

# Amici News

September  
2011



From AIFO Project, Assisi, March 2004

*Love is sharing others feelings:*

*Raoul Follereau*



## *News Letter is it a Formality or a Necessity?*

*We News letter Editorial team take time to get these news letters published for a purpose, a purpose to share and while doing so a crucial activity would be feedback, without which we would never improve ourselves. It will be important at this point of time to impress you all that we are not professionals in this field, and yet took up the responsibility to publish, with a wish for sure that there will be improvement in our performance.*

*During recent times we made a small analysis to find out whether our News Letters are reaching the target? Well, it did reach! and then the next step was to find out whether it served the purpose? The conclusion was not encouraging at all, and we could not get any explanation. When asked what could we do to improve - some faint answer was, language problem since the newsletter was made in English.*

*Editorial Team*



Dr. Rajan Babu and Dr. Manimozhi visited Kurnool district twice (Between 1st to 2nd June and 18th to 21st June) to carry out Feasibility study looking into possibilities of supporting the District NLEP, NGO's operating in the area and Kurnool Medical College.

The tools for the study were introduced to the Intern's who carried out need assessments from the Persons affected by leprosy from Kallur block, field visits to Urban health centres and PHC's were carried out. Interviews with the Principal, General Hospital Superintendent, District health Officer and Heads of Departments of various disciplines. Field visit to Parla - Primary Health Centre - operated by Kurnool Medical College. There are plenty of opportunities available to provide support the Department to carry out a Model CBR strategic programme - with leprosy inclusion.

Dr. Manimozhi made a brief presentation about the needs of Persons affected by Leprosy and how CBR strategies could provide opportunities for improved quality of life.

A Call and a need: There is always a call from the Medical College to extend support for training specially for the Intern's Posted to the Department, in the field of Leprosy and CBR.

This is the second batch undergoing training during the current year. The Principal Dr. Bhavani Prasad and the Head of the Department - Community Medicine Dr. Sreedevi extend all cooperation for these activities.



One among the three papers presented by the Interns at RIMS (Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences - Kadapa Andhra Pradesh): a product due to Feasibility study which was possible and a good effort by the Community Medicine Department - Kurnool Medical College.

#### STUDY ON MEDICAL NEEDS OF THE PERSONS AFFECTED BY LEPROSY

**G.T.S.Karthik, M.Bharanidharan, B.S.Sindhu, B.Sandhya, Dr.A.SREEDEVI, Dr.RAMACHANDRA RAO, Dr.RAJAN, Dr.Manimozhi.**

A study was conducted to assess the patient's needs in the community with the help of **Dept. Of Community Medicine, KMC, Kurnool** and **AIFO**, by the **Intern's posted in the department**

### **Three days Workshop at NOIDA- 21st to 24th June 2011:**

The Central Leprosy Division - Govt of India and WHO organized an important DPMR workshop to streamline and develop a guideline for NLEP. Experts from Government and Non- Government agencies participated in the Programme. During the three days workshop issues related to difficulties in organizing DPMR activities and development of strategies were discussed and a guideline was developed. Dr. Manimozhi from AIFO participated in this workshop.

### **Members Meet**

**The Leprosy Mission, Fontilles, AIFO and LEPRAsociety members met** (12th to 15th June 2011) at Bhuvanewar to develop a document to be presented at the Newer Strategies- for NLEP workshop to be held at Hyderabad. The referral System in Orissa NLEP is one of the successful Referral systems established with support from ILEP in the state.



### **Project Visit**

#### **Kollapur, Mahboob Nagar Andhra Pradesh: 17th to 22nd August**

*Installation of computers to train the project beneficiaries:*

The CBR beneficiaries expressed their view to get trained in this field - which would help them in their livelihood. The Staff were trained in basic principles and maintenance of computers by Mr. Nyjil George. Project programmes were supervised and necessary feedback was provided. This project too is reeling under diminishing expertise in Leprosy, and while CBR workers had to be motivated to include leprosy into their activities.

The project was been asked to list out all the known living cases treated at the centre well ahead - and a check list for need assessment prepared in collaboration with Kurnool Medical College, was briefed. The staff will be carrying out this activity and once it is analyzed the next intervention actions will be initiated.

On job training: Split's application (Pop Cast) and management of reactions was demonstrated to the Sisters in-charge of leprosy programme.



## NGO Role in Assam, Establishing Referral System

There is an urgent need of development of Referral System in Assam to carryout complication management, Ulcer care and supply of footwear. As a strategy to utilize resources available Catholic Mission Hospital – Bargang, Tezpur District/Assam, as the local people call it, know for its services in providing health care to all neighboring districts. The hospital Administration had shown its interest to participate in NLEP activities. They have a very committed surgeon willing to get trained and conduct Leprosy-Reconstructive Surgery. AIFO is planning to support the institution in carrying out Leprosy related activities with more focus on Capacity Building, Footwear Centre and Reconstructive surgery – basically to operate as an Secondary/Tertiary level Referral Centre.



*Assam ILEP Coordinator's team at an interior village of Tezpur district bordering Arunachal Pradesh*

Mr. Jose, Dr. Manimozhi, made a visit (7th- 12th June 2011) to the district along with Assam ILEP Coordinator Dr. Diren Dass, Mr. Mahato Physio-technician and Dr. Tiad the State Surveillance Medical Officer. A meeting was held at the Catholic Mission Hospital along with the District Leprosy Officer, Dr. Atul Sikia and his District Nucleus team to discuss logistics in initiating the system.

### **A follow up visit to Meghalaya made by Dr. Manimozhi**

During the visit NLEP status in the state discussed with Dr. Lanong SLO Meghalaya along with a field visit to Mr. Nitish Roy's house. It was found that the motorised sewing machine had improved his socio-economical / health status. The plantar ulcer on his right foot had improved. Dr. Lanong had expressed his desire to improve rehabilitation programme for all the patients who deserve them.



*Dr. Atul Saikia, SLO, Tezpur*

Sisters from the Catholic Mission Hospital - They carter General Health services to these areas - (house belongs to a Person affected by leprosy) receiving health services from the centre.



*Dr. Lanong with Mr. Nitish Roy at his residence.*





**Quality improvement under NLEP through Newer Approaches: July 4 – 8th 2011 Hyderabad.**

With the approval of Central Leprosy Division- Government of India under the leadership of Dr.C.M.Agrawal, ILEP was able to organize this important much awaited workshop at Hyderabad. There where participation from NLEP Partners such as WHO, IDEA, Sasakawa Memorial Foundation, ALERT - India,SLO's, DLO's and all ILEP partners operating in India. The Key facilitator Mr. Jose, Brand an Organizational Psychologist facilitated the workshop. The Additional Director General - health Services, Govt. of India Dr. Jagadish Prasad, Dy. Director General (L)Dr. C.M.Agrawal , Andhra Pradesh State Health Secretary Dr. Ramesh IAS, Director Health Services Dr. S.Aruna Kumari, Dr. Barua WHO and Dr, Noordeen graced the inauguration session. The programme took off with all seriousness looking at various aspects to develop new strategies in implementing the programme. Mr. Jose and Dr. Manimozhi from AIFO participated in the workshop



The recommendations from this workshop was crucial since it would help the authorities to include in the forth coming National Five Year Plan.

### **Expertise development programme:**

It is a constant urgent need to develop expertise in the field of leprosy which is almost a phenomena experienced every where. Most of the leprosy -senior experienced staff had retired and the new recruits turn over is extensive which is causing a concern.

## CBR Introduction to Kurnool Medical College

30<sup>th</sup> May 2011 Kurnool Medical Collage, Kurnool District. AndhraPradesh



Community Medicine Department: Following formal discussions with the Principal, Prof Dr. Sreedevi a programme to sensitise the faculty, Post –Graduates, Intern's (a total of about 55 participants) of the department was initiated. The prime aim to explain CBR as a strategy sharing AIFO experiences was carried out by Dr. Jayanth Kumar, while Dr.Parthipan, Physiotherapist demonstrated basic Physiotherapy techniques to the participants.



Dr.Ramachandra Rao DCS,KMC had always been a friend of AIFO helping in carrying out Leprosy related activities. He had earlier worked as Medical Officer –Leprosy referral centre Government General Hospital – Kurnool.

## Mandya CBR staff training about conducting research on SHG and DPO

The SPARK CBR research team in AIFO at TRDC SRMAB organized 16 to 19th August 2011.

MOB and SRMAB Staff (coordinator and CBR Workers) participated in the programme. Dr. Maya Thomas (Scientific supervisor for third phase of SPARK research), Dr. Jayanth Kumar and Dr. Parthipan were the main facilitators for the programme.

The main objective of the training is to strengthen capacity of staff of two research partner organizations (SRMAB and MOB) for facilitating field research on SHG and DPO/federations in Mandya and Ramnagar districts. Participatory learning methods such as presentations and discussions, brainstorming, questions and answers, group work and discussions, social games etc have been used to facilitate the different sessions. At the end of the training staff of both the projects separately prepared their individual plans for carrying out the field research activities of SHG and DPO in Mandya district.

## Zonal Level Basic Physiotherapy Training

AIFO in collaboration with ORBIT, 11 to 16 July 2011 at Humnabad ORBIT, Bidar district



The idea of conducting this basic physiotherapy workshop initiated by Mr. Jose with the view of decided to organize the workshop in ORBIT, Bidar. Three more AIFO supported project in north Karnataka also invited for the training programme.

Facilitators: Dr. Parthipan, , Dr. Manimozhi, and Dr. Jayanth Kumar,

A total participants of 21 (Male 7 and Female 14), 5 from Mudhol, 8 from ORBIT, 3 from Raichur and 5 from H.B Halli projects.

### **Learning objective of physiotherapy training programme:**

To understand basic physiotherapy methods/techniques such strengthening / stretching exercise Hemiplegia, Spinal cord injury, Cerebral palsy, Leprosy prevention of secondary complication in disabling conditions

To learn and practice the basic physiotherapy skills for disabling conditions, practice the transfer of skill to care givers /parents

### **Methodology used:**

The training was planned such a way where the participant can be enriched with theoretical and practical aspect of basic physiotherapy. The training methods include lecture, demonstration, participatory discussion, group discussion, practical's, care giver training by CBR workers and practice with real person with various physical disability.





## A training programme on CBR/Leprosy

July 12th and 13th 2011, Humnabad-Bidar - Orbit Centre.

AIFO projects from Raichur, HB halli-Bellary, Mudhol, Balki-Bidar attended. The main thrust was in identifying early disabilities among leprosy patients. It was all new from the most of the workers who attended the programme since they had no prior exposure to Leprosy training programme. Participatory approaches - during training programme to identify the crucial Psycho-Social needs: Fr. Bapu organized the programme in his centre providing all facilities to conduct the training - while also participating very actively in training too.



## Leprosy study training under SPARK CBR research

On 9<sup>th</sup> of September, one day training on leprosy study was organized at MOB Mandya by the SPARK research team in India. Para Medical staff of MOB, Other Coordinators of Malavalli and MOB (MOB CBR workers) participated in the training programme. Mr. Jose, Dr. Parthipan and Dr. Jayanth facilitated the sessions. The main Objective of the training is to prepare Para Medical Workers for sensory testing, data collection of selected persons with disability from the Phase I of SPARK and to plan the field study activities with all the Taluk coordinators. Discussions, Demonstrations, Group work and presentations are the learning methods applied by the facilitators while facilitating the different sessions.



*Feel the Pain....Leprosy awareness programme at Sumanahalli*

# AIFO GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION

5<sup>th</sup> November 2011



Venue: - Kannada Bhavan, J.C.Road, Bangalore, India

You are cordially invited to attend and GRACE  
the occasion of AIFO's golden jubilee  
celebrations

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