for these babies



THE HINDU

DOWN TOWN

Over 200 infants undergo specialised eye treatment

MAY 19, 2017 00:01 IST

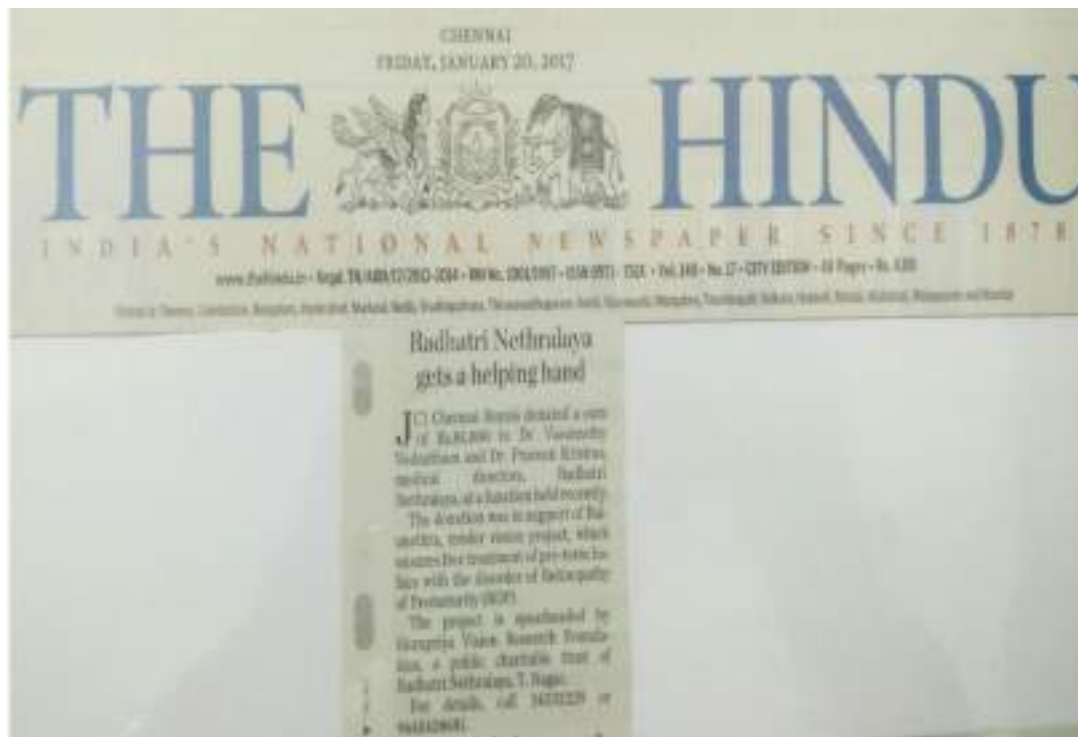


Members of the Rotary club of Damansara (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia) Chennai Towers and Anna Nagar interacted with the parents of the infants that have benefited from Balanethra: Tender Vision, project which aims to provide free and specialised laser treatment for pre-term infants with the blinding condition of retinopathy of prematurity (ROP).

The event was held at Radhatri Nethralaya, Hindi Prachara Sabha Street, T. Nagar. Around 215 infants were treated under this project, said a press note.



**DONATIONS TO BALANETHRA PROJECT FROM
JCI CHENNAI ROYALS AND INNER WHEEL**



Looking ahead: Phase II of Balanethra: Procurement of RETCAM shuttle

Some hard hitting facts.....

- 1.) 1.4 million children under the age of 15 are blind Worldwide!
- 2.) Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) is one of the commonest causes of childhood blindness!
- 3.) We are facing the third epidemic of ROP in the world today!

- 4.) India is one among the few middle income nations having a very high incidence of ROP!
- 5.) ROP occurs in preterm babies with low birth weight!
- 6.) Treatment is by emergency Laser surgery!
- 7.) If untreated 50% of babies become permanent blind!
- 8.) There are less than 30 pediatric retina specialists trained to treat this disorder in India today!

The social impact...

Radhatri Nethralaya had successfully treated 143 children in a 3 year window (2007-2010).

143 infants treated so far will contribute:

143 infants x Rs. 38,000 (per capita income) x 65 years (life expectancy) =
Rs. 353210000 (353.2 million Rs), Approx USD 6.9 million of savings to society!

The numbers in 2011 to 2014 have increased by three times, thanks to increased awareness....

We must be missing a lot of babies in rural and semi urban areas that are not getting referred!

*We aim to screen those babies by sending a mobile **RETCAM** shuttle to remote villages to image the retinas of the tiny babies and send images via internet.... Babies with ROP will immediately be shifted to Radhatri Nethralaya for free treatment!*

We have created a corpus fund for this purpose.....

You too can do your bit to save the tender vision of a tiny baby...

Please do contribute to the corpus fund for RETCAM.....

5.) Diwali Workshop for students on first aid safety measures following cracker injuries to the eyes.

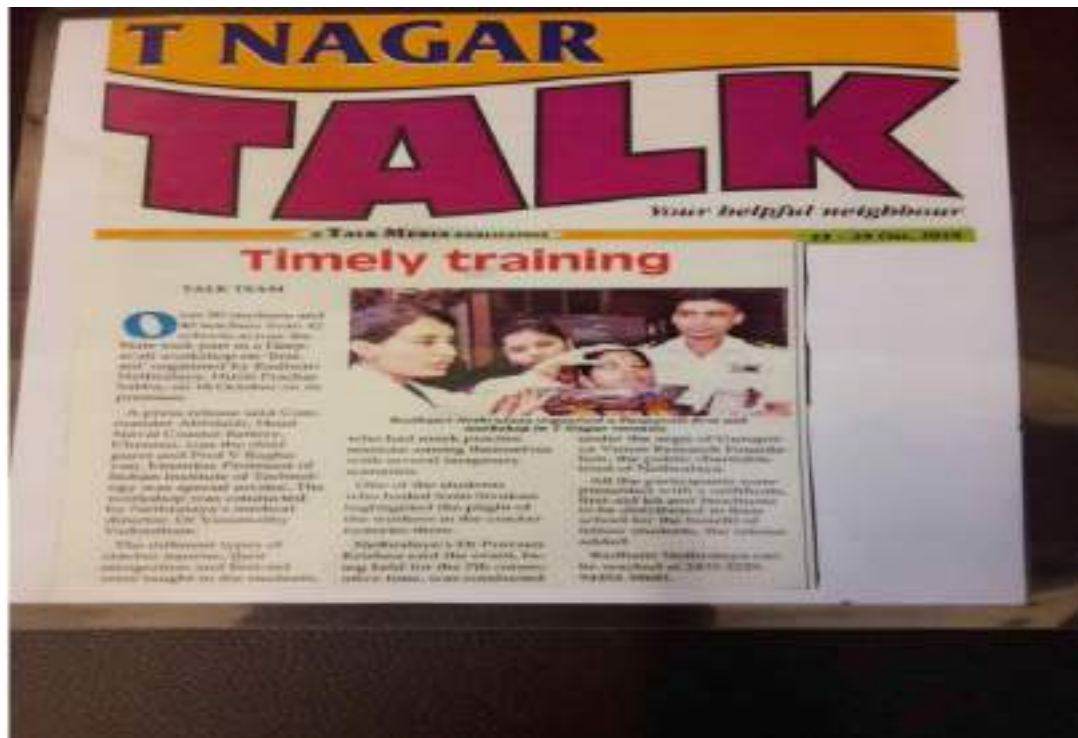
Our seventh annual Diwali workshop to promote awareness about first aid measures following cracker injuries was held on Oct 2016 at our premises. 65 students and 35 teachers from 30 city schools participated.











You too can do your bit to eliminate needless blindness...

Save the tender vision of a tiny baby...

Help in sight restoring cataract surgery...

Participate in workshops on eye care...

Volunteer in school eye camps....

For more enquiries contact:

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Managing Trustee

GURUPRIYA VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

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