

### Message from the CEO

Happy Diwali to all! May the festival of lights be a joyous occasion as we slowly come out of the worst pandemic of our generation that has impacted livelihoods and taken away so many precious lives. As we learn to live with the virus, please stay safe and follow all safety protocols.

The past two months saw us hosting our well-attended Annual Conference powered by EssilorLuxottica and supported by Bausch and Lomb as well as several panel discussions and lectures on topics relevant to the profession.

Our vision screening programs for communities and commercial vehicle drivers have accelerated thanks to generous support from Shell India, Luxottica, Sightsavers and Essilor Vision Foundation. We are grateful for the generous support from Barbara Kipper (USA) that has enabled us to reach out to the weaving community. We also thank Lawrence & Mayo for their equipment

support to us.

This World Sight Day was special for us as we launched two major campaigns with women and transgenders, both target communities that needed focussed support.

We look forward to hosting World Council of Optometry's Eyes Around the World - A Global Day of Learning, 20 November. We are also thankful to Optometry Giving Sight (OGS) for their generous grant on Soft Skills training for Optometry students and practitioners.

I am always amazed at the dedication of the hard-working staff of IVI who constantly travel to remote parts of India and achieve fantastic outcomes in sometimes very challenging environments. The end result being a few more Indians getting access to a pair of spectacles enabling them to see better, work better, study better and lead a



better quality of life.

Thanks to all our generous supporters for making our vision a reality. The need is still huge and we look forward to more partners joining us in this effort. Thanks also to our Trustees and Advisory Committee members for providing us the leadership.

- Vinod Daniel

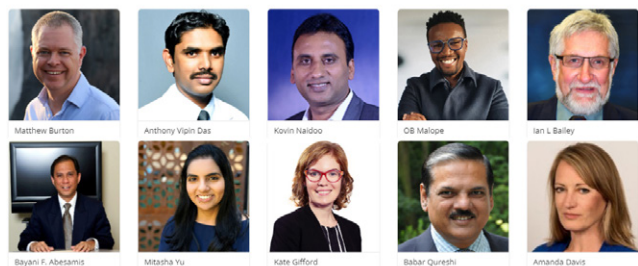
### 2nd IVI International Optometry Conference – Eye Health in a Changing World

The 2nd International Optometry Conference opened on September 9 and continued till September 11. It evoked a posi-

at keynote sessions, panel discussions, and 59 paper presentations during parallel tracks in the following two days.

ager, Essilor South Asia delivered messages wishing success to the proceedings.

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



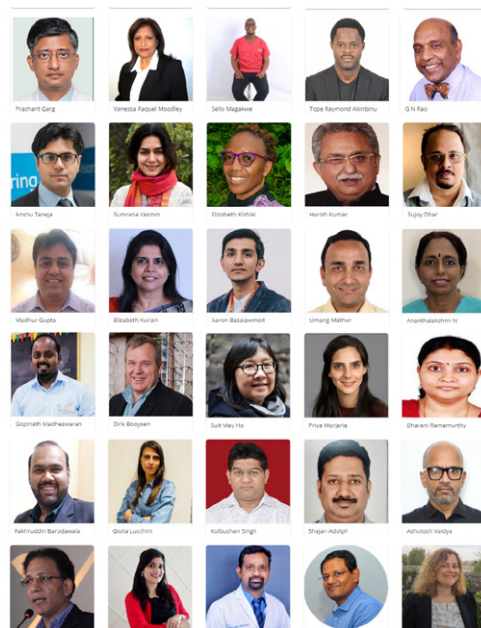
The conference came with the support of national and international associations, institutions and optical companies. IVI particularly acknowledges the support of EssilorLuxottica as the Platinum Supporter and Bausch & Lomb India as the Gold Supporter.

tive and encouraging response from eye health professionals across the world.

Experts shed insights on myopia and best practice models for its management, role and influence of big data and artificial intelligence in eye care, human resource challenges, legislative frameworks and associated issues, and partnerships.

There were 12 pre-conference day sessions on September 9. Top experts spoke

The opening session comprised leading speakers, including Dr GN Rao, Founder-Chair, LV Prasad Eye Institute, RN Mohanty, President, Vision 2020 India, Peter Holland, CEO, International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness, Peter Hendicott, President-elect, World Council of Optometry, and Vinod Daniel, CEO, India Vision Institute. Akash Goyle, Country Manager and Managing Director, Luxottica India and Raghavan NS, Country Man-



Sessions included Global Eye Health: Vision Beyond 2020 by Prof Matthew Burton, Director, International Centre for Eye

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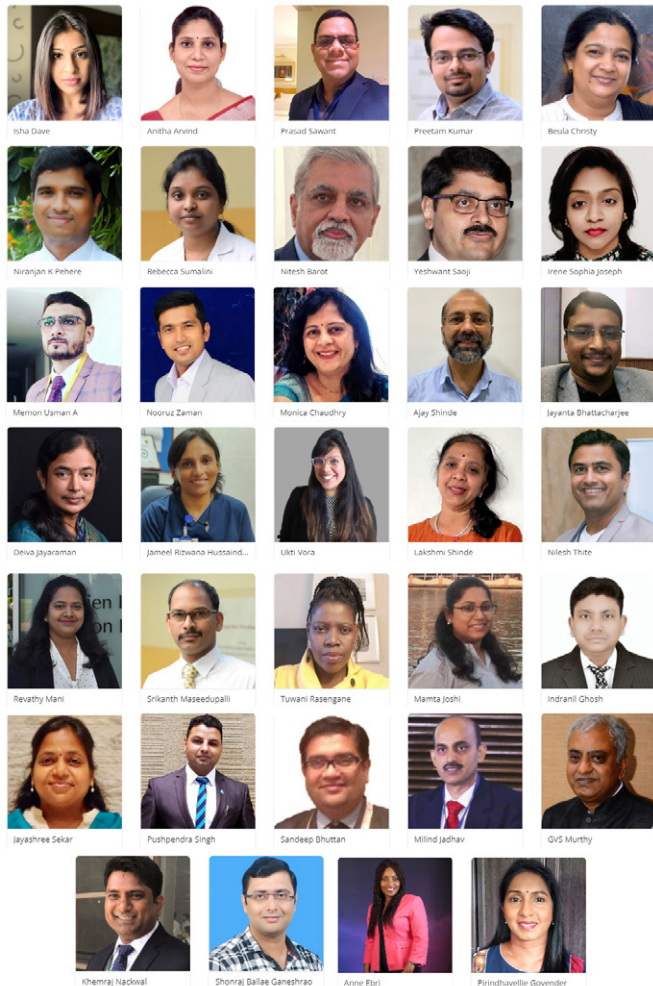
Health, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Role of Artificial Intelligence in Eyecare by Dr Anthony Vipin Das, Consultant Ophthalmologist, LV Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad, Role of Advocacy in Tackling Avoidable Blindness by Amanda Davis, Director for Strategic Initiatives, The Fred Hollows Foundation; Human Resources Challenges in Eye Care Delivery by Prof Kovin Naidoo, Senior Vice President Social Impact: Africa & Latam and Advocacy, Essilor International; Very Low Vision: How to Measure and Why? by Prof Ian Bailey, Professor Emeritus of Vision Science and Optometry, Berkeley School of Optometry; Myopia Management: Putting Research into Practice by Dr Kate Gifford, Co-Founder and Lead Educator, Myopia Profile

## Achieving 40% increase in effective coverage of refractive error by 2030

The conference hosted a special IVI-Vision2020 discussion session on the key and important issue of Uncorrected Refractive Error (URE). The session 'How can India achieve 40 percentage points increase in effective coverage of refractive error by 2030' evoked a meaningful dialogue.

URE is the leading cause of visual impairment in the world. Uncorrected refractive error needs to be diagnosed by an eye care professional, after a dilated eye examination. A possible way out of the condition is to get your eyes tested and wear corrective glasses if there are no complicated accompanying conditions.

The session co-moderated by Dr Phanindra Babu Nukella, CEO, Vision2020 India and Vinod Daniel saw Dr G.N. Rao, Founder, LV Prasad Eye Institute, deliver the keynote address and had a discussion with Professor Praveen Vashisht, Officer In-charge, Community Ophthalmology, Dr. R. P. Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Dr Sandeep Buttan, Technical Lead - Eye Health, Sightsavers, Delhi, Milind Jadhav, Senior Director - Inclusive Business & Philanthropy - South Asia, Essilor India Private Limited, Anshu Taneja, Country Director-India, VisionSpring and Dr GVS Murthy, Director, Indian Institute of Public Health, Hyderabad as panelists. To watch this session, click <https://www.facebook.com/IndiaVisionInstitute/videos/364429942008803/?t=13>



Pty Ltd; Optometry and the Legislative Process: The Philippine Experience by Bayani F Abesamis, Barrister and Solicitor, Abesamis Law Office; Climate Change & Eye Health by Mitasha Yu, Co-chair, International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness; Building Up Eye Care Practice by OB Malope, Brand Growth Specialist; and Partnership Building by Dr Babar Qureshi, Director, Inclusive Eye Health and Neglected Tropical Diseases, CBM.

Themes discussed included School Children Eye Health Screening, Gender, Equity & Inclusive Eye Health and Myopia in India. Other sessions were on Assessment and Rehabilitation of Children with Cerebral Vision Impairment, Contact Lens Dropout - Reasons and Possible Management, Partnering for Eye Health, Evidence Based Contact Lens Practice and Getting Eye Health into News.

**The dates for our 3rd Annual Conference were announced as 8-10 September 2022.**

### Join IVI on Facebook

**9700+ Likes**

Thank You for your support!

### Volunteer for IVI

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

Email us at

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

### IVI is a member of



World Council of  
Optometry



International  
Agency for the  
Prevention of  
Blindness



Asia Pacific  
Council of  
Optometry



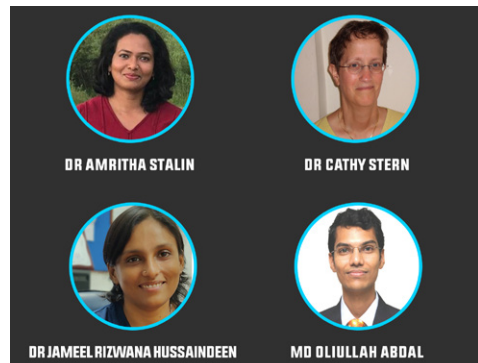
Vision 2020  
India



## IVI - Visionplus Panel Discussions

### See Well Play Better

To observe 'Sports Eye Safety Month' on September 27, vision experts discussed the importance of vision while playing sports, how it makes a difference in the game and the need for awareness on the safety precautions to protect eyes from serious injuries not only among athletes but with whoever plays a sport.

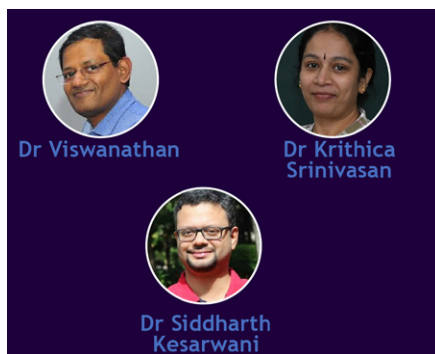


Panelists for the discussion, See Well and Play Better, were Dr Cathy Stern, Behavioral, Developmental and Neuro Optometrist, Massachusetts, USA, Dr Jameel Rizwana Hussaindeen, Head – Rivoli Vision Academy, Rivoli Vision, UAE, President - Optometric Association of Tamil Nanbargal (OATN), Dr Amritha Sta-

lin, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Waterloo and Md Oliullah Abdal, Founder Director, Bynocs™ Vision Therapy Software. Click to view the session <https://www.facebook.com/IndiaVisionInstitute/videos/644559016507771/?t=3155>

### Save your Children's Sight

Children are vulnerable to vision loss and childhood blindness. Children with vision loss find it difficult to study and learn in



the classroom and, in many cases, may even be faced with the prospect of blindness. Research has shown that in developing countries, childhood blindness is 51% avoidable, 27% treatable and 19% preventable.

Awareness among parents, school teachers, and the community at large, coupled with effective policy interventions at the government level and well-trained eye care professionals, can help mitigate the threats posed by childhood vision loss and blindness.

At the 'Save your Children's Sight' panel session on August 16, experts discussed the threats to children's eye health and on how best to address the issue. The discussion commemorated Children's Eye Health and Safety Awareness month. Moderated by IVI's Shekhar Nambiar, the participants included Dr Viswanathan, Head, Optometry Department, Sankara Nethralaya, Assistant Professor, Elite School of Optometry, Dr Siddharth Kesarwani, Director, JNR Children Eye Care & Squint Clinic, Borivali West, Mumbai, and Dr Krithica Srinivasan, Associate Professor, Department of Optometry, Manipal College of Health Profession, Manipal Academy of Higher Education. Click to view the session <https://www.facebook.com/IndiaVisionInstitute/videos/644559016507771/?t=3155>

### Taboo against Women and Girls Wearing Spectacles

A talk on Taboo against Women and Girls Wearing Spectacles by Dr Anuradha Narayanan, Principal, Elite School of Optometry and Program in charge - School Children Eye Health, Special Community Projects In-Charge, Sankara Nethralaya on October 14, focused on the barriers



to spectacle compliance among women and girls, role of society and family on demotivating women and girls from wearing spectacles. Dr Anuradha mentioned that education, empowerment, behavioral change and societal change are the solutions for overcoming the barriers. Click to view the session <https://www.facebook.com/IndiaVisionInstitute/videos/262346959146925>

### Optometrist Role in Reducing Fall among Elders

A talk on Optometrists' role in Reducing Falls among elders by Dr R Krishna Kumar, Freelance Optometrist and Educationist, on September 30 focused on the prevalence of falls, risk factors and the role of Optometrists in falls' reduction. Dr Krishna Kumar said the rate of falls in older people with visual impairment is 1.7 times higher than other older people of same age, with hip fractures 1.3 to 1.9 times higher.



Proper spectacle prescription, cataract removal and a home safety assessment, modification and coping strategy program by an occupational therapist reduced the risk of falls in older people. Click to view the session <https://www.facebook.com/IndiaVisionInstitute/videos/266101012014094>

### Visual Demand & Inclusion of Children with Low Vision in Mainstream Schools

A talk on Visual Demand & Inclusion of Children with Low Vision in Mainstream Schools by IVI's Dr. Kalpa Negiloni on August 30 focused on types and components of inclusive education, environment and visual demands in Indian school classrooms, and the adaptability of low vision children to the visual environment in classrooms of mainstream schools. Dr. Negiloni emphasized the optimal lighting level on students' desks and contrast level on the chalkboard in the classroom. Click to view the session <https://www.facebook.com/IndiaVisionInstitute/videos/266101012014094>



### Support IVI Programs

To DONATE ONLINE and for additional information, please visit [www.indiavisioninstitute.org](http://www.indiavisioninstitute.org)

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

## Eye See & I Work

### Community Screenings for the Benefit of Underprivileged in Chennai

Through the Eye See & I Work campaign, India Vision Institute conducts vision screening programs and provides spectacles to people in need, enabling them to see better, perform daily activities, and raise their independence and productivity.



Over the past three months, IVI screened over 2,497 underprivileged daily wage workers in Royapuram, Chemmancherri, Mahabalipuram, Palavakkam, Pooncheri, Tharamani, Kaattukuppam in Chennai and also in Tuticorin.



Around 1,256 people diagnosed with refractive errors received free spectacles and another 660 individuals were referred to hospital for further medical intervention.

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

### Clearer Sight of Roads for Salem Truckers

As part of Sightsavers' National Truckers Eye Health Program, IVI screened 696 truck drivers of Salem district in September.



Among them, 277 truckers found with vision difficulties will be receiving free spectacles and 158 truckers were referred to hospital for further examination.

**IVI acknowledges the support of Sightsavers for funding the program.**

### Clear Vision for Weavers & School Children

We undertook vision screening campaigns in Ranipet and Kanchipuram districts of Tamil Nadu to provide access to eye care services to the disadvantaged weaving communities in remote areas and school children in Chennai.

Some 7,846 weavers and children were screened over the past two months, of which 1,060 people diagnosed with refractive errors received free spectacles and 160 individuals were referred to hospital for further examination.

**IVI acknowledges the support of Barbara Kipper for funding this program.**

### Auto Drivers get their Vision Checked

IVI is undertaking primary eye care services (vision screening and refraction) to drivers of three-wheelers, and light commercial/passenger vehicles. Some 617 auto-rickshaw drivers were screened in Porur (Chennai), Tirukoilur (Kallakurichi) and Hyderabad, of which 291 auto drivers diagnosed with refractive errors were provided free spectacles. As many as 113 auto drivers with other ocular ailments were referred to hospital for further medical intervention.



**IVI acknowledges the support of Sightsavers for funding the program.**

## Vision Screening for Commercial Vehicle & Truck

Shell continues the DriveSafeIndia program it launched in February 2019. The program has screened more than 2.6 lakh drivers and addressed vision issues of some 1.75 lakh by providing them free



pairs of spectacles. The program was awarded the coveted Prince Michael International Road Safety Award for its outstanding contribution to Road Safety in 2019.

This year, Shell's DriveSafeIndia campaign is being implemented by IVI in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Launched in Chennai ahead of World Sight Day, it aims to cover an additional one lakh drivers. About 50,000 drivers will be tested in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka and the remaining in other states.

We have so far screened 8,845 people in Chennai, Tuticorin, Namakkal, Salem, Madurai, Coimbatore, Pudukottai and



Dindigul diagnosing 5,391 people with refractive errors and 1,091 referred to hospital for medical intervention. Read the full article at <https://www.indiablooms.com/life-details/EV/6171/shell-launches-next-phase-of-drivesafeindia-program-covering-one-lakh-drivers-by-march-2022.html>

**IVI acknowledges the support of Shell India for funding the program.**



## Vision Screening Services on Wheels

The Urban Eye Health Program - an initiative of Sightsavers with support from SBI Capital, and implemented by IVI, is providing comprehensive eye health services through a Mobile Van Eye Unit in urban



slums and Government Health Centres of Chennai.

Udhayanidhi Stalin, MLA from Chepauk, visited the Mobile Eye Clinic at Lock Nagar, Chennai on 26 August. Australia's Consul-General, Sarah Kirlaw, Dayanidhi Maran MP, and IVI's CEO Vinod Daniel also were present.

The Mobile Eye Clinic is fully equipped to provide comprehensive eye care services including for refractive errors, Diabetic Retinopathy and Glaucoma screening, and tele-consultation and counseling services

to patients who require further treatment. The beneficiaries of the program are people residing in urban slums of Chennai city and fixed Government Primary Health Centres where eye health services are not available; it thus addresses the eye health needs of the unreached urban poor population.

As many as 1,838 people have been



screened in the slums of Ennore Kuppam, Kottivakkam, Royapuram, Neelangarai, Old Washermenpet and Chintadripet. Some 1,046 people were diagnosed with refractive errors and 462 people were referred to tertiary hospitals for further assessment.

**IVI acknowledges the support of Sightsavers for funding the program.**

## Making the Bread Earners See Better

A major vision screening campaign - for industrial workers in Chennai - has been progressing well. Over the past two months, we were able to screen 7,920



people in Perambur, Vyasarpadi, Lock Nagar, Sholingnallur, Urapakkam, Ekka-tuthangal, Nandhivaram, Chintadripet, Virugambakkam, Pulianthope, Mandaveli and Madhavaram in Chennai.

Around 4,430 people diagnosed with refractive errors have been provided free spectacles and 2,542 people were referred to hospital for further medical intervention.

**IVI acknowledges the support of Luxottica India for funding the program.**

any support and associate with you from HV Desai Eye Hospital. Thank you." - **Dr GV Rao, CEO, HV Desai Eye Hospital**

**Watch 'In Conversation with Vinod Daniel' video series only on**

[www.youtube.com/indiavisioninstitute](http://www.youtube.com/indiavisioninstitute)



**Sh. Darshan Lal Madan  
Managing Director, Bon Ton Opticians**

## IAPB's Love Your Eyes Campaign

To support the Love Your Eyes campaign by the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), IVI has undertaken two special campaigns - to pledge to screen and provide free corrective eyeglasses to 5,000 women in underprivileged communities and 2,000 transgenders in localities in Chennai.



Vision screening campaign for women were launched on October 10 and on World Sight Day - October 14 for the transgender community. These IVI campaigns reflect our commitment to gender equality transgender inclusion.

## What Others Say About IVI

*"I thank IVI and Shell for the eye test and free distribution of eyeglasses for deserving people" - **Durgesh, Assistant Manager, Sivagangai Petrol bunk***

*"Thank you for agreeing to send resource persons for the eye camp. We appreciate your support. Looking forward for future collaborations with you for other such activities. Thank you, IVI team" - **Arjunan, President, Drivers Association, Madurai***

*"I happened to see a van offering an eye check up on the way home. I got my eyes tested and was told I had poor vision. They provided me glasses and I can see a lot clearer now. I recommend this service to all people like me who do not get access to eyecare services." - **Kanchana on the Urban Eye Health Program***

*"The IVI International Optometry Conference during September was very well organised and well attended. The topics were interesting. Kudos to you and your team. Please let me know anytime if I can be of*

## IVI Vision Screening Programs

	Children	Community	Total
No of programs	676	662	1338
Individuals screened	2,84,011	1,19,286	4,03,297
Spectacles distributed	27,979	52,417	80,396

Activities listed in this issue are for August - September 2021.

### Current project supporters



Equitas Development Initiatives Trust

Barbara Kipper (Chicago, USA)

Lions Club, Padur

### INDIA VISION INSTITUTE

Plot No 212, Palkalai Nagar, 7th Link Road, Palavakkam, Chennai - 600041, Tamil Nadu, India. +91 - 44 - 24515353  
For enquiries write to [ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org](mailto:ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org) or to know more visit [www.indiavisioninstitute.org](http://www.indiavisioninstitute.org)  
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