



# Annual Report 2008-09



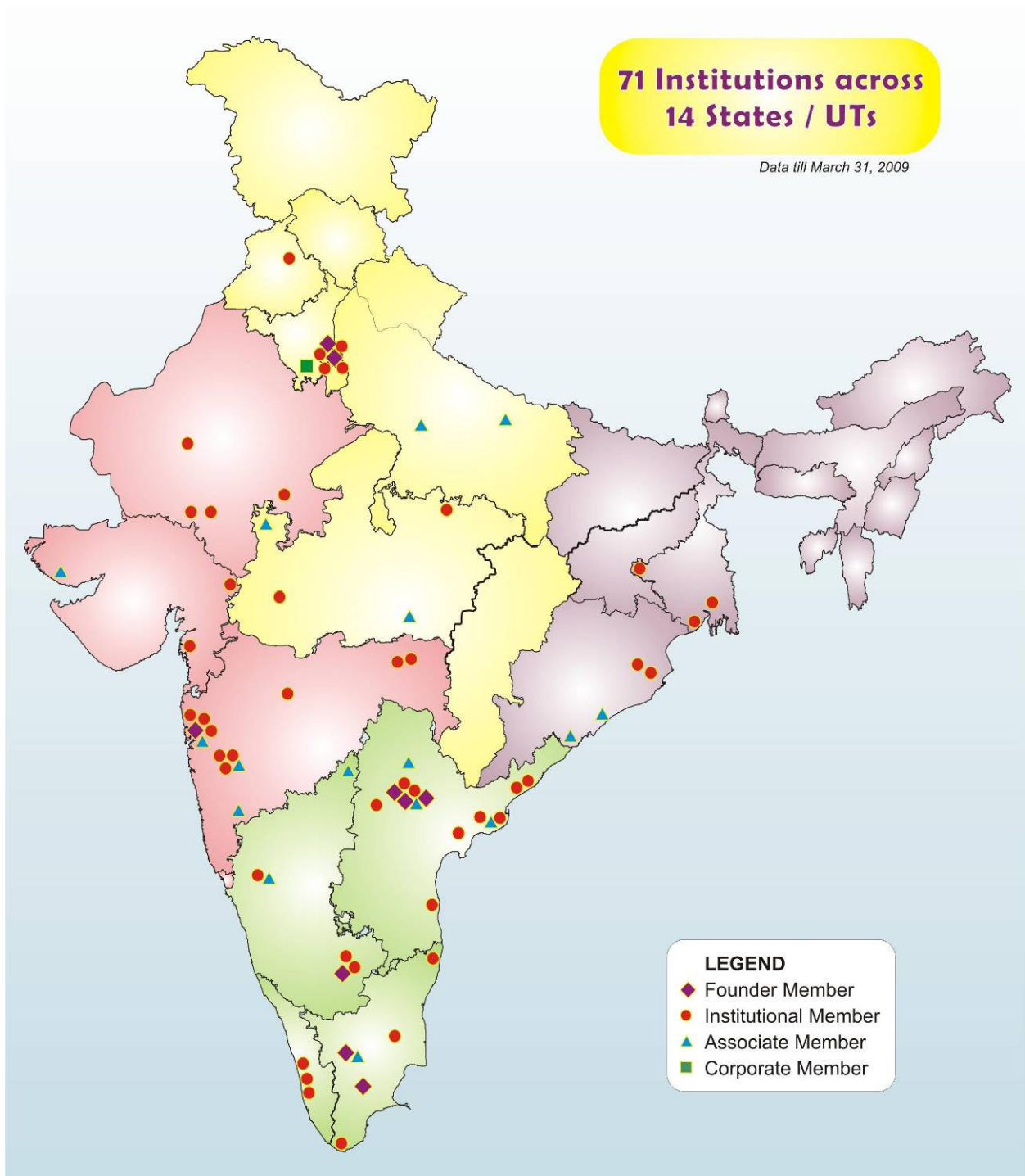
Transforming Lives -  
**Synergistic  
Partnerships  
In Action**



# VISION 2020: The Right to Sight - INDIA

## Members Distribution

71 Members across 14 States / UTs



## **OUR VISION**

We aspire to have our country free of avoidable blindness, where every citizen enjoys the gift of sight and the visually challenged have enhanced quality of life as a right.

## **OUR MISSION**

We will synergistically work with eye care organizations in India for the elimination of avoidable blindness by provision of equitable and affordable services as well as rehabilitation of visually challenged persons through development of appropriate policies, quality standards, advocacy, training, and promotion of best practices with a special emphasis on the poor and marginalized sections of society and underserved areas.

## **OUR CORE VALUES**

We are committed to being a transparent, accountable, inclusive and sustainable organization that respects all its members and stakeholders whose participation is actively sought in democratic decision-making and organizational learning. We promote quality and equity in eye care, with the highest ethical standards.

## **STRATEGIC PRINCIPLES**

- To be responsive and demand driven, serving the needs of the millions of needlessly blind through its members
- Focused on cross-cutting issues such as poverty, gender, location
- Concentrating on comparative advantage and public private partnership
- Creating synergy

# Management Board (2008 – 11)

## (A) Office Bearers



Dr. GV Rao  
ORBIS International  
President



Dr. Supriyo Ghose  
RP Centre  
Vice President



Dr. Taraprasad Das  
LVPEI  
Secretary



Ms. Elizabeth Kurian  
Sightsavers International  
Treasurer

## (B) Committee Members



Dr. RD Ravindran  
AECS



Dr. Sara Varughese  
CBM



Rtn. Paritosh Das  
JPM Rotary



Ln. G Ramaswamy  
LCIF



Mrs. Lalitha Raghuram  
OEU



Mrs. K. Mani Mala  
Sankar Foundation



Dr. Surendra Bhandari  
Shri PCB Trust



Ms. Tanuja Joshi  
Venu Eye Instt.

## [C] Special Invitees

Photo Awaited



Ms. Shalini Prasad, IAS  
MOHFW, GOI

Dr. (Mrs) Rachel Jose  
MOHFW, GOI



Dr. GN Rao  
IAPB



Mr. RD Thulasiraj  
AECS



Dr. Lalit Verma  
AIOS



Mr. NP Pandya  
HV Desai Eye Hospital

## Ex-Officio Member



Dr. Rajesh Noah  
Executive Director

# TECHNICAL ADVISORY TEAM

## Advocacy for Eye Health

1. **Mr. RD Thulasiraj**, Aravind Eye Care System
2. **Ms. Tanuja Joshi**, Venu Eye Institute
3. **Dr. Bhushan Punani**, Blind People's Association
4. **Dr. S. Natarajan**, Aditya Jyot Eye Hospital
5. **Dr. Lalit Verma**, All India Ophthalmological Society

## Policy & Program Development

1. **Dr. Chandrashekar Shetty**, LCIF
2. **Ms. Elizabeth Kurian**, Sightsavers International
3. **Dr. (Mrs.) Rachel Jose**, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India
4. **Dr. R. Pararajasegaram**, WHO Consultant
5. **Col. (Dr.) M Deshpande**, HV Desai Eye Hospital
6. **Dr. BR Shamanna**, Public Health Consultant

## Quality in Eye Care

1. **Dr. Nelson Jesudasan**, Joseph Eye Hospital
2. **Dr. Sara Varughese**, CBM SARO (North)
3. **Dr. RD Ravindran**, Aravind Eye Care System
4. **Dr. M. Srinivasan**, Eye Bank Association of India
5. **Dr. Vinay Nangia**, Suraj Eye Institute

## Resource Mobilization & Sustainability

1. **Mr. NP Pandya**, HV Desai Eye Hospital
2. **Smt. Hema Malini**, Brand Ambassador
3. **Dr. Surendra Bhandari**, Shri PCB Charitable Trust
4. **Mrs. K Mani Mala**, Sankar Foundation
5. **Mr. Arunesh Singh**, VisionSpring India
6. **Dr. Veera Rao**, ALERT India

## Resource Center

1. **Dr. Asim Sil**, Vivekananda Mission Ashram
2. **Dr. Taraprasad Das**, LVPEI
3. **Dr. AK Grover**, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital
4. **Dr. Supriyo Ghose**, Dr. RP Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences (AIIMS)
5. **Dr. Krishna Prasad**, MM Joshi Eye Institute
6. **Mr. Kirubanithi**, LAICO

## Organizational Development

1. **Dr. GV Rao**, ORBIS International
2. **Mrs. Lalitha Raghuram**, Operation Eyesight Universal
3. **Dr. Rajesh Noah**, VISION 2020 INDIA

# Activities under the Strategic Thrust Areas

## Strategic Area 1: Advocacy for Eye Health

### (1.1) Advocacy film with our Brand Ambassador Smt. Hema Malini

We were able to complete a film on advocacy for eye health with our gracious support of our Brand Ambassador – Smt. Hema Malini ji. The film is and will be used at conferences & assemblies to sensitize audience to the need for eye care and taking steps to eliminate preventable blindness.



### (1.2) Special moments with Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam



VISION 2020 INDIA members had a unique opportunity to interact with former President, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam in an informal session on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2009 in Jodhpur, as a prelude to our AGBM the next day. Discussion was centered on eye care services and prevailing situation in Rajasthan. Dr. Kalam also urged members to take up activities in Bihar.

### (1.3) 8th General Assembly of IAPB in Buenos Aires

Representatives of VISION 2020 INDIA including the Executive Director participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of IAPB (once in four years) in Buenos Aires from 24 – 28 August 2008. Presentation was also made by Dr. AS Rathore, ADG (O), MOHFW representing Govt. of India. It was a great opportunity to network with eye care professionals from across the globe.

### (1.4) Meeting with Joint Secretary – Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India

VISION 2020 INDIA team met Ms. Shalini Prasad, IAS, Joint Secretary – Ministry of Health & family Welfare, Govt. of India on September 12, 2009 to discuss programmatic issues related to the implementation of the Blindness control program and the much-awaited XI plan approval.



### (1.5) World Sight Day 2008

On the global theme: "Eye on the future: fighting vision impairment in later life", World Sight Day celebrations was organized on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2008 jointly with NPCB in Pune, able supported by our member PBMA's HV Desai Eye Hospital. In the presence of the audience, Chief Guest, Dr. RK Srivastava, DGHS, Ministry of health & Family Welfare, announced the sanction of Rs. 1,250 crores for blindness control program under the XI five year plan (2007-12). He urged the responsible delegates to take up actions to productively use this fund for the alleviation of blindness form the country.

A National Symposium on “Visual Impairment in Later Life” was also organized on the same day in tune with the theme. Eminent experts from all over the country shared and discussed their perspectives on prevention, treatment and management of age related blindness.



**(1.6) Vision 2020 workshop on “Advocacy in Eye Care”** – jointly organized by IAPB & AECS: Representatives from VISION 2020 INDIA and representative from MOHFW, Govt. of India participated in the workshop organized in Pondicherry to develop the advocacy roadmap for India. To take this forward based on this roadmap, an advocacy plan of action needs to be made and operationalized for better eye care service scenario in India.



**(1.7) VISION 2020 INDIA at the 67<sup>th</sup> AIOC – AIOS Annual Conference**



▪ **VISION 2020 INDIA Session:** Besides having the XXI Board Meeting in Jaipur on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2009, VISION 2020 INDIA team was there to be part of the AIOC 2009 with a two hour session on VISION 2020 on the first day and a booth to disseminate information about VISION 2020 INDIA and its activities. Presentations covered topics such as: Changing Trends in Global Blindness, A model for quality equitable eye care, A model Vision Center, Quality Comprehensive Eye care, Vision 2020. The Mission Fast Forward, Govt. of India

Initiative & how does one maximize the benefit, International NGO initiatives, How does State Vision 2020 function, Why support Vision 2020 movement.

▪ **VISION 2020 INDIA Stall at AIOS-2009**

The booth attracted numerous visitors, and took away copies of our Publications (The VISION 2020 HANDBOOK on Equipping a Secondary Eye Hospital, and Guidelines for Management of Diabetic Retinopathy in India). Copies of both these





publications are available for download on our website ([www.vision2020india.org](http://www.vision2020india.org)).

### **(1.8) Action Plan Meeting with Brand Ambassador**

The VISION 2020 INDIA Team (including Government Officials from the Maharashtra State Blindness Control Society) met with the Brand Ambassador – Padma Shri Smt. Hema Malini on January 17, 2009 at her residence in Mumbai to provide an update of VISION 2020 INDIA activities and future plans. An Action Plan was prepared with her, which included her consent to participate in the World Sight Day-2009 (WSD-2009) celebrations on October 8, 2009 and perform a ballet to raise resources for VISION 2020 INDIA. She also endorsed the IEC materials developed by VISION 2020 INDIA.



### **(1.9) Special Thrust for a Web-based MIS solution for NPCB**

An expert team visited Mumbai on February 21, 2009 to review the MIS used by the Maharashtra SHS. As a follow-up to the initial visit, a meeting was held in Nirman Bhawan on March 13, 2009. VISION 2020 INDIA team presented before the NPCB & NIC team a suggestive model of the web-based solution to the Grant-in-aid monitoring issues that NPCB is faced with now. The new system would help NPCB monitor the program more effectively and efficiently. As an outcome of the meeting, a revised proposal is being made by NIC to NPCB for consideration.



### **(1.10) Networking**

There were several opportunities for the VISION 2020 INDIAI team to interact and network with other eye care professionals and agencies:

- **CBM SARO (North) Partners Meet** – June 2008
- **COSI Annual Symposium** – November 2008

## Strategic Area 2: Policy & Program Development

### (2.1) Rs. 1,250 crores sanctioned for blindness control under XI five year plan

CCEA approved the sanction of Rs. 1,250 crores for the revised blindness control program under the XI five year plan.

Special features of the approval include:

- Diabetic Retinopathy
- Glaucoma
- Childhood Blindness
- Keratoplasty
- Establishing 3,000 Vision Centers (each for 5,000 population)
- Strengthen / establish 30 Eye Bank, 130 Eye Donation Center network
- Strengthen 40 voluntary organizations

### (2.2) Revision of NGO Guidelines under XI Five year plan

A joint meeting with participants from NPCB, State Govts. and VISION 2020 INDIA representatives was held in Nirman Bhawan on November 5, 2009 to re-look at the NGO participation guidelines and formulate guidelines for the new components added in the XI plan approval. This day long meeting resulted in the NGO guidelines being revised and ready for approval before being circulated to the users for implementation.



### (2.3) “Sahayogita: A regional workshop on strengthening PPP” – organized by LCIF

VISION 2020 INDIA Team assisted the Lions Group (East and North East India) in organizing a Regional Workshop (Sahayogita) to strengthen Public-Private Partnership. Dr. AS Rathore from NPCB, Govt. of India and INGO representatives besides representatives from Lions eye hospitals of eastern region were present. The report of this workshop is available at

<http://www.vision2020india.org/Kolkata%20Workshop%20Report%20-%20Final%20-%20May%2019th%202008.pdf>

### (2.4) Visit to States:

#### (2.4.1) Andhra Pradesh visit

Visit to AP Right to Sight Society provided better understanding of the work being done in the state through the Society in collaboration with the State Government. This meeting also unfolded the plans that have been developed for the benefit of the tribal communities of the state.

This opportunity was also used to visit LVPEI, Sadharam Lions Eye Hospital in Hyderabad and M. Ram Reddy Lions Eye Hospital in Mahabubnagar to understand the work done by the member organizations, and their concerns.

### **(2.4.2) West Bengal**

In West Bengal visit was made to Rotary Club of Purulia Service Centre, a charitable eye hospital along with Dr. AS Rathore from NPCB. Efforts were made to provide programmatic inputs to the hospital as well as assist them in developing better partnership with the DBCS. Assistance was provided in developing a project proposal to start 10 Vision Centres in two phases within the existing PHCs in the district of Purulia. If proven to be a successful approach, this model would be replicated in other districts with the help of member organizations.

Priyamvada Birla Aravind Eye Hospital in Kolkata, one of the several eye hospitals managed by Aravind Eye Care System was visited. A tour of the hospital was made to know the facilities available and understand its potentiality to become a VISION 2020 INDIA member. This hospital plans to develop itself into a Centre of Excellence in the eastern region.

### **(2.4.3) Gujarat Visit**

VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA studied the Gujarat State Plan for Blindness Control (2006-2010) on September 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> and traced the activities from the state headquarters (Gandhinagar) to the district (Bharuch) level.

- The team met with Dr Pran Nagpal (President) and Ms Nandini Rawal (Treasurer) of the Gujarat Chapter of VISION 2020.
- The group discussed the Plan Status (2006-2010) with Dr Pushpa Belani (Joint Director, NPCB), and visited the Gandhinagar District Hospital, and a NGO hospital (Lions Group) in Ognaj.
- The team met with an NGO – SEWA Rural (a member of VISION 2020 INDIA) at Jhagadia in Bharuch district and the ophthalmic surgeon at the District Hospital, Jhagadia. Discussions were held on how to make this district free from the backlog of cases of cataract. Looking at the current situation, in terms of workload and availability of manpower, a more creative strategy needs to be formulated.
- There are 174 eye care NGOs in Gujarat and there is a good opportunity to utilize the Gujarat Chapter (Registered as a Society in 2004) to form a stronger, public private partnership.
- The key achievements are the availability of “branded” equipment at the district hospitals and a good Hospital Management Information System.



### **(2.4.4) Jharkhand Visit**

This was a joint visit with members of Sightsavers International team from Kolkata office. The visit included study of state plan and visit to District Hospital in Gumla, visit to NGOs in the state.



### **Key observations from the visit revealed:**

- State Plan being implemented: 2006-11
- Initiative taken to establish well-equipped eye units in District hospitals – Gumla Dist. Hospital.
- Other development NGOs being encouraged to involve in blindness control program.
- A good PPP model working – NGOs providing technical support & manpower to reduce cataract backlog in the state
- Presence of Sightsavers International in the state is a plus – supporting the State Govt. through their partners NGOs in West Bengal.
- No pending grant-in-aid in 22 districts
- Political scenario in the state – President’s Rule
- Waning political will to support the program – no budget from the State
- Very few NGOs (19) in the state working in Eye Care
- No Paediatric eye care unit in the state – There is potential in Choparan (NBJK) and Jamshedpur (Jamshedpur Eye Hospital, Tata Group)
- Cataract back-log is high (target 08-09: 75,000, achieved till Oct: 10,147 only (prevalence: 1.41%))
- No Eye Donation / Eye Banking work being done in the State

A visit was also made to Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Eye Hospital in Choparan run by Nav Bharat Jagriti Kendra, a well known NGO in Jharkhand & Bihar and Jamshedpur Eye Hospital in Jamshedpur to understand their work

### **(2.4.5) Maharashtra Visit**

A joint review of Maharashtra State plan on Blindness control was conducted with Dr. RM Kumbhar, Asst. Director, MSHS, Dr. Mhoprekar, DPM-Mumbai and a representative from Sightsavers International Mumbai office. It was also an opportunity to visit Nair Hospital, NAB – met Mr. Dinoo Gandhi to discuss issues on Corporate partnerships, Xaviers Institute Resource Centre – Met Prof. Taraporewala and his team doing tremendous work for the visually challenged, Aditya Jyot Eye Hospital and Lotus Eye Hospital - our member organizations.



## Strategic Area 3: Quality in Eye Care

### (3.1) Collaborative venture with Eye Banking Association of India (EBAI)

A preliminary meeting was held at Hyderabad, with Mr G Ganesh, Executive Director, EBAI, along with Dr B. Mothilal, Joint Director (State Program Officer, Andhra Pradesh), and Dr Srinivas Reddy, Project Director, Andhra Pradesh Right to Sight Society (APRTSS).



3.1.1: **Collaborative work in progress:** A proposal originating from EBAI and supported by VISION 2020 INDIA on “**Strengthening Eye Banking in India**” has been submitted to NPCB for consideration.

3.1.2: Efforts are on to get the **support of spiritual leaders for promoting eye donation** in India

(3.2) **Standardization Manual on Cataract Management** is under review by experts.

(3.3) A Draft document on “**Outbreak Policy**” has been submitted to NPCB for consideration. Currently it is under review by various stakeholders.

## Strategic Area 4: Resource Mobilization & Sustainability

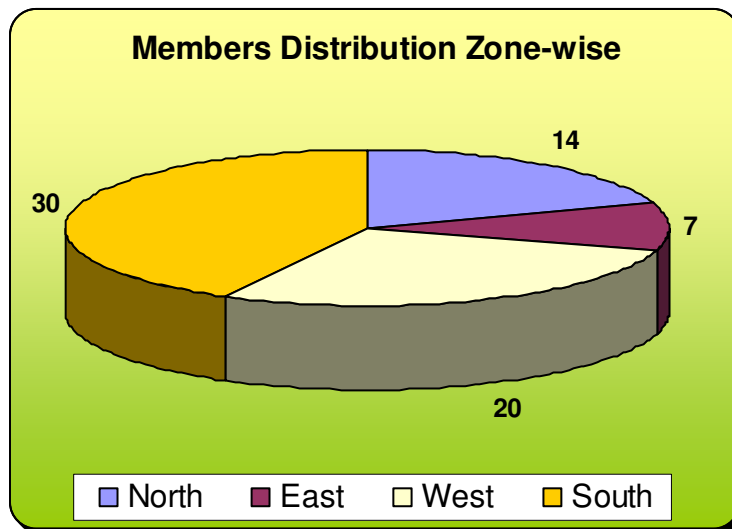
### (4.1) Membership Development

The VISION 2020 INDIA Board has approved the membership of:

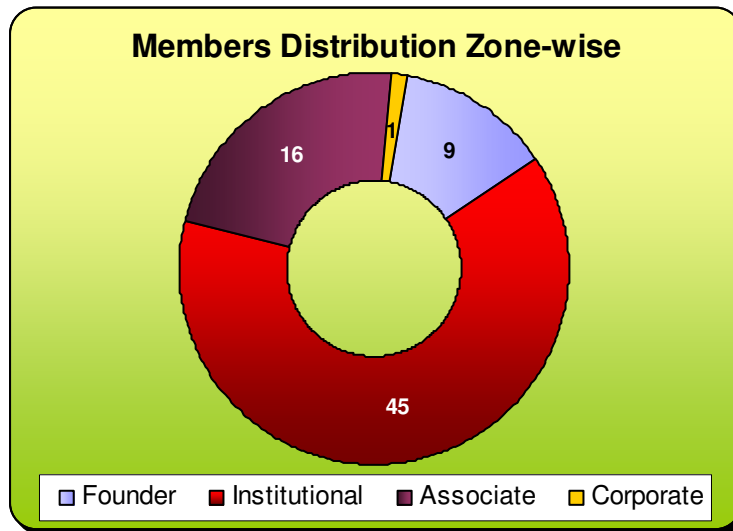
- LEPRA Society, Secunderabad - Institutional member
- Narayana Nethralaya, Bangalore - Institutional member
- Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, Aurangabad - Institutional member
- Poona Blind Men's Association, Pune, Maharashtra - Institutional member
- Ranjini Eye Hospital, Cochin, Kerala - Institutional member
- Susrut Eye Research Hospital, Kolkata, West Bengal - Institutional member
- Philips Electronics (India) Ltd, Gurgaon - Corporate member

All new members are welcome to the ever-expanding VISION 2020 INDIA family. As on March 31, 2009, the membership strength was 71 institutions.

| Members Zone wise |   |           |
|-------------------|---|-----------|
| Zone              | States  | Members   |
| <b>NORTH</b>      | Delhi, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh | 14        |
| <b>EAST</b>       | Orissa West Bengal                                    | 7         |
| <b>WEST</b>       | Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan                       | 20        |
| <b>SOUTH</b>      | Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu         | 30        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>      |   | <b>71</b> |



| Members Category wise |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Category              | Members   |
| <b>Founder</b>        | 9         |
| <b>Institutional</b>  | 45        |
| <b>Associate</b>      | 16        |
| <b>Corporate</b>      | 1         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          | <b>71</b> |



**(4.2) Membership Dues**

Special drive under the leadership of Mr. Thulasiraj was undertaken to recover membership subscription dues from non-paying members. During the reporting period, we were able to generate about Rs. 18 lakhs from membership dues.

**(4.3) Fundraising event**

First ever fundraising event was organized – Vision Dandiya – with the support of PBMA’s HV Desai Eye Hospital team. This event in Pune was able to generate Rs. 3 lakhs for VISION 2020 INDIA activities. The actors from tele-serial Baa Bahu Aur Baby were guests in the Dandiya event.



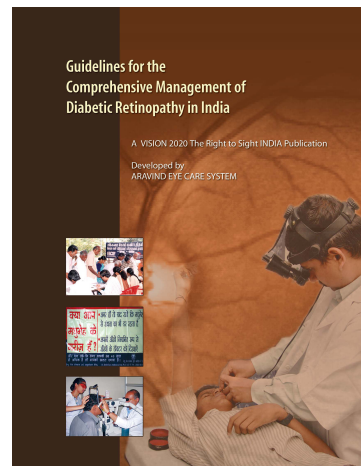
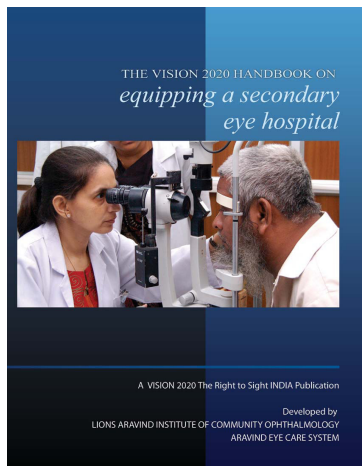
**(4.4) Sale of Publications** was also taken up as an initiative to generate resources for the organization.

## Strategic Area 5: Resource Center

### (5.1) VISION 2020 INDIA Publications

Dr. Kalam released two publications of VISION 2020 INDIA on the occasion of its fourth AGBM in Jodhpur, developed with support of INGOs.

- **Manual on equipping Secondary level eye Hospitals**
- **Guidelines for Management of Diabetic Retinopathy in India**



Standardization Manual on Cataract Management as a VISION 2020 INDIA forthcoming publication is being developed and reviewed by experts on the subject.

**(5.2) Indian Supplement of Community Eye Health Journal (CEHJ-IS):** The official publication of VISION 2020 INDIA is published every quarter and circulated to more than 5000 readers free of cost. The issues published with their themes are:

| <u>Issue</u>   | <u>Theme</u>                                       |
|----------------|--|
| ▪ Issue no. 65 | Cataract complications                             |
| ▪ Issue no. 66 | Eye care for older people                          |
| ▪ Issue no. 67 | Changing Patterns in global blindness: 1988 - 2008 |
| ▪ Issue no. 68 | Improving eye care                                 |

**(5.3) Quarterly newsletter** was circulated among members and other stakeholders giving regular updates on the activities of the forum and information about future planning.

### (5.4) VISION 2020 INDIA website

The organization website was updated on regular basis with information useful to our members as well as non-member organizations of the eye care fraternity. It has important links to workshop reports, publications, activities update, Govt. orders / circulars, Membership information etc.

### (5.5) Faculty Support

**(5.5.1) Diploma in Community Eye Health (DCEH) Course conducted by LVPEI – May 2008:** Focus of the session was on Leadership as well as the Role of Ophthalmic Officers in contributing to attaining the goal of Vision 2020 India.

**(5.5.2) Workshop on Cultivating stakeholders organized by Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya – November 2008:** VISION 2020 INDIA represented in the said workshop which had participants from the other developmental fields besides eye care. The session on Cultivating fundraisers for the developmental activities helped participants to gain insight about different ways to develop relationships with various funding agencies.

**(5.2.3) Diploma in Community Eye Health (DCEH) Course conducted by LVPEI – January 2009 :** The VISION 2020 INDIA Session for the Ophthalmic Professionals focused on their role in achieving the goal of VISION 2020, with a particular emphasis on Refractive Error, Eye Donation and focus on Quality Services (Infection Control)



## Strategic Area 6: Organizational Development

### (6.1) Fourth AGBM in Jodhpur

The main event during the quarter was the 4th Annual General Body Meeting (AGBM) with the former President of India Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam as the Chief Guest at Jodhpur, Rajasthan on July 10, 2008. Dr Abdul Kalam urged the participants to focus on cataract and uncorrected refractive errors in the state of Rajasthan and also asked them to conduct an action oriented AGBM in Bihar in July 2009.

### (6.2) Elections

Elections were conducted and new board was elected for 2008-2011. The Office Bearers are:

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Dr G V Rao</b> , Country Director, ORBIS International India Country Office           | <b>President</b>      |
| <b>Dr Supriyo Ghose</b> , Chief of R. P. Centre of Ophthalmic Sciences, AIIMS            | <b>Vice President</b> |
| <b>Dr Taraprasad Das</b> , Director, L V Prasad Eye Institute                            | <b>Secretary</b>      |
| <b>Ms Elizabeth Kurian</b> , Regional Director – India Region, Sightsavers International | <b>Treasurer</b>      |

### (6.3) Quarterly Board Meetings

Regular Board Meetings were held to look into the affairs of the forum.

- Meeting no. XVIII - National Secretariat, New Delhi
- Meeting no. XIX - Hotel Mapple Abhay, Jodhpur
- Meeting no. XX - HV Desai Eye Hospital, Pune
- Meeting no. XXI - Hotel Maharani Palace, Jaipur



### (6.4) Governance guidelines and policies

New guidelines and policies were formulated to conduct the affairs of the organization. After approval by the Board members, an orientation was conducted for them during the XIX Board Meeting enabling better understanding of the guidelines and policies. Approved policies included Finance policy & Administrative policy – Employee Handbook.

### (6.5) Update from National Secretariat

- **Additional Team Members:** The Secretariat team has been strengthened by a 2<sup>nd</sup> Program Manager - Ms. Sunita Tirkey from Rourkela, Orissa and an Executive (Finance & Administration) - Mr. Anukul Nayak from Bhubaneswar, Orissa.
- **Programme Management Training:** Mr Manish Kumar & Ms Sunita Tirkey attended the



Management Training for Eye Care Program Managers, conducted by LAICO from February 16 – 27, 2009.

## Organogram



### Conclusion:

**It has been a year of tremendous achievements, with exciting opportunities for the days ahead.**