

Message from the CEO

Welcome to the September issue of our Newsletter. It is great to see major national and international efforts, including WHO's SPECS 2030 initiative, addressing the need for more coordinated approaches to enable everyone have access to a pair of spectacles.

The last few months have been very productive for us with activities spanning a major conference - the 4th IVI International Optometry Conference - Eye Health in a Changing World in Chennai, with Hoya Lens India as the Platinum Sponsor, who also supported ResMeet'23, our global vision science research conference. Both saw participants from across India and overseas. The Eye Health in a Changing World conference included keynotes and panel discussions on a range of themes, including Myopia and its management, Technology and Innovation in Optometry, Eye Health and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Optometry Education, Partnership Building, and Scaling Up efforts in Uncorrected Refractive Error. Thank you EssilorLuxottica for being

the Child Eye Health Session sponsor at the conference.

For this World Sight Day (WSD), with IAPB's theme Love Your Eyes at Work, we pledged to vision screen 100,000 individuals and our team attained the figure well ahead of WSD on October 12. To mark the occasion, IVI and Dr Agarwals joined hands to participate in a major event at Elliot's Beach, Chennai. Over 400 people came together to form a human pair of spectacles, the largest ever of its kind. It made headlines in media and digital platforms.

We also completed a major campaign supported by OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation in Chennai corporation schools for 51,000 children, and 10,000 children in 20 Delhi government schools, supported by the ICICI Foundation. We started two new vision centers for communities, supported by Sightsavers India, and three vision centers for truckers with help from Shell India.

I welcome three new members to our Honorary Advisory Committee,



Ekta Kumar, Harish Velji and Sheba Nandleoykar - all bring a wealth of experience that we can benefit from. I am also delighted that Stephen Mervin Alexander, a retired Special Secretary, Government of India, will be with us as a Trustee. Our Trustees and Advisory Committee members have been a great source of inspiration and support. I thank IVI's funding partners for their continuing support to our programs and activities. Finally, a big thanks to our staff for their dedication and hard work. They are the pillars of all we do at IVI.

- Vinod Daniel

ResMeet'23

The ResMeet'23 conference, July 22 and 23, an annual event to further research in India, was very successful and evoked good participation. It was an added bonus that we could focus on 'Indo-UK collaborative research endeavours' this year. The conference - for researchers, scholars, and vision science enthusiasts from around the world - provided a platform for knowledge exchange, collaboration, and to look at cutting-edge developments in vision science.



ResMeet'23 focused on a range of sub-themes, including Physiological Optics, Visual Neuroscience, Public Eye Health, Multidisciplinary Ophthalmic Imaging, and Technology and Innovation.

There were 250 participants from 15 countries at the conference. It received 55 Abstracts.

IVI acknowledges the support of Hoya Lens India

World Sight Day 2023



IVI in collaboration with Dr Agarwal's Institute of Optometry created a world record with a human formation of a pair of spectacles on Elliot's Beach, Chennai. The 21,000 sq ft formation saw the participation of 400 people. IVI also thanks Lawrence and Mayo for their support.

4th IVI International Optometry Conference – Eye Health in a Changing World

The 4th IVI International Optometry Conference – Eye Health in a Changing World, from 24 to 26 September, 2023 at the IIT Madras Research Park, Chennai, with Hoya Lens India as the Platinum Sponsor. The audience comprised students, practitioners, eye health professionals and educators, aimed to equip participants with essential skills and perspectives to excel in their respective fields. The diverse mix of participants allowed for valuable networking opportunities, knowledge sharing, and the exchange of ideas among individuals at different stages of their careers. Some 400 in-person delegates and around 200+ online delegates attended the conference.



The conference was inaugurated on 25 September by TAGA Masayuki, Consul General for Japan, Chennai, in the presence of Alexandre Montague, CEO, Hoya Vision Care, Prof Kovin Naidoo, Conference Advisory Committee Member, Global Head, Advocacy and Partnerships, OneSight Essilor-Luxottica Foundation, Ramachandran P, Chair, Advisory Committee, India Vision Institute, Dr Rajeev Prasad, Secretary, Indian Optometric Association; President, Asia Pacific Council of Optometry; Board of Directors, World Council of Optometry, and Dr Vivek Mendonsa, Trustee, India Vision Institute; Director @ LYNX – Lawrence & Mayo.

Among the keynote speakers and panelists were Dr Stuart Keel, Technical Officer, Vision and Eye Care Programme, World Health Organization, Serge Zins, VP, Asia Pacific, Hoya Vision Care, Vinod Daniel, CEO, India Vision Institute, Pavel Richter, Executive Director, The Coalition for Clear Vision, Anshu Taneja, Country Manager, VisionSpring India, and Ms Elizabeth Kurian, CEO, Mission for Vision and Research and Dr Dharani Ramamurthy, Associate Professor, SRM Medical College Hospital & Research Centre.

Susan Cooper, President, World Council of Optometry, Peter Holland, CEO, International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), and RN Mohanty, conveyed their best wishes for the conference through messages.

A session on Child Eye Health sponsored by EssilorLuxottica was an important part of the conference and evoked a lot of attention.



The pre-conference day hosted six workshops to prepare students, educators and aspiring practitioners to become competent professionals in the field. Sessions covered Myopia Management, Teaching Optometry, Dispensing Optics, Low Vision, Contact Lenses and Ocular Prosthesis.

The conference hosted around 80 paper and poster presentations, from which five best papers were awarded to Dr Gopinath Madheshwaran, Acchutha Eye Care and Institute of Optometry, Dr Amithavikram R Hathibelagal, L V Prasad Eye Institute, Ms Suchana S Shirodker, L V Prasad Eye Institute, Ms Jayalaxmi, L V Prasad Eye Institute, and Ms Harshini Rajesh, Dr Agarwal's Institute of Optometry. The five best poster awards went to Ms Sony Singh, L V Prasad Eye Institute, Sanjay Mehta, Tower Optics, Ms Shruti M Sawant, The Sankara Nethralaya Academy, Ms Pavithra R, Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Institute of Optometry, Prakash M, Vasana Institute of Ophthalmology and Research.

An inter-college quiz saw a keenly contested competition among 15 teams from 10 optometry colleges. Ms Lisha Tharshini, Ms Gayathri Velu and Ms Siva Ranjani from Hindustan University emerged as the winners.

IVI acknowledges the support of Hoya Lens India (Platinum Sponsor) and EssilorLuxottica (Session Sponsor)



Young Leaders Program

The eighth Young Leaders Program started on January 13 and concluded on May 26, June 30, July 1 and 2 in Chennai. The workshop exposed participants to talks on leadership, the eye health scenario, the upliftment of the eye health profession, project management, and presentations.



The YLP program nurtures future eye care leaders, equipping participants with leadership and management skills. This YLP covered areas including Program Management, Systems Thinking, Communications, Time Management, and Creative Thinking.

Participants included Ashwini Nethikar, Regional Training Manager, Lenskart ; Anshul Pratap Singh, Clinical Trainer, Sharp Sight Eye Hospitals, Clinical Instructor, Amity University; Govardhan Palla, Deputy Manager, Institutional Partnerships, VisionSpring ; Jai Prabhat Ranjan, Assistant Professor, Chitkara University; Mamta Joshi, Assistant Manager, Professional Services, Baush and Lomb India Pvt. Ltd.;



Minakshi Patel, Project Officer, Sightsavers; Muthulakshmi, Program Manager, India Vision Institute; Nagarajan T, Assistant Professor, Manipal Academy of Higher Education; Pracheta Vayangankar, Visionaries Consultant, Hoya Lens India Pvt. Ltd.; Prashant Bhatkar, Head, Professional Services, Nikon Lenswear India; and Pratish Srivastav, Senior Liaison Manager, Nirmal Ashram Eye Institute.

IVI acknowledges the support of Hoya Lens India



Vinod Daniel, IVI CEO and Dr Shruti Nishanth of MN Eye Hospitals, signed an MOU on cooperation between the two institutions.

Delhi NCR bus drivers vision screenings benefit 1,400

IVI collaborated with Hoya Lens India, Indian Optometric Association (IOA), and All India Optical Federation (AIOF) in a vision screening campaign that benefited 1,400 drivers and allied transport workers in the Delhi NCR region. Corrective glasses are being provided to those found to have refractive errors.



The campaign was launched in Gurugram at the Haryana Roadways' Bus Workshop on June 2, with the vision screening of 85 drivers and distribution of 35 free glasses to those found to have uncorrected refractive errors. The spectacles were distributed by Sanjay Tiwari, Managing Director, Hoya South Asia, Vinod Daniel, IVI's CEO, Subodh Dixit, President, IOA, and Rajeev Prasad, Secretary, IOA.

IVI acknowledges the support of Hoya Lens India

Campaign for underprivileged in Odisha

A vision screening campaign is benefiting underserved communities of Keonjhar, Bhubaneswar, Mayurbhanj in Odisha with the support of IIFL Samasta Finance Limited. Some 710 people have been screened, and 481 diagnosed with refractive errors are being provided a pair of free spectacles.



Another 58 required further comprehensive eye examinations and were referred to tertiary eye care facilities.

Screenings under the program will be underway soon in Rajasthan, Bihar and UP.

IVI acknowledges the support of IIFL Samasta Finance Limited

Follow us on



indivisioninstitute

Screenings in Alwar



Some 1,179 school children at Tapukara, Alwar in Rajasthan, were vision screened, of which 108 children were diagnosed with refractive errors and prescribed free corrective glasses. Forty children who required further comprehensive eye examinations have been referred to a tertiary eye care facility.

IVI acknowledges the support of Onesight EssilorLuxottica

Vision screening in Delhi government schools

A vision screening program supported by ICICI Foundation and implemented by IVI in association with Vision2Vision in August has benefited some 8,100 children in 20 government schools in Delhi's South-West District. The program also had



the support of Delhi Police. Of the children vision screened, 649 requiring refractive correction are being provided a pair of free spectacles.

IVI acknowledges the support of ICICI Foundation

IVI at Noida Optics Fair



IVI participated in the Optician India's 'India International Optics Fair 2023' at Noida, Delhi NCR, on September 2 and 3. The Indian Optometric Association (IOA) organised an industry-integrated education program at the fair. IVI's Nitika Kumari gave a talk on 'How to Initiate Counseling in Optometry Clinics.'

Two more Vision Centres

Two new Vision Centres in Chennai will help us serve more underprivileged people in urban slums. The Vision Centres, located at Thiruvanmiyur and Choolaimedu, are being run by IVI in partnership with Sightsavers India, and support from Standard Chartered Global Business Services (GBS) Private Limited.

S Aravindramesh MLA, Member of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly from Sholinganallur, inaugurated the Thiruvanmiyur Vision Centre, where we have, so far, conducted screenings for 1530 underprivileged individuals. Among them, 914 diagnosed with refractive errors have been provided subsidized spectacles, and another 253 were referred to a nearby tertiary eye care facility for comprehensive examinations and treatment.



The Choolaimedu Vision Centre was inaugurated by Dr Ezhilan Naganathan, MD, Member of Legislative Assembly, Thousand Lights constituency, in the presence of Suganya Selvam E, Municipal Councillor, and Dr G Sivakumar, District Program Manager, District Blindness Control Society. The centre has, so far, screened 1242 underprivileged individuals, and 656 individuals diagnosed with refractive errors were provided glasses at concessional prices. An additional 273 individuals in need of comprehensive eye examinations were referred to a nearby tertiary eye care facility for further evaluation.

IVI acknowledges the support of Sightsavers India

Intern at IVI

An opportunity for Optometry students to build their skills and gain experience by interning with us for 6 or 12 months.

You will be part of our vision screening and education programs across India and work with qualified and trained optometrists and also earn a monthly stipend.

Write to ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org

Australian delegation visits IVI vision screening project

A delegation of the Advisory Board of the Centre for Australia-India Relations visited a community in Meenambakkam, Chennai on September 26 and distributed spectacles to underprivileged women and men vision screened by IVI. Twenty-six beneficiaries received free corrective glasses at the camp.



The Board members in the delegation included The Hon. Martin Hamilton-Smith, former South Australian Minister for Trade, Ms Catriona Jackson, CEO, Universities Australia, Sammy Kumar, CEO, Sayers Group, Gunjan Pagare, Executive Manager, Community Investment, Commonwealth Bank, and Amit Singh, Managing Partner, Mandala Partners. The Deputy Consul General of Australia in Chennai, David Eggleston, Ari Nagar, Director, Centre for Australia-India Relations, and Janaki Raman from the Australian Consulate- General accompanied the delegation.

On to a Brighter Future: Vision Screenings in Corporation & Government Schools

We concluded vision screening 51,000 children across 126 corporation schools in Chennai. As many as 3,074 children with refractive errors received their spectacles, and some



3,774 children were referred to a nearby government hospital for further treatment. On August 8, Narasimhan Narayanan, President, EssilorLuxottica South Asia, participated in the distribution of glasses. Narashimhan(Nara)Narayanan, President, EssilorLuxottica South Asia, IVI's CEO Vinod Daniel & Mahesh K V, Member, Board of Directors & Head of OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation India, participated in the event at Ashok Nagar.

IVI acknowledges the support of OneSight Essilor Luxottica Foundation

Australian MP & Shadow Minister at IVI campaign

The Australian Shadow Minister for Community Safety, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs, Hon Jason Wood MP, on July 25 distributed free spectacles at an IVI for underprivileged people at Dooming Kuppam, San Thome High Road, Mylapore, in Chennai. The spectacles distributed were part of IVI's vision screening campaign for over 4,230 underprivileged people during April-June. Vision screenings were organized in Chennai's Kodambakkam, Chetpet, Sandhome, Injambakkam, Ayyapakkam, Villivakkam, Perumalpattu, Medavakkam, and Velachery. The campaign was supported by Amada Soft India, a software development company. The



screenings found 2,412 individuals required vision correction, and they will receive free spectacles, with 1,198 referred to hospital for further medical examinations.

IVI acknowledges the support of Amada Soft India

IVI at TN statewide campaign

IVI provided vision screenings at the launch of a statewide special medical camps for corporation sanitary workers, at Kodambakkam in Chennai on July 2. Some 250 benefited. The campaign was launched by Tamil Nadu Minister for Medicine and Family Welfare Ma Subramanian in the presence of Greater Chennai Corporation Mayor Priya Rajan.



Others at the campaign launch were Greater Chennai Corporation's Deputy Mayor M Maheshkumar, Dr Shanthakumari, Standing Committee Chairman, Commissioner Dr J Radhakrishnan, State Principal Health Secretary Gagandeep Singh, and Dr Sivakumar. Also present were Member of Legislative Assembly for Virugambakkam, Prabhakara Raja, & Dr T.S. Selvavinayagam, Director, Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine.



IVI acknowledges the decade- long support of LVPEI. Their continuing support for our educational programs is highly appreciated.

Mobile Van in urban slums

Our mobile van unit provides services to urban slums and government health centres, examining 6,034 individuals from Madipakkam, Chinnandikuppam, Thiruvanmiyur, Perungudi, Kotturpuram, Kannaginagar, and Nochikuppam. Among those screened, we diagnosed refractive errors in 2,534 individuals and another 1,502 individuals were referred to nearby tertiary eye care hospitals for further medical interventions.



IVI acknowledges the support of Sightsavers India

IVI-JSW Thootukudi vision campaign benefits school children



India Vision Institute, in association with JSW Foundation - Renewable Energy - Tuticorin, has successfully completed a free vision screening program in 40 government schools in the Vilathikulam and Ettayapuram areas of Thoothukudi district in Tamil Nadu, benefiting 4,593 students.

Some 128 students detected with visual impairment were provided free pairs of corrective glasses in the presence of Bharaathi Palanisamy, CSR Head, JSW.

Another 109 students have been referred to the Thoothukudi Government Hospital for further eye examinations and vision care.

IVI acknowledges the support of JSW Foundation

Vision centres for truckers

We have established three new vision centers for truckers in Chennai, Namakkal and Bengaluru. The centers will serve the drivers who travel on our states highways.



The vision centers provide drivers with essential access to primary eye care services, including eye examinations and the much-needed provision of spectacles. By addressing their eye care needs, we not only enhance their safety on the road but also contribute to the overall

safety of our highways.

From July to September, the vision centers provided eye care services to 11,011 truck drivers. Some 5,600 drivers have been fitted with spectacles, offering them clearer and safer journeys on the road.



IVI acknowledges the support of Shell Pahal Social Welfare Association

Access to eye care for truckers in Coimbatore, private bus drivers in Chennai



With the support of Sightsavers India, around 489 truck drivers in Coimbatore were screened, and 279 drivers were provided with free corrective glasses.

Another 1,211 drivers will be screened in the next few months.

Some 377 private bus drivers were screened, and 235 drivers provided with free spectacles in Chennai.

Another 1,323 drivers will be screened in the next few months.



IVI acknowledges the support of Sightsavers India

IVI Vision Screening Programs

	Children	Community	Total
No of programs	1040	4710	5750
Individuals screened	395307	579012	974319
Spectacles distributed	34979	283639	318618

Watch 'In Conversation with Vinod Daniel' video series only on www.youtube.com/indiaivisioninstitute



Dr.Pavan Verkicharla
Scientist - Myopia Research Head - The Myopia Centre (Prevention & Control)
LV Prasad Eye Institute Hyderabad



Hridaan Sharma
Student
The Shri Ram School, New Delhi

Excellence in Vision Science Lecture Series



Dr Aiswaryah Radhakrishnan, Assistant Professor, SRM Institute for Medical Science gave a talk on Presbyopia Correction: Optical and Perceptual Aspects, September 6. Dr Aiswaryah talked on presbyopia and its implications, the correction methods available for presbyopia, including optical corrections and how the subjects perform with these corrections and the role of ocular optics in the performance of a presbyopic correction.

[Click to view the session](#)

Welcome Trustee: Stephen Mervin Alexander



Dr Stephen Mervin Alexander is a retired Special Secretary, Government of India. In his 35 years of government service, he has held several key positions, including as Member (Personnel), Postal Services Board, Chairman, Investment Board, Department of Posts, Chief Postmaster General, West Bengal, Sikkim & Andamans, and Joint Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy, among others. He is a recipient of the Kalam Award for Innovation, Innovation Award of Tamil Nadu Postal Circle and the IMA Award under non-medical category.

Welcome to Advisory Committee



Ekta Kumar is an experienced ESG, Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability leader with over two decades across a wide spectrum of industries ranging from banking, consulting, telecom, energy and electronics, having held global, regional and country leadership roles. Currently Ekta is a Sustainability Assessor with CII (Confederation of Indian Industry) and is also advising multiple corporates ranging from IT, energy, and manufacturing on ESG. Previously she was CSR and ESG Lead for Samsung South West Asia (2021-22) and CSR Head

Vision Screenings in Chennai's Urban Primary Health Centres



Our ongoing efforts to promote eye health at Urban Primary Health Centres (UPHCs) continued with regular vision screenings at Palavakkam, Adayar, Perungudi, and Madipakkam. IVI provided free vision screenings to 4,587 underprivileged individuals from April to September. Among those screened, 1,860 were diagnosed with refractive errors, and 1,293 were referred to nearby tertiary eye hospitals for further medical examinations.

IVI acknowledges the support of Sightsavers India and the Urban Primary Health Centres (UPHCs)

for Shell India (2017-21).

Harish Velji is Project Manager with the Transport Workers Union in Australia since the last 17 years. An influential South Asian community leader, he has worked in various activities for over 40 years. Previously, he has been on the Australian Federal Government's South Asian Advisory Board as a member.



Sheba Nandkeolyar is an internationally reputed Multicultural & Diaspora Marketing leader. She is a leading authority on Marketing to New Audiences and Multicultural Audiences, who comprise 50% Australians today. She is the Founder and CEO of MultiConnections Group (MCX), Australia's leading, integrated, and full service 360 multicultural marketing & advertising agency. Sheba advises government and blue-chip marketers on how to affiliate brands with diversity & fine tune their marketing initiatives to create holistic and more inclusive marketing campaigns. Sheba's experience spans across Australia, India, China, Hong Kong, UK and the US. She was former Chair, Australia - India Business Council (AIBC).

What they Say About IVI

"The 4th IVI International Optometry Conference was well-organized and informative, providing valuable insights for optometrists and raising awareness on important vision-related issues such as myopia in children."
- **Serge Zins, VP, Asia Pacific, Hoya Vision Care**

"I was honoured to serve as a moderator for the paper presentations at the conference. The conference was a success, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have contributed."
- **Ramprasad Kanagaraj, Dean of Optometry Education, Vasana Institute of Ophthalmology and Research**

"I had a great time at the conference and learned a lot from the diverse group of attendees. It was also very well organized, and I want to commend the team for their hard work."
- **Dr Rohit Khanna, Network Director - Gullapalli Pratibha Rao International Centre for Advancement of Rural Eye care, LVPEI**

"I am 42 years old and suffered frequent bouts of severe headaches since the last few years. As luck would have it, I came to know of a free eye camp being organized by IVI. The test revealed a near vision problem. The team provided me glasses that are immensely helpful, indeed a blessing. Now, I can see things clearly. Thank you so much!"
- **Anjalai, Velacherry, Chennai**

IVI and JSW conducted vision screening for children in our school. I too got my eyes tested and came to know that I had to have vision correction. Previously, since I couldn't see the board well, I had to copy the class work from my friend's notes. A big thanks to Team IVI and JSW for the vision screening program -
Anish Ambala P, student at Government High School, Eppothum Vendran, Vilathikulam District, Thootukudi

I'm from Attibele, Bangalore and have come here for having my eyes tested. I had a problem with distance vision. Thanks to IVI, and a pair of glasses, my vision has improved -
Mohammed Rafiq at Shell-supported IVI camp

Join IVI on Facebook

10000
+ Likes

Thank You for
your support!

Support IVI Programs

To DONATE ONLINE and for additional
information, please visit
www.indiavisioninstitute.org
All donations shall qualify
for deductions u/s 80G of the
Income Tax Act 1961

our supporters include



INDIA VISION INSTITUTE

Chennai Office

Plot No 212, Palkalai Nagar, 7th Link Road, Palavakkam, Chennai - 600041,
Tamil Nadu, India. Contact No: 8610865108

Delhi Office

119, Shishan House, near 4th Floor, Shahpur Jat, Hauz Khas, New Delhi, Delhi 110049

For enquiries write to ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org or to know more visit

www.indiavisioninstitute.org