



## ORBIS signed MoU with KEHRC

The international humanitarian agency ORBIS international Signed an MoU with the Dhenkanal based Kalinga Eye Hospital and Research centre for developing institutional capacity of the later. Mr Mohan Jacob Thazhaathu, Chief Operating Officer,Orbis and Mr. Sarangdhar Samal signed the agreement in the month of July and August this Year.

Based in Dhenkanal district, the Kalinga Eye Hospital is providing eye care services in 4 districts of central Orissa. The eye hospital is a unit of NYSASDRI (*National Youth Service Action and Social Development Research Institute*). During the first six months of ORBIS partnership, Kalinga Eye Hospital (KEH) has performed 1,914 cataract surgeries. In terms of annual eye surgery this hospital holds third position in Orissa. The hospital reaches out to rural poor who cannot access the facility through diagnostic eye check-up camps every year. To overcome major barriers like cost and distance, it offers poor patients free transport and surgery. Last year KEHRC came to limelight when it conducted 5000 cataract surgeries in a year.



ORBIS international who has been associated and set up many guiding principles for the effective management of the hospital believes that KEHRC has the potential to develop as one of the most important eye care centre in the eastern India provided that the human resources are trained and infrastructures are developed.

So keeping in view these requirements ORBIS has planned to develop Kalinga Eye Hospital based on **high volume, high quality and low cost sustainable model** demonstrated by Aravind Eye Hospital. The MoU aims to increase number of surgeons as well as the surgical volume per surgeon, Set up a new Operation Theatre with adequate equipment and adding hospital beds, Improve quality of surgical outcome through 100% IOL surgery and post-operative follow-up Hiring junior/trainee paramedics to free up 2 surgeons time to perform surgery. Reduce cost through bulk purchase of consumables and minimizing wastage as well as lower per unit cost of surgery upto the average monthly income of majority of beneficiaries.

To achieve the above target the project aims to develop skills of professional through training on a continuous basis, provide a competitive remuneration and opportunity for free interacting and sharing of with eminent experts and interact with other ORBIS project partners and thus a competitive professional environment will be developed within the organization.

Apart from that community education and awareness will also be given weightage where by members of NYSASDRI's Self Help Groups for women, Village Education Committees, Village Health Committees will be trained to identify patients, organizing eye camps and motivate/counsel patients who are reluctant to seek treatment and/or pay for the services. KEH will also ensure adequate follow-up care and increase uptake of spectacles by improved patient counseling. Local media will also be used to create awareness on the eye care services for this purpose.

## VISION SCREENING FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN BEGINS IN DHENKANAL

Now the children of the Dhenkanal and adjoining districts will get chance to screen their eyes, thanks to the special provision undertaken by the Kalinga Eye Hospital and Research Centre. In an attempt to provide eye care to the children of this region ORBIS International will put support technically and financially to KEHRC. It was initially estimated that eyes of 3000 children will be screened in during the month of September.

In the state of Orissa status of pediatric eye care services is poorer than adult eye care. Pediatric eye care requires specific expertise, equipment and training is needed to manage them. Major barriers to childhood cataract surgery in Orissa are absence of adequate trained pediatric eye care personnel and anesthetists, lack of high volume



cataract surgical setup where pediatric eye care facility can be developed, lack of awareness and skill to detect congenital cataract in children and absence of outreach services to identify and treat children with cataract and refractive error.

### Manpreet Visits KEHRC

Manpreet Chadhha, Programme Manager of ORBIS International visited KEHRC in the month of August. Manpreet who has recently joined ORBIS international as a programme manager visited KEHRC to appraise the programme and draw up strategies for future intervention. As ORBIS international has renewed the Memorandum of Understanding in June 06 to provide eye care services to the poor in central Orissa. During Last two year KEHRC has achieved most of its target but as no two years are similar and they pose challenges of different type and magnitude hence it is decided to have a relook into the strategies adopted so far. Ms. Chadahha not only took note of the event, happenings as well as the programmes but also gave KEHRC officials vital technical inputs and feedbacks on the programme. KEHRC will definitely be benefited because of these inputs in long run.



Prevalence of refractive error (visual acuity  $<6/9$ ) among children could be as high as 5% according to an estimation made by the Government of India. Refractive error in children, if untreated, almost always leads to poor academic performance and results in students dropping out of their education system. Refractive error in children can easily be corrected by providing a pair of spectacles.

As it has been estimated that in order to achieve the target of screening 3000 children KEHRC is planning to train 125 no of Anganwadi workers, teachers and volunteers. In these screening sessions the children will not only be tested of their eyesight but also will be informed of how to maintain good eyesight.

Till date 60 no of teachers, volunteers and Anganwadi workers are trained. The first training camp would be held from 14-19 in different primary schools of Dhenkanal township.

### Volunteer Jessica in KEHRC

Ms. Jessica Drinkwater, a 5<sup>th</sup> year medical student from Mancheswar University has been placed as intern at. NYSASDRI for a period of 8 weeks (from 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug to 15<sup>th</sup> October'06). She is being exposed on eye care service, community development and PHC activities at present.

### AUGUST in STATISTICS

#### OPD CASES

New- 717

Old- 214

**Total OPD- 931 (including Pediatric)**

Total Camp Conducted-14

Total Free Cataract Surgery -307

Paying Surgery-9

Minor Surgery-10

## EVEN FLOODS COULDN'T DETER KEHRC

In the month of August it rained like anything. Low pressures developed one after another and at the end of the month almost 26 lakhs of population from 27 districts were affected by this flood. It was one of the mega disasters what Orissa has experienced in the near past. The neighboring districts of Jajpur, Jagatsingpur Cuttack Khurda etc were badly affected by this fury of nature

It was during this period that KEHRC faced challenges from many sector. This month was also very important from the point of view of



KEHRC, as it was period when KEHRC has to start preparation for the screening of the children as well as carry out other activities. It was a task which needs to be accomplished well in time. Failure of communication and transportation facilities was the most important of all problems faced during this problem. But the staffs of KEHRC did not panic nor did they deter from their monthly plan of providing eye care services to the people. In the said year they not only conducted 14 screening camps but also managed to conduct 307 free cataract surgeries.

## KEHRC GOES ON WEB

Kalinga Eye Hospital & Research Centre which is one of the prominent eye care institutions providing all round eye care services to the people of rural as well as urban Orissa will now be available on the web. This has been done in order to expand the no of well wishers as well as reach of the institution. Now information, news, happenings as well as the events of the KEHRC can be known through the click of a button. The web address of the site is [www.kehrc.org](http://www.kehrc.org). Apart from the regular feature the website will also provide information regarding the future camps to be held at different places for one month advance. This will of valuable help to the patients in the far fetched areas. The donors can also donate online through the online form. Through the application of modern technology KEHRC believes to bring desired fruitful changes in the lives of the many.



## AT LEAST MY GRAND CHILDREN WOULD NOT ATTEND ME FOR MY DAILY ROUTINE

Rankanath Rout aged 72 years is a resident of Bangarkota, of Jajpur district. During his youth he thought he was lucky as he was a government servant working in the post office and had two sons and two daughters. He inherited  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre of land from his father. He retired as branch



postmaster. He thought he would be leading a happy retired life but fate decided otherwise. He got into debt to marry his daughters and his two sons. His elder son is employed as primary master but does not help his parents. In fact taunts him saying that he is burden for him. He lives with his younger son who tends that small plot of land and supplements his income by working as daily laborer. Their condition is precarious. Sometimes they have to go hungry and when hunger becomes unbearable they beg for food. Had it not been for the camp he would have to depend on his grand children while bearing the barbs of his daughter in law. In course of our conversation he said that at least his grand children would not need to attend on him for carrying out his basic daily activities and could teach his grand children so that they don't face difficulties on being illiterate.

## Future plan from October to December 2006

The month of October to December is popularly known as the festive season of Orissa. During this period lot of cultural programme will keep busy the people of Orissa. During this period KEHRC plans to achieve the following target.

- ö 10 Doctors will be trained on eye care.
- ö 50 Anganwadi and School Teachers to be trained on detecting the eye problems in their locality.
- ö Around 3000 people will be screened, which will include School Children, Anganwadi Worker, School Teacher, Govt. Worker, etc.
- ö A minimum of 800 will be clinically treated
- ö Around 800 surgeries
- ö A minimum of 1000 people will be educated on protecting their sight.

## RESTORE VISION AMONG RURAL POOR

While organizing eye-screening camp in rural areas, we find a large no of children and adults suffering from various eye problems, which urgently needs to be corrected by surgery or other treatment. Otherwise, their power of seeing may go out forever.

But you can give them a light to their life with your help with a little as Rs.100 per month.

So take step immediately and pick your pen to fill-up the coupon below:

*Yes, I am interested in the activities you are doing for children I would like to contribute to support your work.*



Mr/Mrs/Miss \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Pin \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

I'll contribute Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ monthly / Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ Half yearly / Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ yearly / Any amount (of your choice) Rs. \_\_\_\_\_

*I am sending herewith a cheque /DD in favour of C.M.O, Kalinga Eye Hospital and Research Centre, Dakhinakali Road, Dhenkanal, Ph-06762-223949, nysasdri@gmail.com.*

*You are always welcome to visit our hospital from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., daily, except Sundays and other Holidays. Please contact Dr. D N Parida or Mr. Janardan Behera at the following Address for further information, if needed.*

*Contact us at*

### **Kalinga Eye Hospital & Research Centre**

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