



## PRASANT'S MESSAGE

Dear colleagues, partners, and friends,

This quarter has been an inspiring and eventful one for LEpra Society, marked by collaboration, recognition, and growth. The One LEpra Partnership Review (July 2025) brought together Lepra UK, LEpra Society, and Lepra Bangladesh, strengthening our coordination and shared vision under the 2024–30 Global Strategy. We are deeply honored to have received the United Nations World Health Organization Award in Colombo for our work in Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) and disability inclusion a proud moment that celebrates the dedication and collective effort of our entire team. Adding to this momentum, we secured a new research grant from Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) focusing on non-Tuberculosis mycobacterial infections, opening new avenues for innovation and advancement in public health.

A heartfelt contribution came from Mrs. Navita Naresh Bhumarkar, who donated land in Betul for the establishment of a new referral center in Madhya Pradesh an inspiring gesture that will expand our service reach and strengthen our community impact.

We also celebrated our first-ever Daan Utsav, symbolizing the spirit of giving and togetherness across our teams, followed by World Sight Day celebrations emphasizing eye health and community outreach. The quarter concluded on a joyful note with Deepavali celebrations at the Head Office, spreading light, positivity, and unity across the organization.

## IMPACT STORY

### Restoring Confidence and Health – Trilochan Gaadaba Journey

Rekha Devi, a 49-year-old woman from Hardimo village in Jitjingo Panchayat, Khaira Block, Bihar had been living with Grade IV Lymphatic Filariasis for several years. The disease had caused severe swelling in her limbs, recurrent infections, and extreme discomfort, making even simple daily activities painful and limiting her ability to run her small grocery shop.

#### Challenge Faced

Rekha's condition led to frequent acute attacks, skin irritation, and pain while walking. The chronic swelling and infections not only affected her physically but also caused emotional distress and social isolation, as she struggled to participate in community life.

#### LEpra Society's Intervention

At the ASPIRE Jamui Referral Centre, Bihar. Rekha received counselling, self-care training, and self-care kit. Most importantly, she was provided with specially designed Ethylene-Vinyl Acetate (EVA) footwear that helped reduce friction, pain, and swelling while preventing new infections. The intervention restored her mobility and confidence, enabling her to reopen her grocery shop and reconnect with her community. Rekha's story reflects how LEpra Society's holistic care approach restores not just health, but dignity and hope.





## ANDHRA PRADESH

- A school awareness programme was conducted at Palloti High School, Pedana, Students were taught about Leprosy, LF, and TB.
- Self-care kits and footwear were distributed in Hanuman Nagar Colony with local donor support, and a DPMR (Disability Prevention and Medical Rehabilitation) camp was held at the DLO Office, Krishna District.
- MMDP (Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention) and clinic support camps benefited persons affected by leprosy and HIV, including nutrition and livelihood support through contributions from Ramco Cements, Tenali Double Horse Foundation, and KCP Limited.
- Additionally, higher education and livelihood cheques were distributed to beneficiaries, and foster care support was extended to 15 CLHIV (Children Living with HIV).



## Assam

- Our outreach workers in Panitola distributed self-care kits and demonstrated proper usage to individuals affected by ulcers, promoting better self-care and improved wellbeing.
- In collaboration with the District Leprosy Office, an Active Case Detection (ACD) drive and health camp were held in Tinsukia, offering free leprosy screening and medical check-ups to over 100 beneficiaries.



## BIHAR

- Global Handwashing Day was celebrated at Utkramit Madhya Vidyalay, Kalyanpur (Samastipur) with students, teachers, and Jagruti staff promoting hygiene to prevent Leprosy and Lymphatic Filariasis (LF). A live demo, slogan writing, and pledges reinforced hand hygiene awareness.
- During the Leprosy Case Detection Campaign (LCDC), a pocket-sized leaflet for Community-Based Groups (CBGs) was introduced.
- Information, Education & Communication (IEC) van was flagged off by the Civil Surgeon in Jamui.
- Door-to-door visits were conducted to identify leprosy cases and spread awareness on symptoms and free treatment, resulting in confirmed cases and strengthened community participation.
- A cleanliness and awareness event was organised on Gandhi Jayanti, highlighting the importance of hygiene, early detection, and inclusion in the prevention of Leprosy and Lymphatic Filariasis (LF).
- A Self Support Group (SSG) meeting was held to strengthen community participation and awareness on Leprosy and LF. Members learned about entitlements like Unique Disability ID (UDID) cards, disability pensions, and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), and pledged to continue awareness and support efforts.



## CHHATTISGARH

- In coordination with the Bakawand Block Medical Officer (BMO) team, consultations and nerve function assessments were carried out for persons affected by leprosy.
- New reaction and Nerve Function Impairment (NFI) cases were identified, and follow-up visits were conducted in Karanpur Nangoor, Jagdalpur, and Bastar blocks.
- Ulcer dressings, foot measurements, and self-care kits were provided to promote better recovery and prevent further complications.
- A special DPMR (Disability Prevention and Medical Rehabilitation) clinic at Bastar CHC was attended by district officials and medical staff. Twenty G-2 and ulcer patients received ulcer dressings, and new Multibacillary (MB) cases were confirmed and started on treatment.







- As part of IEC activities, awareness sessions were held at Uttam Nagar Dispensary and Jagat Mata Kusht Ashram, focusing on early detection, stigma reduction, and self-care.
- During the Integrated Prevention of Disability (IPOD) camp at Indira Gandhi Hospital, Self-care kits and pairs of customized footwear were distributed to persons affected by leprosy.



- At the West Delhi Referral Centre (WDRC), Mr. Sanjeev from GoodBye Leprosy appreciated the patient-centric approach and MCR footwear fabrication process.
- During Daan Utsav, outreach workers organized a fundraising event promoting inclusion, empowerment, and livelihood support for persons affected by leprosy.



- Persons affected by leprosy from Prem Nagar, Sunderpur, and Gandhigram colonies were trained on home-based self-care, while 132 non-persons with disability (non-PwD) family members were sensitized on rights, entitlements, and the Unique Disability ID (UDID) card process.



- A Medical Officers' Training was at the Civil Surgeon's Conference Hall, Dhanbad, featuring 10 leprosy case demonstrations covering diagnosis, classification, and management for hands-on learning.



- Public awareness activity was held at Haat Bajar, Village Umrili, to educate the community on leprosy prevention, early detection, and free treatment availability. IEC materials were distributed, and villagers were encouraged to report symptoms for timely care.
- Prevention of disabilities (POD) Camp was organized at RC Alirajpur, attended by the District Leprosy Officer and National Medical Advisor.
- Patients were examined, counseled on self-care, and provided with aids and appliances to promote disability prevention and follow-up care.



- Awareness programme on leprosy was conducted by Physio Care Assistant at an Upper Primary School in Rajura Block, Chandrapur, covering students and staff. All participants were screened for leprosy as part of the initiative.



- Regular outpatient consultations and nerve function assessments were conducted across project locations, with new leprosy and ulcer cases identified and treated.



- Private Medical Practitioners (PMP) and Barefoot Doctor trainings were organized at Boipariguda and Kalahandi, enhancing knowledge on leprosy, lymphatic filariasis (LF), Panchayati Raj Institution, and malaria. Self-care camps at Badimal Leprosy Colony provided health checkups and aids to persons affected by leprosy.
- School awareness sessions, village forums, and mass surveys were conducted in multiple districts, covering thousands of people.
- DPMR clinics and LF initiatives provided ulcer care, footwear, and livelihood support, while field visits promoted health awareness, rehabilitation, and community inclusion.



- Field visits by project coordinators and local leaders to mushroom farms, schools, and health centres promoted livelihood support, education, and collaboration at the community level.





- Nirmal Referral Center team conducted a special active search in Ranapur village, screening 400 individuals across 176 households.
- Awareness and screening sessions were also held at Government Minority Residential School in Hyderabad, and leprosy case demonstrations were arranged for postgraduate students at Bhaskar Medical College, Rangareddy.

## TELANGANA

- Suspected leprosy cases identified by Urban Primary Health Center (UPHC) Sirpur, Asifabad, were validated by the RC Kagaznagar team, confirming one new Multibacillary (MB) case and samples for skin smear testing were collected. The activity was supported by UPHC staff and the Deputy Para Medical Officer (DPMO).

## BPHRC

- A Training of Trainers (ToT) on Peripheral Neuropathy in Leprosy and Diabetes was held at DM&HO, Medchal under the ICMR-PN Project, with sessions led by experts from LEPROA BPHRC and the Department of Endocrinology. The training included presentations and clinical demonstrations for Medical Officers and Staff Nurses.
- The BSL-III Lab at BPHRC underwent an SOP review by a DBT nominee. Under the LRI-One Health Project, house-to-house leprosy surveys and active case detection were carried out in Pedamedapalli, Challapeta, Vizianagaram, and Sikharapur, Nayagarh (Odisha).



## Key Highlights



LEPROA Society and Mankind Pharma jointly organised an exhibition showcasing handcrafted products made by persons affected by leprosy, promoting awareness, inclusion, and livelihood empowerment. The event highlighted the creativity, resilience, and self-reliance of the beneficiaries.



Mr. Sanjeev from Good Bye Leprosy visited the West Delhi Referral Centre (WDRC), where Dr. Vishal presented the centre's holistic service model, including MCR footwear fabrication and customisation for deformities. The visit fostered collaboration and appreciation for LEPROA's patient-focused care system.



**NNN Conference, Uganda:** LEPROA Society and Lepra UK co-presented the UPLIFT Model from Jamui, showcasing community engagement, Self-Support Group empowerment, and integrated health-livelihood strategies. The presentation received enthusiastic recognition for its scalable and community-driven impact.



As part of the Infosys project, our team visited Agape, Chengicherla near Cherlapally, Medchal District, and conducted an eye screening camp to support early detection and better eye health in the community.



## Key Highlights



LEPRA Society was honoured with the WHO South-East Asia Award for Public Health Champion at #RC78 for its exceptional contribution to combating Neglected Tropical Diseases and advancing disability inclusion a proud moment

celebrating our collective dedication to public health.

A five-day Training-cum-Planning Meeting under the SHAKTHI Project, funded by Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives, was held from 27-31 October 2025 in

Bakawand block. The program covered Leprosy, TB, LF, Scabies, Malaria, Japanese Encephalitis, and Sickle Cell Disease, with sessions led by district health officials, Jan Swasthya Sahyog, and WHO experts.



LEPRA Society celebrated its first-ever Daan Utsav with great enthusiasm and teamwork a remarkable beginning that inspires us to carry forward this beautiful spirit of giving with even greater strength and unity.



LEPRA Society is honoured to receive the Mahatma Award for Good Health and Well-Being in Delhi. This recognition celebrates the collective dedication of our team in improving lives, fighting stigma, and building inclusive, healthier communities.



The Madhya Pradesh State Office will now oversee and manage all LEPRA projects in the state, including the NTD Programme, Samarth Project, and Samagra (Global Fund) strengthening coordination and impact across Madhya Pradesh.

## Meet Our Staff

### How did you join LEPRA, and what is your current role?

I came to know about LEPRA Society through my brother and joined as a Community Resource Person (CRP) in the Mayurlep Project, Rairangpur Block, on 12th May. I now serve as an Outreach Worker (ORW), creating awareness about Leprosy and Lymphatic Filariasis (LF) through surveys, health education, and community engagement.

### How do you engage with local communities to raise awareness?

I collaborate with Panchayati Raj Institution members, ASHA and Anganwadi workers, and village heads to organize group discussions, Gram Panchayat meetings and ensuring active community participation in Leprosy and LF awareness.

### What are the most significant challenges you face & how do you address them?

Starting livelihood activities for persons affected by Leprosy and LF was a major challenge. With guidance from Naveen Sir and Mangaraj Sir, we formed the "Puja Phula" Self Support Group and successfully started a mushroom farm, inspiring others to do the same.

### Can you share a memorable experience from your time at LEPRA?

Seeing people overcome fear and stigma and become self-reliant has been truly rewarding. The success of the Puja Phula group is a proud moment, and I'm grateful to LEPRA and the Mayurlep team for their support and motivation.



**Sukumati Hembram**  
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Mayurlep, Odisha

Thank you to LEPRA Society team for your unending support  
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