

PRASANT'S MESSAGE



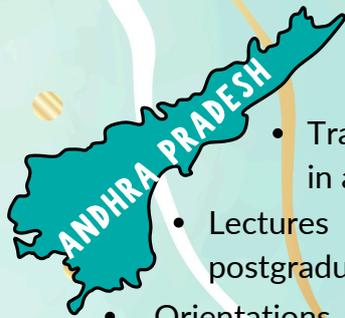
Reflecting on our recent efforts, I deeply appreciate our teams' dedication in advancing a healthier, more inclusive society. Our visit to Assam with Matt Lovelock (UK) explored partnerships with tea companies to support healthcare for estate workers. A Fundraising Workshop in Patna on February 15th, led by Ms. Meenakshi Batra, strengthened our resource mobilization strategies. We celebrated LEpra's 36th Foundation Day with an inspiring student exhibition and the K.V. Desikan Memorial Awards, honoring Mrs. Nandita Venkatesan and Dr. Pawan Agarwal for their contributions to Tuberculosis and Leprosy. Meanwhile, the GoodBye Leprosy Trust Board Meeting in Sevagram shaped future initiatives, and Dr. Sanjay (UK Trustee) visited ASPIRE in Jamui to witness our grassroots impact. We were also pleased to welcome Mrs. Sampa Bhasin (UK Trustee) and Victoria Kuyela (LEpra UK) to the LEpra Society Head Office. A key milestone was the launch of the Eye Screening Project in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh, in partnership with Operation Eyesight International, ensuring essential eye care for underserved communities. Collaboration remains at the heart of our mission, and we continue striving for impactful change. Recently, our Head Office team gathered for a meaningful getaway focused on reflection and team-building, reinforcing our shared vision. Additionally, we proudly marked the 9th Foundation Day of Junagarh Netra Chikitsalaya (JNC), celebrating nearly a decade of dedicated eye care service. Together, we remain committed to making a lasting impact.

IMPACT STORY

Twelve-year-old Pabitra Harijan from Bhusanguda, Koraput, was diagnosed with multibacillary leprosy (MB). He had ulnar nerve palsy and Type 1 reaction and was started on Multi Drug Therapy and Prednisolone therapy. Fearful and unsure, his family struggled to cope with the diagnosis. This is where LEpra's intervention became a turning point. From the beginning, LEpra staff worked closely with the local health team, ensuring timely follow-ups, guidance, and emotional support. A customized ulnar slab and footwear were provided, along with thorough counseling on their benefits and limitations. Regular communication with the family helped ease their fears, reassuring them that Pabitra was not alone in this battle. The biggest challenge was not just the physical impairment but also the psychological impact—Pabitra was scared and withdrawn, and his family feared the unknown. However, a compassionate and friendly approach helped build their confidence. By engaging with them as trusted partners, LEpra ensured they felt supported at every step. Today, as Pabitra's treatment continues, his family stands stronger, and his newfound confidence is a testament to the power of holistic care, emotional support, and empathy in transforming lives.



Pabitra Harijan
12 years old
Bhusanguda
village
Koraput district
Odisha



- Central NLEP team visited LEPRA Society operational areas to verify records and is pleased with the work.
- Training on foot care and therapeutic exercises in an IPOD camp.
- Lectures were delivered by medical experts and postgraduate students.
- Orientations sessions were conducted for nursing and pharmacy students as well as rural and private medical practitioners as part of the Anti-Leprosy Fortnight Programme.



- Mass Drug Administration Program (MDA) inaugurated by The District Magistrate (DM) and Civil Surgeon (CS) in Jamui.
- An LF Partners meeting was held at the WHO office in Patna to plan for the upcoming MDA round.
- A State Task Force meeting, chaired by the Executive Director (ED) at the State Health Society, focused on strategic planning for the MDA program.
- A State Media Workshop on Mass Drug Administration (MDA) for LF elimination was held in Bihar on February 8th to raise awareness and mobilize media support.
- A training session on facilitation skills for community-led development was conducted for SSG leaders under the Jagruti Project in Samastipur.



- Awareness Rally and School health education screening was conducted as part of the Anti-Leprosy Fortnight programme involving school students and medical staff.
- Training programs and Field visits were conducted for follow ups on Under Treatment and Released from Treatment, contact surveys, focal surveys, and the distribution of MCR footwear and Self Care kits.



- As part of the Anti-Leprosy Fortnight, school awareness programme was conducted at Guru Ram Das Public School, Delhi, educating 100 participants on health issues and preventive measures, MCR Footwear was distributed and physiotherapy care was given to improve mobility and support rehabilitation.

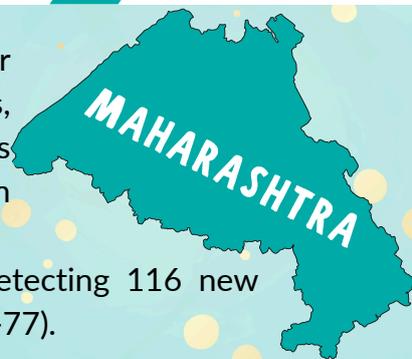


- Anti-Leprosy Day and World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day were observed at Dhanbad Sadar Hospital with district officials, NGOs, and media representatives taking an oath under the Civil Surgeon's leadership.
- As part of Anti Leprosy Fortnight, MCR footwears were distributed in Leprosy colonies, Dhanbad.





- Orientation programs were conducted for Medical Officers, Private Medical Providers, Community health officers, Health Assistants and ASHAs during the Leprosy Case Detection Campaign (LCDC).
- ASHA workers examined 6,80,792 people, detecting 116 new leprosy cases (Multibacillary -39, Paucibacillary-77).



- A health check-up was conducted for 168 prisoners at Sendhwa Jail under the Sparsh Leprosy Awareness Campaign.
- Training sessions were conducted for District Leprosy Officers (DLOs) and



Medical Officers (MOs) from eight high-burden districts.

- A separate training session for Community Health Officers (CHOs) at CHC Katthiwada was chaired by the Block Medical Officer (BMO) and the District Level Officer (DLO) to enhance healthcare skills.



- Observed Anti-Leprosy Day and launched the Sparsh Leprosy Awareness Campaign (SLAC) to spread awareness about leprosy.
- Conducted capacity-building and sensitization programs for medical students, nursing students, and healthcare professionals across multiple locations.



- Leprosy Case Detection Campaign (LCDC) was carried out in operational areas, with ASHAs examining a large population, leading to the identification of new leprosy cases.



- Awareness campaigns, competitions, rallies, and oath-taking events across schools and Primary Health Centres were conducted as part of the Anti Leprosy fortnight.
- Reconstructive Surgery Camp(RCS) camp held at Koraput, with pre-assessments and surgeries conducted at Nabarangpur CCC.



- Exposure visit to Integrated Ayush District Kasargod, Kerala, with interactions with Dr. Narahari and staff.



BPHRC



- Awareness program conducted at Govt High School, Cherlapally, as part of Anti-Leprosy Fortnight.
- Mr. Shashikant and the International Union Against TB & Lung Diseases team visited LEPRA Head Office for collaboration discussions.
- Govt school students presented posters on Leprosy, TB, LF, and HIV/AIDS during LEPRA Foundation Day celebrations at LEPRA Society Head Office.

Key Highlights



Matt Lovelock-Corporate Partnerships Manager- lepra UK visit to Dibrugah Russell Tea Garden - Nokhroy with our LEPRA Society CE- Mr. Prasant Kumar Naik



Mrs. Sampa Bhasin (UK Trustee) & Ms. Victoria Kuyela (Director of Finance & Operations, LEPRA UK field visit to LEPRA Society centres.



Dr. Sanjay (UK Trustee) visited ASPIRE project in Jamui, Bihar



Launch of Souvenir on 36th Foundation Day of LEPRA Society



Ms Nandita Venkatesan & Dr. Pawan Agarwal- DR. K.V. Desikan Memorial Awardees



Poster Exhibition on the occasion of LEPRA Society Foundation Day

Meeting with LEPRA Society technology partners Socialbytes in Bengaluru



LEPRA Society Head Office Annual Get Away and Team Bonding

Junagarh Netra Chikitsalaya celebrating 9th Foundation Day



Key Highlights



LEPRA Society Team attended the Annual Planning Meeting 2025-2026 at lepra UK.



CSR partner Mankind Pharma was invited for a meeting, where Mankind Cares, a book highlighting their collaboration with LEPRA Society was launched.



Meet Our Staff

How did you join LEPRA and what do you do?- I joined LEPRA Society on June 1, 2018, as a Field Officer for the EMTCT Aahna Project, supporting HIV-positive pregnant women with testing, registration, counseling, and follow-up care. Currently, I work as a Field Coordinator under the Samarth Project in Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh, helping people affected by leprosy and filaria.



**SUMIT CHAURASIYA
BLOCK COORDINATOR -
GAURIHAR**

What plans do you have for raising awareness about leprosy, reducing stigma, and encouraging early detection and treatment within local communities?- During surveys with leprosy and filaria and formed a group of such patients from their respective groups, we taught them self-care and exercise, which improved their understanding of the disease. Regular self-care has shown positive results. The Samarth Project Leprosy Committee regularly distributes shoes, slippers, and self-care materials to the patients.

What do you think are the most significant challenges in leprosy control, and how will you address them as a field coordinator?- The biggest challenge is dispelling myths and misconceptions. I focus on community engagement, identifying neglected cases, and providing accurate information through awareness campaigns to eliminate stigma. **Share a beneficiary's story that is close to your heart.**

I am deeply connected with all Samarth Project beneficiaries, offering them support and hope. Mrs. Patel from Rajnagar struggled with filaria, facing social stigma and mobility issues that forced her to stop working. Through regular self-care and support from the project, her life transformed—she now moves freely and inspires others to care for themselves. Grateful to LEPRA, she advocates for awareness and empowerment in her community.

Thank you to LEPRA Society team for your unending support

Facilitated by
K. Arun Kumar
Head - Programmes

G. Swamy Reddy
M & E Officer

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Communications Officer

Account Number 0132 0030 06100 **IFSC Code** IBKL0000002 **Account Name** LEPRA Society **Type of Account** Savings

Bank Name IDBI Bank Limited **Branch Name** Basheer Bagh **Bank Address** Mahavir House, Basheerbagh Square, Hyderabad - 29

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