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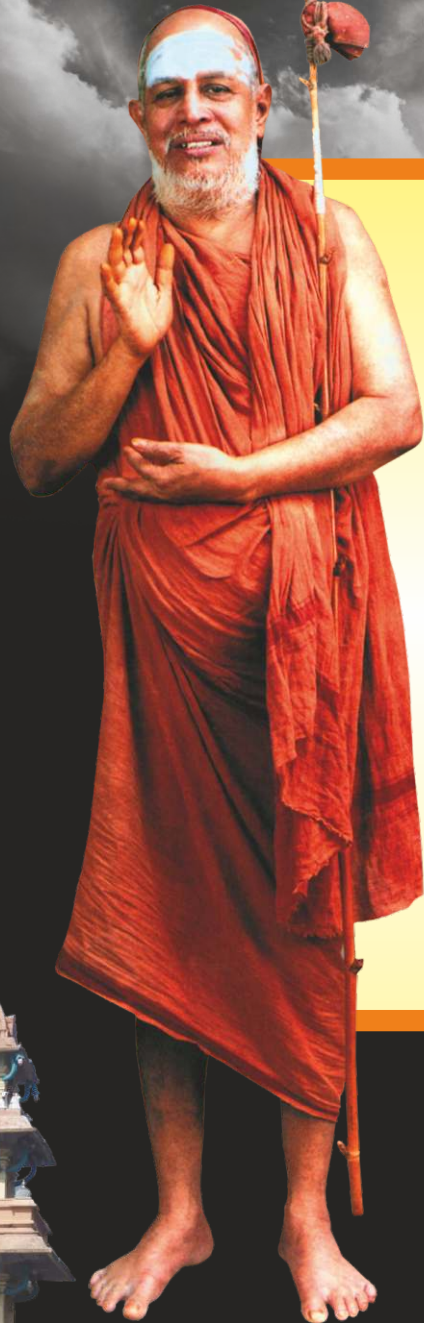
Sankara Nethralaya's Jeevatma becomes it's Paramatma

His boundless compassion and foresight envisioned our institution, His Holy command brought us into this world.

His principles and beliefs lead our journey of service to mankind.

His abundant blessings have made us what we are today.

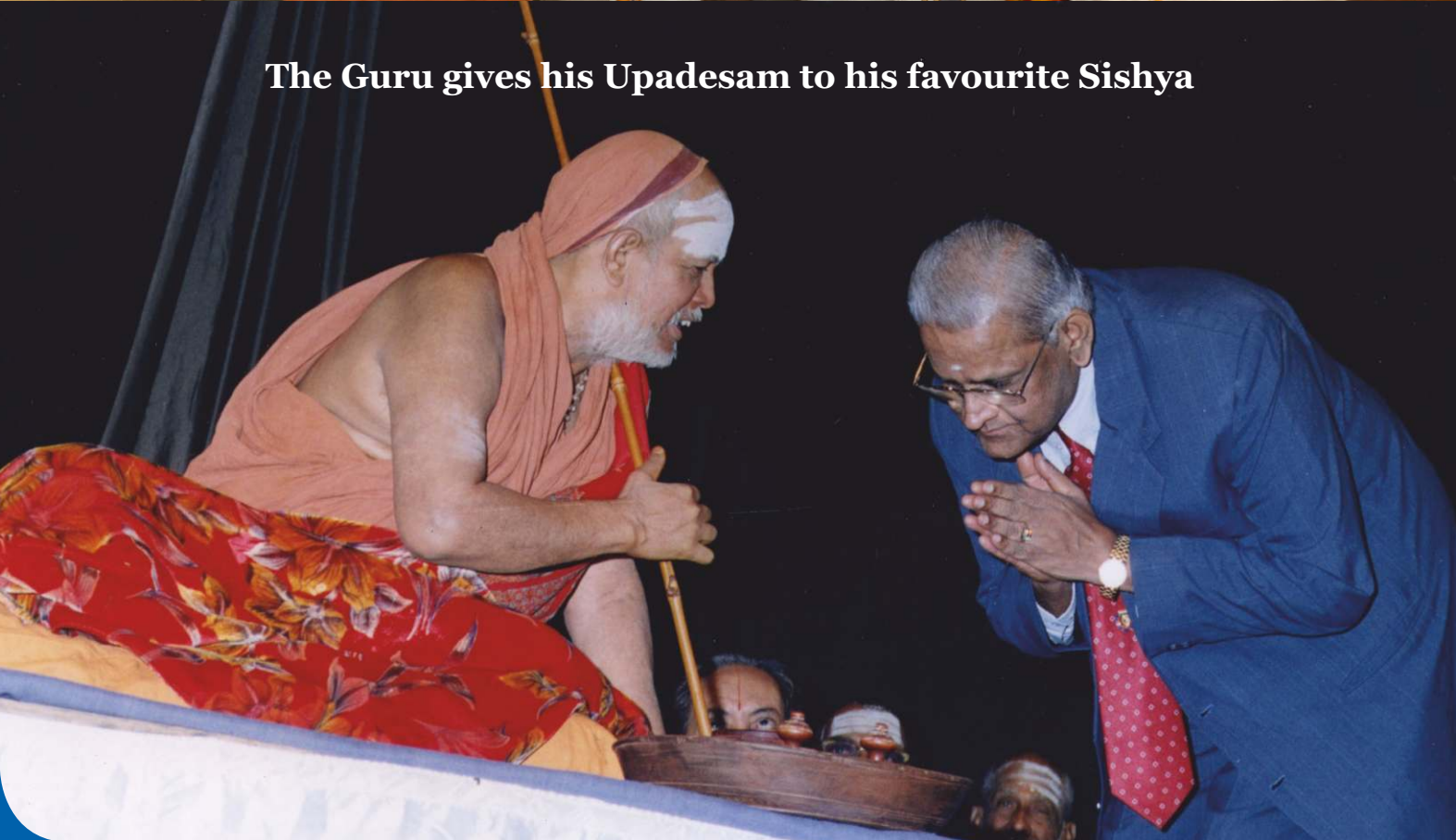
*Sankara Nethralaya Pays its humble Pranams and homage to its patron Saint, leading Light and Spritual Guru, **His Holiness Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal**, the 69th Acharya of the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam, who attained the Lotus feet of God on Shukla Trayodashi, the 28th of February, 2018.*



**The Guru leads the way
with cheer and joy**



The Guru gives his Upadesam to his favourite Sishya



A Punyatma completes the Karmic cycle



It is believed that when noble souls depart from this world they attain divinity and become one with the creator, but when the departed soul is divinity personified even in the mortal avatar, human logic can only deduce that the soul has completed its Karmic cycle.



News of Periyava's leaving for his heavenly abode, to the Lotus feet of God on Shukla Trayodashi, the 28th of February 2018 brought in its wake a sense of total blankness, a void, a Soonya in the mind of the man who began a movement called Sankara Nethalaya and the members of this movement, a movement of service which was envisioned, created and blessed each day by Periyava. A movement which had over the years become synonymous with compassion, care, knowledge and service leading to revival of vision, joy and livelihood and dignity to millions, exactly what its creator envisioned it to be.



While his mastery over the Vedas and scriptures and his efforts towards translating their knowledge and wisdom to the common man is unparalleled, what made him a Saint of the masses was his demeanour, characterized by a ready smile and wit, a down to earth persona. Periyava will be ever remembered for his conviction in the dictum 'Manava Seva Madhava Seva' which manifested in large scale service endeavours encompassing healthcare, education, relief and succour to the suffering.

Periyava's observation on Sankara Nethralaya

Sankara Nethralaya is a shining example of service to humanity and will continue to serve mankind with dedication and love as long as the heavenly bodies are there in the firmament, as long as the Sun, Moon and Stars appear in the sky and shed their glorious light.

Periyava's observation on Dr SS.Badrinath

If I had not met young Dr Badrinath and persuaded him to stay back in India 4 decades ago, today he would be a doctor with a flourishing practice in the USA, he would not be seeking funds for community service for his institution but sending money to support free healthcare in his motherland.

Sankara Nethralaya is a creation of his far sighted perception of health care capacity building to meet the challenges of a growing nation, his vision of quality healthcare dispensing to paying and non paying patients with love and a personal touch and his dream of a nation self reliant in healthcare. He was the divine force which created us, the divine force which blessed every endeavour of ours, be it a new facility, a new equipment or a new process. The Seer blessed the institution that he created as one which would serve humanity until the Sun, Moon and Stars shine in the sky and we the members of the institution dedicate ourselves to serve humanity the way he envisioned with his grace and infinite blessings.



Recognitions & Awards

Reaching out to the unreached gets its due recognition



Vista India the publisher of 'Health and Fashion' honoured Dr PS.Rajesh, Senior Consultant and Dr Gajendra Kumar Varma, Associate Consultant, who serve in the remote regions of the country through the Mobile Eye Surgical Unit, with the 'Mayan award' for Excellent medical care and service to the needy. The awards were presented by Ms Kiran Bedi, Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry.

SN Consultants honoured



Dr L.Vijaya, Distinguished Senior Consultant, Glaucoma dept and Dr Pukhraj Rishi, Senior Consultant, Vitreoretina dept were conferred with the FRCS by Royal College of physicians, Edinburgh.

Champion of healthy vision and crusader against blindness honours the man who reflects its values and lives its ideals!



The Indian chapter of Vision 2020, the collaborative initiative between the 'World Health Organization (WHO) and 'International Association for the prevention of blindness' (IAPB) conferred its highest and most prestigious 'Vision 2020 – India Visionary award' on Dr SS.Badrinath, Founder and Chairman Emeritus, Sankara Nethralaya.

Senior Anaesthesiologist from Sankara Nethralaya bequeaths 'Royalty' on his innovation to his beloved institution

The 'Realtime view mannequin' for effective practising of regional blocks is a device which promises to enhance the process significantly. Dr VV. Jaichandran, Senior Anaesthesiologist and the man known for his trailblazing initiatives in the field of ophthalmic anaesthesia was credited as the co-inventor of the device by the IIT-Madras. In a gesture reflecting his spirit of giving back to his institution, Dr VV.Jaichandran bequeathed the commercial proceeds from the sale of the device, which he is entitled to as 'Royalty,' to it.



Sankara Nethralaya adjudged No-1 in its field, by leading player in the field of healthcare



CIMS Medica India, the leading provider of drug information, educational content to healthcare professionals and pharma consumers and marketers through its popular directories on various specialties honoured Sankara Nethralaya as the 'Best Hospital Unit in Ophthalmology - 2017'.

ESO Team emerges victorious in a subject matter mastery evaluation

The Elite School of optometry team consisting of optometry interns Jude Remedios Menezes, Mehal Prasan Rathore, Vidyashri and Gowsalya won the First Prize in ACME 111 (Ahalya's continuing medical education) held at Palakkad and participated by 22 optometry colleges in the country.



Custodian of SN's knowledge treasure trove wins dual awards



Shankar Kumar, Librarian, Shri Rajnikant Mehta Medical Library, located at SN's main campus was bestowed a 'Certificate of Honour' and a plaque at the 'MALA Awards' (Madras Library Association Awards) and a 'Certificate of appreciation' jointly by the department of Library services, CMC, Vellore and the 'Library and information Science Society for Asia and the pacific' (LISSAPAC) at the international conference on 'Libraries beyond borders' (ICLB-2017).

SN's eye bank wins highest accreditation in its category and its administrative head receives a pat on the back too!

The CU Shah Eye bank, Sankara Nethralaya's most advanced and well equipped facility and key partner in its battle against blindness was awarded the 'Quality Certificate' by Sightlife, the high profile member of the 'International Agency for the prevention of blindness' (IAPB). K.Haribabu, the Manager of the facility was recognized for his efficient time management with 'The Time Keeper award' by the illustrious body.

Study on the prevalence of ophthalmic disorders among members of consanguineous families, is recognized with a Doctorate by nation's prestigious seat of education



S.Srilekha, Senior Researcher from the Sankara Nethralaya ONGC Genetics and Molecular Biology Department, was awarded a PhD by BITS, Pilani for her in-depth findings on ophthalmic disorders, titled 'Genetic analysis of consanguineous south Indian families with Leber congenital amaurosis and retinitis pigmentosa using homozygosity

mapping'.

Head of Sankara Nethralaya's niche department chosen to spearhead Australia's initiatives to promote bilateral relationship with the South Asia region



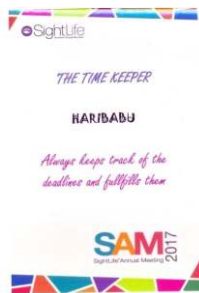
Jameel Rizwana Husaindeen- Head of Sankara Nethralaya's Binocular Vision Clinic and Lecturer, Elite School of Optometry was honoured with the highly prestigious 'Australia Award –Endavour Ambassador' Australian High

Commission, New Delhi, to foster bilateral relations between Australia and the South Asia region through collaborative education and research programs.

A path breaking study into the 'Second biggest' cause of blindness in the country!

While the fact that 'cataract' is the single largest cause for vision impairment in the country is now fairly common knowledge, not many would perhaps be aware that vision impairment caused due to failed cataract surgeries or post operative complications is the second largest contributor for the same! a disturbing fact that Dr SS.Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus and Founder Sankara Nethralaya often highlights in his talks, much to the amazement of the audience.

'Cataract Catalyst' – A course in the Management of Complications in Cataract Surgery' opened to a packed audience at the ITC Grand Chola, Chennai on the 29th of April 2017. The event gave an opportunity for surgeons from different ophthalmic specialties share the challenges they faced in performing cataract surgeries on patients with complications not directly related to cataract but nevertheless posing an issue to a successful cataract



The pioneer in children's eye screening reiterates its position of leadership with a path breaking study

Jameel Rizwana Husaindeen - Head of Sankara Nethralaya's Binocular Vision Clinic and Lecturer, Elite School of Optometry, its premium education arm which specializes in eye screening for children was awarded a Doctorate by BITS Pilani, for her insightful study throwing new light on vision anomalies among children and solutions to the same titled 'Binocular vision anomalies and normative data (BAND) of binocular vision parameters among school children between 7 – 17 years of age in rural and urban Tamil Nadu'.



A large scale study and its startling revelations win high recognition for faculty member of ESO

A first of its kind, large scale study on the detrimental impact of ultra violet rays on the human eye, titled 'Quantification of ocular ultraviolet-B radiation exposure in a south Indian population and its association with ocular surface disorders, pseudo-exfoliation, cataract and age related macular degeneration' by Rashima Asokan, faculty member, ESO was awarded with a doctorate by BITS, Pilani.



removal and IOL implantation process. The most important part of the session 'Navigating turbulent waters – Masters to the rescue' was the screening of challenging cases by individual surgeons and suggestions and solutions to overcome the same. The two day event turned out to be a great learning experience, thanks to the vast exposure to diverse complications in cataract surgery.

Flagship of Sankara Nethralaya’s community ophthalmology receives high praise from the State’s ‘First citizen’



The setting for the celebration of a significant milestone of a service meant to serve patients in the deep interiors of the country was most appropriate. The valedictory function of the 50th surgical camp by the Mobile Eye Surgical Unit (MESU) was not being held in an auditorium/ hotel in the city but at a simple highway motel on the tiny hamlet of Sappanipatti, on the Krishnagiri – Salem highway in the State of Tamil Nadu. The highway and tiny hamlets after all had become their home away from home for the MESU team and crossing milestones on the road everyday on the way to setting new ‘Milestones’ in vision revival and blindness prevention in remote regions of the country had become their noble quest for the past 6 years. ‘

Among the earliest to arrive at the venue Dr SS.Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus, Sankara Nethralaya got the event started on an impromptu note even before it began formally. He engaged in a friendly interaction with the villagers assembled, explaining to them in simple terms the ‘why’, ‘what’ and ‘how’ of MESU, he thanked them for their faith in Sankara Nethralaya which made them turn up in good numbers and for the opportunity to serve them. A man to whom quality was everything, he enquired with concern to the beneficiaries if they were happy with everything about the camp or if there was scope for improvement.

The relevance of MESU in combating rural blindness can be gauged by the fact that none other than the Governor of the State, His Excellency Shri Banwarilal Purohit, was presiding over the function as the chief guest and the district collector, senior bureaucrats from the health ministry, a senior official from the District Blindness Prevention Program (DBCP), a Dean and Head of the Department, from the IIT-Madras and Head Human Resource and Corporate Social Responsibility - L&T Technology services, were in attendance.

The ‘Temple of the Eye’ celebrates the ‘spirit of giving’ with great aplomb!



There could not be a more momentous occasion to an institution and its Founder ingrained with the quality of gratitude and reciprocity than acknowledging the deeds and honouring the great men and women who have empathized with its cause and made it what it is today. The Sankara Ratna and Dr MS.Subbulakshmi awarding ceremony being held at the stately Rajendra hall at the ITC Grand Chola on the 27th of January 2018 reflected this in no small measure.

The awarding ceremony was a spell binder with interesting, inspiring and amazing glimpses of the day’s awardees and the celebrities assembled to honour them, flowing as a steady stream. Less known, inspiring, moving facts like the deep commitment of Sankara Ratna awardee Shri Deepak Parekh, the voice of corporate India, to the values of humility, accessibility, accountability and transparency. Dr.MS.Subbulakshmi award winner Srimathi Vani Jairam’s warm note on her experiences with MS Amma after whom the award she was receiving is named, the rich compliments she received for her manner of singing from the immortal, legend. The evening also marked the dedication of the Dr BR Barwale centre for ophthalmic technology and innovation, which would focus on developing and implementing technologies to enhance reach and quality of eye care to the masses.

Pontiff of the 'Sri Raghavendra Swamy Matha' showers his blessings on Sankara Nethralaya, for following the Saint's teachings through cost free eye care dispensed at his abode



Patients operated at the MESU camp at Mantralaya

It was a moment of great honour and joy to an institution committed to bringing the joy and vision back into the face of the visually impaired, when it was presented with a divine opportunity to alleviate the pain and suffering of the indigent visually impaired at the sanctified abode of a great saint and seer who lived a life of service and dedicated himself to providing relief and succour to the masses.

The Mobile Eye Surgical team's dedicated and compassionate service at the holy abode of Swamy Raghavendra won the blessings of His Holiness Sri Subudhendra Teertha Swami Galu, the Peetadhipathi of Sri Raghavendra Swami Matha, Mantralayam, on the entire Sankara Nethralaya family.



Date: 27.09.2017

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Herewith the eternal blessings of Sri Raghavendra Swamy and His Holiness Sri Subudhendra Teertha Swamiji on you and yours "Shankar Netralaya" family.

I have been directed by His Holiness Sri Swamiji to put on record that His Holiness Sri Swamiji has felt immensely happy for the exemplary services rendered by Shankar Netralaya at Mantralayam under your able leadership and guidance from 17.09.2017 to 27.09.2017 by launching a mega free eye camp (at T.T.D Kalyanamantapam, Sri Raghavendra Swamy Mutt, Mantralayam). It is also pertinent to place on record that the committed and dedicated services rendered by your team of Doctors are praise worthy. You have put your all efforts in ensuring that the surgical services will have total perfection by arranging very costly infrastructural vehicles at Eye camp.

It is the profound desire of His Holiness Sri Swamiji that Shankar Netralaya free services to the needy & poor patients shall reach throughout the country and that Sri Raghavendra Swamiji's blessings will always be with you and your team in this holy endeavour.

We put on record the details of free Eye camp conducted by your team of Doctors as per details attached to this letter of appreciation.

(By Order of His Holiness Sri Swamiji)

[Signature]
27/09/17
MANAGER

To
Dr. Badrinath,
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Sankara Nethralaya makes a very special gift to a segment most close to its heart, on a day celebrating the spirit of childhood!



Paediatric and children's eye care has always had a very special place in Sankara Nethralaya's endeavours towards eliminating blindness. The institution is credited as a pioneer and active player in this branch of ophthalmology, having developed special protocols in the diagnosis and treatment of children and has a large facility exclusively dedicated to treating children. As an institution with a firm belief that preventive eye care is the best form of avoiding blindness, it is well aware that detection/diagnosis and treatment in childhood is a major step in this direction, as eye ailments like most other health issues can be better diagnosed and treated at their early stages. The institution made a very special gift to the segment close to its heart on the 14th of November 2017, being celebrated as 'Children's Day' with a revolutionary solution to 'Myopia' or near sightedness, a refractive ailment which is the cause for a disturbingly high percent of vision impairment in this group.

'Myopin' a highly effective and proven drug which could delay the onset and progression of 'Myopia' among children between 6-12 years was formally launched in India by Dr TS.Surendran, a veteran of Paediatric ophthalmology and Vice Chairman, Sankara Nethralaya. Interestingly the drug whose generic name is 'Atropine' is being used with a good degree of success in Singapore and parts of South East Asia, but is still not common in the advanced West. The drug to be launched was subjected to stringent tests for efficacy and safety under a study termed 'ATOM' (Atropine for the treatment of childhood myopia) by leading institutions like AIIMS etc. It is noteworthy to mention here that the drug which was available largely as a compound which was formulated on the spot is being successfully developed as a ready to administer drug and launched in India, thanks to the strong encouragement and initiative taken by Dr Meenakshi Swaminathan, Senior Consultant at the Paediatric ophthalmology department and Director-Academics, Sankara Nethralaya.

A Karmayogi enthral his audience with his observations on the lesser known qualities of a 'Mahayogi'



The rendition of the invocation, a 'Pradosham' mantra in Hindustani by Dr.Sruthi Sridharan captured the universality of the Sage whose Aradhana was being observed by the institution which owes everything to his grace. Dr Meenakshi Swaminathan, Senior Consultant, Pediatric ophthalmology department and Director academics, Sankara Nethralaya introduced the star speaker of the day with a touch of nostalgia, she recapped the most memorable 'Saturday afternoon' in her life when she and every other member in the gathering were mesmerized by the eloquence, authority and knowledge of the speaker giving his brief on 'quality', an enlightening afternoon after which her perception of 'quality' was never the same!

The word 'Karmayogi' as we all know denotes a person who discharges his duties to the best of his conscience and does so without expecting rewards for his actions, we felt that there cannot be a more appropriate description of a man who had dedicated himself to enhancement of quality in every sphere of Sankara Nethralaya, a dedication which reflects in its everyday functioning and acknowledgement of the same by prestigious external bodies, a man who worked most conscientiously towards his goal of 'Total Quality Management' with devotion and ownership and above all without any expectation of rewards or remuneration.

The Professor Emeritus, IFMR and world renowned quality Guru started his talk on a note that he will deviate from the time honoured tradition of recalling the divinity of Mahaswami on his Aradhana by sharing touching stories of his divine intervention which brought relief from pain and relief to the sick, moving instances when his grace saved his bhakthas from danger and death. He chose instead to speak on the 'human' side of the Sage who is a human avatar of God.

The next one hour witnessed the inimitable narration of how the God who lived among us could effortlessly equate himself with the common man, his sharp intellect and understanding of topics seemingly out of his purview, his compassion which came as a ray of hope to those who had lost all hopes, his sense of humour which could drive home a point in lighter vein and without any rancour. The audience were amazed at a man who would stand up and own a failing in all humility, a man who refused to be intimidated or provoked when attempts were made to make him loose his composure. The human perspective of Mahaperiyava came as a great gift to the bhakthas attending the aradhana, it was an evening which would remain green in the minds of everyone who had the privilege of listening to the Master.

Landmark collaboration between nation's premier optometry institution and a highly respected seat of academics and research promises to take Optometry to its next level

The 7th of June 2017 marked a giant stride for the art and science of optometry, the critical study of light and refraction and its impact on vision, as the Shanmugha Arts, Science, Technology and Research Academy, Thanjavur the premium arts and technology institution popularly known as SASTRA and the Elite School of Optometry (ESO) the academic arm of Sankara Nethralaya, credited as the pioneer and exclusive research and study center for this niche field, entered into an important academic collaboration under which the two institutions would be offering the 4 year Bachelor in Optometry course and two year Master in Optometry courses jointly. As per the understanding finalized between the two institutions, students pursuing their undergraduate program would spend the first two years of their program at SASTRA and the remaining 2 years at the Elite School of Optometry.



The collaboration marks the coming together of two institutions with a common passion for excellence in academics, adherence to stringent quality parameters, constant innovation, research and high ethical standards and would facilitate a synergy of their areas of strength and expertise which would translate into a greater learning experience and exposure for the students and a deeper study of the science of Optometry. The collaboration promises to fulfill the dream of Dr. S.S.Badrinath to take Optometry to its next level in the country by enhancing its scope and impact which would enable technology driven health care, accessible and affordable to the common man.

A poignant evening when purity of thought and purity of action took centre stage



It was a solemn evening at the Sri VD.Swami auditorium as a large number of members of the Sankara Nethraya family including its Chairman Emeritus assembled to thank, honour and recall the services of one of the Institution's oldest friends and a generous supporter of its academic endeavours. Speaking on the occasion Dr HN.Madhavan, Director, Department of Microbiology, KNBIRVO recalled with gratitude the large donation made by Shri Iravatham Mahadevan, 13 years ago which became the seed funding for the Vidyasagar Institute for Research in Biomedical Science (VIBS) named in memory of his beloved son. This was followed by a detailed account of the activities and achievements of each of the research divisions coming

under the purview of VIBS, by Dr Lily Therese, HOD& Professor, Department of Microbiology, which she described as a fitting tribute to Late Shri Iravatham Vidyasagar, on his 60th birth anniversary being observed on the day.

Starting his address in Tamil as a mark of his acknowledgement to the yeoman service to Tamil and achievements of the distinguished guest and Tamil Scholar, Dr SS.Badrinath expressed his sincere thanks to the teachers of VIBS for their high academic standards and sincerity. Citing the support of VIBS by Shri Iravatham Mahadevan as a classic example of 'Pure Money' supporting a 'Pure Cause' renowned crusader for integrity and probity in public life Shri S.Gurumoorthy explained in his characteristic style the advice given to him by the Mahaswami and his words of wisdom on 'Pure Money' supporting pure causes. Speaking on the occasion an overwhelmed Shri Iravatham Mahadevan expressed that he was too moved for words, he shared his emotions with a quote from the Gita ' I shall remember this day again and again and feel exhilarated every time I think of this day'. In a highly touching gesture the octogenarian made yet another contribution to the institution which fulfilled his dream and acted as a glorious tribute to his son.

The Corneal Services Department at the Sri A Sivasailam Block assumes the name of a great friend and supporter



The 14th of February 2017 witnessed a glorious exhibition of compassion, generosity and the spirit of giving as the members of the SriSrimal family which owns and operates Medisales Corporation, among the most well known pharmaceutical manufacturers and distribution chain in the country gathered at the second floor of the Sri A.Sivasailam block housing the 'Cornea Services Department' being named after their founder Shri Parasmal SriSrimal, an entrepreneur with a spirit to give back to society; honouring the late philanthropist and visionary by naming an entire floor housing a critical facility at the new block was Sankara Nethralaya's gesture of gratitude and reciprocation to his son Shri Narendra Srisrimal and his family's generous donation made towards supporting the creation of the same. A solemn function was organized in the divine presence of His Holiness Gachapathi Jainacharya Sri Nityananda Surishwarji Maharaj to mark the event.

The auspicious function began with the rendering of the Mangalcharan by the spiritual Guru which was followed by a melodious invocation by members of the Srisrimal family Smt Vanitha Srisrimal and Smt Preethi SriSrimal. Dr Ananth Badrinath, expressed the institution's humble pranams and extended a cordial welcome to the Saints on behalf of Dr SS Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus, Sankara Nethralaya. Dr KS. Vasan, Managing Director, Sankara Nethralaya, expressed the institution's gratitude to the munificence of the SriSrimal family and expressed that he looked forward to a long term partnership in service with them.

The Department of Orbit, Oculoplasty, Aesthetic and Reconstructive services moves to a spacious, well laid out clinic at the Sankara Nethralaya main campus



The Oculoplasty clinic engaged in giving a face lift to its patients got itself an aesthetically designed, customized work place at the 2nd floor of the Sri V.Ramanatha Iyer block at the Sankara Nethralaya main campus on the 15th of December 2017. The shift to a larger premises was necessitated by the department's increasing infrastructure, man power and to provide room for a larger patient base. The inaugural got off with the cutting of the ribbon by Dr Nirmala Subramanian, Emeritus Professor and senior consultant at the department in the presence of Dr SS.Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus, members of senior management and staff. The veteran highlighted the role of her department in reducing trauma of accident victims and pain suffered during the post-operative period and providing moral support to patients by reducing physical deformity through transplanting of artificial eyes and other processes.

This was followed by hearty congratulations and good wishes to the new facility and its chief architect Dr Nirmala Subramanian by Dr SS.Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus, Dr Girish Shiva Rao, Medical Director, Srimathi Akila Ganesan, Director-Administration and consultants Dr Suganeswari, Dr Shikha Bassi, Dr S.Krishna Kumar, Head of the Pathology department, Dr Vathsalya Vijay, Fellow at the department. Every speaker had a high word of praise for the critical services being provided by the department, the contributions of Dr Nirmala Subramanian to its inception and growth and her passion which resulted in the new facility, the need to pursue research in the field and seek government funding for the same.

Sankara Nethralaya expresses its gratitude and pays glowing tribute to a departed friend

There was an air of solemnity at the lounge of the imposing MAHYCO block housing the consultant chambers and wards of the Sankara Nethralaya main hospital on the morning of Tuesday, the 25th of July 2017, as a highly moved Dr SS.Badrinath Founder & Chairman Emeritus, Dr Vasanthi Badrinath Director, Clinical and Laboratory services, members of the senior management, consultants and employees assembled in good numbers to pay their tribute and homage to the great man after whose institution 'Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Corporation' (MAHYCO) the block was named. It was an emotionally charged day as Dr SS Badrinath, Dr Vasanthi Badrinath, Dr TS Surendran, Vice-Chairman, Dr S.Bhaskaran, Head Physician, Dr Vineet Rathra, Senior Consultant and Dr Girish Shiva Rao, Medical Director, Sankara Nethralaya recalled the glorious days of Shri B.R.Barwale's initial exposure to the institution, his deep admiration of its services and his passionate association with it for the rest of his life.



Paying their tributes to the departed soul and expressing their condolence to his family, the senior management members described Shri Barwale as a great friend, supporter, advisor and well wisher whose absence would be an irreparable loss to the institution. They recalled their wonderful experiences and indelible memories of a man full of humour and warmth, a man who played the role of a perfect host whenever they visited his home town. They shared interesting snippets from the life of a multifaceted man; a visionary who rose from humble beginnings as a small time vendor of seeds to become a key contributor and player in the nation's much admired 'Green Revolution' which evolved the nation from one which imported food grains to meet its shortage, to an exporter of its surplus production, a man who was as large hearted as he was entrepreneurial. Dr SS.Badrinath recalled the wonderful Carnatic music concert of singing legend Dr M.S.Subbulakshmi organized by the institution at Jalna on his request and the very special gesture of having an authentic south Indian meal prepared by south Indian cooks for MS Amma and Shri Sadasivam by the Barwales and how the hosts took great pleasure in personally serving the same to the noble couple. Dr Vasanthi Badrinath recalled escorting Shri Barwale around the hospital and his keen observation of each of its activities and facilities, little realizing that he was gauging if it was an institution worthy of his support, a point reinforced by Dr Girish Shiva Rao's observation that the great philanthropist was very practical when it came to choosing his beneficiaries and supported only those who exhibited their own faith and involvement in the activity they were seeking support for, by investing a good portion of their resources. The poignant day ended with members of the institution paying floral tributes to Shri Barwale's portrait and praying for his soul to rest in peace.

The Sankara Nethralaya family bids a most befitting and emotional farewell to one of its stalwarts!



The evening of Saturday the 4th of November 2017 is sure to go down in Sankara Nethralaya's collective memory as one of its most poignant moments, the institution was bidding farewell to one of its oldest 'warriors' against blindness and members of the Sankara Nethralaya family from across disciplines and levels had gathered in good numbers to pay their tribute and bid goodbye to its 7th oldest employee, a man who personified dedication, sincerity and humility in his 33 years of glorious service. It was a fascinating journey down the times as speaker after speaker shared their experiences with him, their recollections bringing out the innovator, scientist, teacher, team player and the warm and humble human being that Dr Ian Sundararajan, fondly referred to as ISR was perceived by them. Program presenter Dr Sonali Raman, Senior Consultant, department of anaesthesiology gave the proceedings a vibrant start with her exuberant observation that the

period that Dr ISR was associated with Sankara Nethralaya could be called the golden era of anaesthesiology, she captured the involvement and spirit of the man who had made Sankara Nethralaya his first home for 33 long years with a most touching couplet.

Senior Consultant and Medical Director Dr Girish Shiva Rao observed that Dr ISR left an indelible mark on whatever he did, with his innovations and resourcefulness, which were nothing short of sensational. Dr TS.Surendran, Vice-Chairman and Director of Pediatric ophthalmology began his talk with a note that it would be impossible to capture all of what he called the 'Treasures' of his association with Dr ISR and that he would recall just a few of them. Delivering his acceptance speech a visibly moved Dr ISR started on a highly emotive note that he would serve in Sankara Nethralaya if he were to be born again, he expressed his sincere thanks to Dr SS.Badrinath whom he described as the moving force behind starting and developing ophthalmic anaesthesia as a specialty in India, when it was still unheard of in most eye care centres. He expressed his happiness on the decision to resign from government service and join Sankara Nethralaya that he had taken years ago, as he would have gone unnoticed if he had not done so.

Revelations on a shrouded area of paediatric ophthalmology shocks audience at prestigious endowment lecture



The Nagamani Dharmapuri Endowment Lecture, the prestigious discourse on paediatric ophthalmology opened at the Sri VD.Swami Auditorium with Dr. Vidya Jain, Fellow at the Pediatric ophthalmology department extending a warm welcome to keynote speaker Dr Alex Levin, Chief, Pediatric Ophthalmology & Ocular Genetics, Wills Eye Institute, Philadelphia, USA, and esteemed delegates Dr S.Maheswari, Director, Regional Institute of Ophthalmology and Govt ophthalmology hospital, Chennai and Dr. Bala Ramachandran, HOD, Pediatric Intensive Care, Kanchi Kamakoti Child Trust Hospital, Chennai and Dr Mohan Rajan, Founder and Chairman, Rajan's Eye care,

Speaking on the occasion Dr Kavitha Kalaivani Natarajan, Senior Consultant at the Pediatric Ophthalmology department,

Sankara Nethralaya briefed the audience on the excellent services offered at the department, with impressive statistics, she highlighted the academic endeavours of the department, underlining that a Fellowship in Pediatric ophthalmology at Sankara Nethralaya is a most sought after specialization by ophthalmologists from all over the country.

Dr Alex Levin began his oration with an adulatory reference to the host institution and its founder, he described Sankara Nethralaya as a 'famous place' known for its high standards and service and Dr SS.Badrinath as a man who had done unbelievable work. He had a high word of praise for his student Dr Vikas Khetan who according to him stood apart as a physician's physician. He began his oration on the rather unconventional area of Pediatric ophthalmology titled 'Non-accidental trauma in children' with an alarming account of various kinds of child abuse with chilling examples, he shocked the audience with his observation that 40% of children all over the world undergo some kind of physical or emotional abuse, he highlighted that only a multidisciplinary team consisting of paediatricians, paediatric ophthalmologists and child psychologists can effectively tackle the issue. Speaking on the occasion Dr. Bala Ramachandran expressed with a sense of anxiety that medical professionals in India are not trained in recognizing child abuse, the lecture concluded with Dr S.Maheswari's observation that the evening gave an opportunity to interact with great minds.

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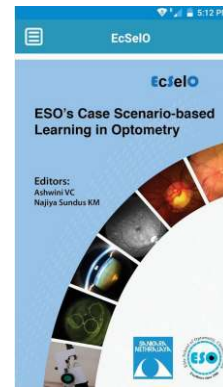


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