

# **SAHAYOGITA**

## **A Regional Workshop on Strengthening Partnerships (East & North East)**



19<sup>th</sup> May 2008 (Monday)

At

Chamber of Commerce,  
6, N. S. Road,  
Kolkata – 1

Organized by:

**Sight First, MD 322 (Eastern India)**

Lions Clubs International Foundation  
Kolkata - 700 020

Workshop Design Support:

**NPCB and Vision 2020 The Right to Sight India**

## **Participants:**

### **GOVT. OFFICIALS:**

- Dr. A S Rathore, Additional Director General (Ophthalmology), NPCB, Govt. of India
- Prof. Goutam Bhaduri, Director, RIO, Kolkata
- Dr. B K Saha, ADHS (O) & State Programme Officer, NPCB, West Bengal
- Dr. Raj Mohan, State Programme Officer, NPCB, Jharkhand
- Dr. Promila Panigrahi, Jt. DHS (O) & State Programme Officer, NPCB, Orissa

### **INGO Representatives:**

- Dr. Sara Varughese, Medical Advisor, cbm
- Dr. Rajesh Noah, Executive Director, Vision 2020 India
- Mr. Prasannakumar, Area Representative, Sightsavers International
- Mr. Praveen Kumar, Programme Manager, Sightsavers International
- Mr. Suwendu Mitra, Programme Manager, Sightsavers International
- Ms. [Shanthakumari](#), Program Manager, Sightsavers International
- Mr. Rishi Raj Borah, Programme Manager, ORBIS International
- Mr. Jamal Siddiqui, Programme Manager, ORBIS International
- Mr. Manish Kumar, Programme Manager, Vision 2020 India

### **NGOS:**

- Dr. Asim Kr. Sil, CMO, Vivekananda Mission Ashram, Chaitanyapur, Haldia
- Dr. D P Ray, Thakur Sitaram Seva Kendra, Malda

### **LIONS:**

- PIP Lion Ashok Mehta
- PID Lion Prem Lahoty
- PID Lion A P Singh
- PDG Lion Bishnu Bajoria
- PDG Lion Sangeeta Jatia
- PDG Lion Dr. Apurba Kr. Mukherjee
- PDG Lion Hari Bajoria
- PDG Lion B P Yaduka
- Lion Trilok Rajgaria, DG, 322-B2
- Lion Suraj Bagla, VDG, 322-B1
- Lion B S Kedia, VDG, 322B2
- Lion R R Baidya, VDG - 322-C3
- Lion Dr. D. Mukherjee, DC, SF 322F
- Lion R P Saria, VDG (E) - 322A
- Lion Kailash Khandelwal, VDG (E) - 322-B1
- Lion Gopi Dhuwalia, VEG (E), 322-B2
- Lion Dr. Gouri Patra, VDG (E), 322-C3
- PDG Lion A K Todi, DC, SF, 322-C3

## **LIONS HOSPITALS:**

- 322-A – Gobindpur, Ranchi East
- 322-B1 – Howrah, Netra Niketan, Bimal Poddar, Nabadwip, Ranaghat West
- 322-B2 – NIL
- 322-C1 – Contai, Haldia, Jhargram
- 322-C2 – Bargarh, Rourkella Vedvyas
- 322-C3 – Burdwan, Galsi, Ghuskara, R N Kharkia, Durgapur, Nalhati, Balagarh, Jamalpur, Panagarh Bazar, Purulia, Raniganj, Bankura, Asansol East
- 322-D – Guwahati
- 322-E – NIL
- 322-F – Alipurduar, Siliguri Greater, Siliguri Lions Netralaya

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**Dr. Divyesh P. Shah, Technical Advisor, Sight First,** warmly welcomed all the participants and conveyed greetings on behalf of LCIF.

**Prof. Goutam Bhaduri, Director, RIO, Kolkata,** talked about the partnership between the private sector and the government and the scope of participation of NGOs in different Govt. schemes. He also talked about the role of RIO in the field of Eye Care & training facilities available at RIO on Community Service and Eye banking. Prof. Bhaduri informed that RIO is ready to provide training to the Ophthalmologists and Paramedics of Lions Hospitals on DR (as part of an MoU between RIO & LCIF)

**Dr. B K Saha, SPO, West Bengal,** spoke about the activities and assistance offered to NGOs by NPCB. He recognized the participation of NGOs in NPCB programmes. He also recognized Lions as a major NGO group, working against blindness in collaboration with the Govt. in the state. He informed that due to lack of



funds, they are not being able to reimburse the cataract bills in time. He mentioned that some administrative problems at the district level also hamper the programme

especially in the Burdwan district. However, he informed that this problem will be sorted out as soon as possible. Dr. Saha also seeks the assistance of Lions in areas where the Govt. Sector does not have sufficient resources and infrastructure.

**Dr. Rajmohan, SPO, Jharkhand**, talked about the NPCB Programme in progress in the state of Jharkhand. He also spoke about the school eye screening programme. Few of projects situated in and around Jharkhand are facing a funding problem. Dr. Rajmohan informed that the funds are available in his state. He welcomed the Lion members at his office to solve the matter.

**Dr. Promila Panigrahi, SPO, Orissa**, welcomed participation of NGOs in her state. Dr. Panigrahi pointed out that there is a need to work on public awareness about diseases like Glaucoma, DR & Childhood Blindness. She spoke about the problems of blindness, lack of infrastructure and the difficulties faced by them.

**Dr. Rajesh Noah, Executive Director, Vision 2020 India**, discussed about the goals and initiatives of Vision 2020. He talked about the importance of quality in the service organizations. He emphasized on the different sources of funds and various schemes of NPCB from which NGOs can take advantage. He also spoke about the important role of INGOs and NGOs in executing the programme.



**Dr. Sara Varughese, Medical Advisor, CBM**, discussed about the activities of CBM in the field of blindness and disability. She emphasized on planning, organizing and implementing of ROC for pediatric ophthalmology and adult cataract surgery, health promotion and health education programme, etc. Dr. Varughese



informed that if any organization seeks help from CBM, she will look into it considering their needs and available resources.

**Mr. Prasannakumar PN, Area Representative of Sight Savers**

**International**, spoke about Sightsavers work in India and various strategies to select their partner in eye care, rehabilitation and education work.



**Mr. Rishi Raj Borah, Programme Manager, ORBIS International**, spoke about the childhood blindness programme being pursued by his organization. He even mentioned that Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital is a part of their review process in search of a partner for their childhood blindness programme.



**Dr. A S Rathore, Additional Director General (Ophthalmology), NPCB, Govt. of India**

spoke about the purpose of the schemes to develop eye care infrastructure and to provide appropriate eye care services to reduce the prevalence of blindness. He described the following schemes as those presently available for

the voluntary sector:

1. Non-recurring GIA for expansion / Upgradation of eye care units for underserved population.
2. Non-recurring GIA for setting up / strengthening of Eye Banks and Eye Donation Centers.
3. Non-recurring GIA for setting up / strengthening Vision Centers.
4. Recurring GIA for performing free cataract operations in base hospitals.
5. Recurring GIA to Eye Banks and Eye Donation Centers.

Dr. Rathore also informed about the qualifying criteria for the NGOs to project formulation, financial implications and procedure for approval of grants. Dr. Rathore welcomes more NGO participation in the field of eye care.

**Past International President Lion Dr. Ashok Mehta** congratulated the organizers for organizing such a Workshop in Eastern India. He also welcomed all the participants. Dr. Mehta spoke on the various activities of LCIF related to Sight conservation worldwide. He shared his experience with LCIF in humanitarian activities with all the participants. Dr. Mehta was very interactive during the presentation session and group discussion. He requested Dr. Rathore to see how the Lions projects can benefit with NPCB schemes. He also assured Dr. Rathore that the Lions team is ready to work with NPCB all over India in any situation. Dr. Mehta suggested that a list of pending DBCS Dues must be prepared and submitted to Dr. Rathore.

In the discussion session almost all the INGOs described about the scope of participation of other NGOs in their sight conservation program which was very positive for all the participants. The major part of the discussion centered on the reimbursement problem of DBCS. The representatives from 322-C3 (mainly Burdwan)

district described the various problem faced by them in submitting the bills to the local DBCS office. They also informed that approximately 1.46 crores of rupees are pending with DBCS. Dr. Rathore said that the pending dues of current year will be distributed as soon as possible. He also informed that additional grant of Rs. 100 crores is under consideration by GOI to meet up the outstanding amount of NPCB program. He instructed all present SPOs to organize a meeting with the NGOs at the district level on quarterly basis, if not monthly, to discuss the problems and informed about the current state of NPCB rules.



Dr. D P Roy of Malda Sitaram Seva Kendra and Dr. Asim Sil of Vivekananda Mission Ashram, Chaitanyapur, Haldia made a presentation on the functioning of their organization and their gains from various forms of partnerships.

Mr. Phil M. Writer, Financial Consultant, LCIF, spoke about the Central Purchase Committee.

At the end of the day, Dr. A S Rathore reviewed the issues presented by the representatives of INGOs, NGOs and Govt. Officials throughout the day & summarized the different issues discussed. He agreed that such meetings on a regular basis would be beneficial to all and that he will look forward to such meetings in future.

Past District Governor Lion Sangeeta Jatia proposed the vote of thanks.