About the Institute

Communication disorders are difficulties involving speech, language and or hearing, which have been accepted as a major public health issue as they compromise early childhood development, restrict vocational attainment and attenuate the economic well-being of the society.

The All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH), Mysore, is the foremost organization in the country, mandated to help and support people with communication disorders. Founded in 1965 as an autonomous institute under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, AIISH has been successfully carrying out its activities for the last 46 years. In pursuit of its mission of ensuring effective communication by one and all, the institute (a) generates and prepares knowledgeable and skilled practitioners in Speech - Language Pathology and Audiology and allied fields, who can provide state-of-the art, client-centered service in multiple settings,(b) conducts both basic and applied research in areas related to communication disorders and disseminates the findings among the local, national and international audiences, (c) provides affordable, accessible and high-quality speech, language, and hearing clinical services to the needy ones, and (d) develops, implements and evaluates education and outreach programs to address the prevention, intervention and control of communication disorders.

Started as an institute to train the postgraduate students in Speech and Hearing, today AIISH has grown into the largest institute in the country offering various diploma, graduate, postgraduate, postgraduate diploma, doctoral and post doctoral programs in the field, in addition to rendering clinical services to thousands of persons with communication disorders from all over the country and conducting multi-faceted research to find solutions to the challenges of communication disorders. All these activities are spearheaded by the experts working in 11 departments of the Institute, namely Audiology, Centre for Rehabilitation and Education through Distance Mode, Clinical Psychology, Clinical Services, Electronics, Otorhinolaryngology, Prevention of Communication Disorders, Special Education, Speech-Language Pathology, Speech-Language Sciences, and Material Development.

The institute has been recognised as a Centre of Excellence in the area of deafness by World Health Organization, as a Centre of Advanced Research by University Grants Commission, as a Science & Technology Institute by Department of Science and Technology, Government of India and as the nodal centre for implementation of prevention and control of deafness by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India.

From the Director’s Desk

I am proud to present the 47th annual report of the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore. This report summarizes the activities of the institute for the year 2011-12.

In 2011-12, the institute continued to be committed to academic, research, clinical and public education activities pertaining to communication and its disorders. 2011-12 was another successful year during which the institute progressed towards expanding its existing activities and initiated new activities The up gradation proposal of the institute was finalized and the EFC was submitted to the Ministry in the month of March 2012. The twelfth five-year plan proposals were prepared and sent to the Ministry in time. Dr. S. R. Savithri, Director attended India 2011 at the Dept. Of Electronics & Telecommunication, Norwegian University of Science & Technology, Trondheim, Norway and presented the activities of the institute and probable collaborative projects.

Following the University of Mysore Decision, the institute introduced choice based credit based system for post-graduate programs. The faculty members incorporated state-of-the –art instructional technologies for class room teaching. The institute got affiliation for the Post-graduate Diploma program on Alternative and Augmentative Communication by the University of Mysore. The approval of the Rehabilitation Council of India is awaited. The faculty and staff of the institute delivered 121 invited talks outside and within the institute. Eight guest lectures from eminent professionals were arranged during the report year. The institute conducted 102 orientation programmes, and 28 professional workshops, seminars and conferences pertaining to communication disorders and related topics

During the report year, the institute witnessed active research by faculty and students on almost all topics of communication and its disorders. The institute had extramural and intramural research and student research. AIISH saw the maximum number of extramural research funded by the Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India and Indian Council of Medical Research. A total of 23 research projects were completed, and 43 research projects ongoing and 34 projects were initiated. Two candidates were awarded doctoral degree and 6 candidates submitted the Ph. D. thesis. In addition 43 students were pursuing their doctoral research in different departments of the institute. Seventy six post-graduate students submitted their master’s dissertation and 69 students were pursuing master’s dissertation under the supervision of the faculty of the institute. Fifty nine scientific articles were presented in international and national workshops/ seminars/ conferences and 62 articles were published in peer reviewed international and national journals and proceedings. Also 5 chapters were written by the faculty in books. One Research fellow and two of the faculty members attended the 9th Oxford Dysfluency Conference at UK.

It is gratifying to report that around 47756 patients with communication disorders from all over the country and overseas were served by the institute. Further specialized clinical services were augmented by launching specialized clinical units on Structural Orofacial Anomalies, Learning Disability, and clinic for Motor Speech Disorders. Under the outreach clinical service program, new born screening was initiated at AIISH, Mysore SCB Medical College & Hospital, Cuttack and RIMS, Imphal. 13031 babies were screened for communication disorders. 4294 individuals were screened for communication disorders and 215 clients were offered with tele-diagnostic and and tele-intervention services.

In addition 12 monthly public lectures were held and 29 public education materials were prepared. One hundred and sixty five children with various communication disorders enrolled in the pre-school training program. Software on faculty assessment was developed by the Department of Electronics. The institute purchased several sophisticated scientific equipments, E-books and bibliographic databases. Construction of Knowledge Park and quarters commenced. Also, renovation and retrofit of old buildings was done.

The activities and the achievements made during the year 2011-12 were due to the dedicated and committed staff at all levels. While there are several challenges ahead, I am sure and confident that together we shall meet these challenges and continue to improve the institute. I am also confident that the institute shall be the top institute in India and serve persons with communication disorders.

Dr. S. R. Savithri

Director