

News 2020-21

AIISH AISIRI

The Institute initiated a public awareness program on communication disorders titled AIISH AISIRI in collaboration with the All-India Radio, Mysore (AIR Mysore / Akashvani Mysore) at 100.6 MHz. As a part of the programme, the Akashvani Mysore started broadcasting the talks of speech and hearing experts of the Institute for a duration of 20 minutes every week about various speech, language and hearing disorder, their prevalence and incidence, assessment procedures and the treatment.

18th June 2020

RCI Inspection and Recognition

The Institute obtained continuation of recognition for conducting B.ASLP, DHLS and M.Sc. (SLP) programmes from the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), New Delhi for the next five years. A team of RCI experts comprising of Dr N.P. Nataraja, Director, JSS institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore and Dr Madhuri Gore, Professor, Dr SRC Institute of Speech and Hearing, Bengaluru visited the institute on 18th June 2020 and expressed their satisfaction with the academic and clinical infrastructure of the Institute and its achievements in the field of communication disorders.

22nd July 2020

Executive Council Meeting

The 57th Executive Council (EC) meetings of the Institute was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Government of India on 22nd July 2020 in virtual mode. The EC was met after a gap of four years.

23rd September 2020

Observance of International Day of Sign Languages

The Institute under the aegis of the Augmentative & Alternative Communication (AAC) unit observed International Day of Sign Languages on 23rd September 2020 in virtual mode with the theme 'Sign Languages for Everyone'. The program started with an overview of the Sign Language Day by Dr. Sangeetha M, HOD Clinical Services and Mr. Reuben T. Varghese, Member Secretary, AAC unit. An orientation program on Indian Sign language and finger spellings, basic vocabulary and grammar in Indian Sign Language was conducted by Shri. Rajkumar. R., Special Educator, Department of Special Education and Smt. Rubby, Sign Language Teacher, AAC Unit, Dept. of Clinical Services, AIISH, Mysore. A total of 23 persons participated in the online orientation program.

3rd October 2020

New Outreach Service Centre at Madikeri

The Outreach Service Centres (OSCs) of the Institute cater to screening, diagnostic and rehabilitative services to the people with speech, language and hearing disorders. Shri. V Somanna, Hon. Housing Minister, & District in-charge Minister for Kodagu, Govt. of Karnataka and Shri. Pratap Simha, Hon. Member of Parliament, Kodagu and Mysuru Constituency inaugurated a new OSC at the Kodagu Institute of Medical Sciences, Madikeri on 3rd October 2020. Dr. M. Pushpavathi, Director, AIISH presided over the function.

15th October 2020

Campaign for COVID-Appropriate Behaviour

Supporting the 'Campaign for COVID-Appropriate Behaviour' launched by the Hon. Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi, the Institute staff and students took pledge on 15th October 2020 to wear a mask, follow social distancing, and maintain hand hygiene. Also, took initiative to disseminate information about COVID-appropriate behaviour by displaying posters, banners, billboards etc. at prominent locations in the campus, official website and other social media platforms.

19th to 21th October, 2020

Observance of AAC Awareness Week

The Institute under the aegis of the Augmentative & Alternative Communication (AAC) unit, observed the AAC awareness week from 19th to 21th October, 2020 as a part of the International AAC awareness month. Prof. Usha A Dalvi, Treasurer, International Society for AAC (ISAAC), India Chapter, served as the chief guest of the Inaugural function held on 19th October 2020 in virtual mode, and delivered the key note address on the topic 'Challenges in teaching and learning AAC'. The inaugural function was followed by orientation lectures on 'AIISH AAC Unit' by Mr. Reuben T.V., Scientist, B., AIISH, 'Technological advancements in AAC' by Mr. Karthik Venkat S., Speech Technologist, AIISH and 'Finger spellings, basic vocabulary and grammar in Indian Sign language' by Ms. Rubby, Sign Language Teacher, AIISH. Various competitions such as quiz on AAC & ISL, creating story & joke videos in Indian Sign Language and e-poster design were organized as a part of the event.

26th November 2020

Constitution Day

The Institute celebrated the Constitution Day on 26th November 2020 to mark the 71st anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution by the country and raise awareness about the Constitution. The programme was held in virtual mode during which the staff and students of the Institute joined the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi in reading of the Preamble at 11 AM on the day from their respective departments and sections in the Institute.

4th December 2020

International Day of Persons with Disabilities

The International Day for persons with disabilities (IDPWD) was commemorated at the Institute from 1st December to 4th December 2020. Various programmes were organized as a part of the event and an awareness week was observed till 4th December. The programmes include an orientation about IDPWD, a disability-related quiz conducted for clients and care givers seeking clinical services at the Institute, a webinar on 'Communication Disorders and Government Welfare Measures' for the caregivers and a webinar on Speech and Hearing Disorders, services and facilities available in the institute for the rotary club members. The success stories of persons with disabilities were displayed at the Department of Clinical Services as a part of the event.

14th December 2020

Standing Finance Committee Meeting

The 51st Standing Finance Committee meeting of the Institute was held under the chairmanship of Mrs. Vandana Gurnani, Additional Secretary (Health), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India on 14th December 2020 in virtual mode. Dr. M. Pushpavathi, Director, AISH presided over the function.

27th January 2021

Three-day Covid Vaccination Drive

The first phase of COVID vaccination programme for staff and students of the Institute was held from 27th to 29th January 2021. During the 3-day programme, nearly 700 staff and students were vaccinated. Mrs. N. Parimala, Assistant Registrar and the senior most employee of the Institute was the first to get the vaccination followed by Dr. M. Pushpavathi, Director of the Institute. A team headed by Dr. Sundara Raju, Dr. Rajeshwari and Dr. Prakash of the Department of ENT, AIISH carried out the vaccination drive. The second doses were given after 28 days from 24th to 26th February 2021.

3rd March 2021

Six New Outreach Centres

Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India virtually inaugurated six new OSCs across the country in the presence of Shri. Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Minister of State, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India on 3rd March 2021. Dr. M. Pushpavathi, Director, AIISH and other dignitaries in the Ministry and the parent organizations of the respective outreach service centres were present on the occasion. The new centres are: 1. Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Science, Patna, Bihar, 2. Bidar Institute of Medical Sciences, Bidar, Karnataka, 3. Belagavi Institute of Medical Sciences, Belagavi, Karnataka, 4. Karnataka Institute of Medical Science, Hubballi, Karnataka, 5. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, and 6. Sri Devaraj Urs Academy of Higher Education and Research, Kolar, Karnataka

5th March 2021

World Hearing Day

All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH) being a premier institute in the country for communication disorders, took the lead role to celebrate World Hearing Day 2021 in India. The theme of the event for the year 2021 was 'Hearing care for all: Screen-rehabilitate-communicate'. Various service oriented and public education activities were conducted over a span of 30 days till 5th March, 2021 that motivated audiologists and speech language pathologists throughout the country, resulting in Pan-India celebrations of World Hearing Day 2021. The objectives of the celebration were to increase awareness about hearing health care, the need for early identification of hearing loss and its impact on communication abilities, and early identification and rehabilitation of hearing loss. Dr. Sandeep M., Associate Professor of Audiology coordinated the programmes with the support of the Dept. of Prevention of Communication Disorders, Dept. of Audiology, and Dept. of ENT and a highly motivated group of audiologists and speech-language pathologists of the Institute. Dr. M. Pushpavathi, Director, AIISH carried out the overall coordination and supervision of the World Hearing Day 2021 celebrations.

The activities conducted aimed at either screening, rehabilitation or public education, in sync with the theme of World Hearing Day 2021. They include community-based hearing screening camps, hearing aid distribution camps, orientation programs, radio talks on hearing health care, live phone-in programmes, walkathon, advertisements through photo booths, standees and gift hampers, audio-video bites by celebrities, publication of newspaper and magazine articles, short movies on hearing health care etc. Apart from activities at AIISH, camps and public education programmes were also held in the newborn and outreach centers across the country.

The target group included the general public of all age groups, in the rural as well as urban sector, medical professionals, educators, students, yoga practitioners, social workers, expectant mothers, and celebrities. Overall, the World Hearing Day 2021 activities conducted by AISH successfully reached approximately 70 million people across the country.

The highlights of the World Hearing Day 2021 celebrations are given below.

Free hearing screening camp for new-borns: The Institute organized a free hearing screening camp for new-born babies at Cheluvamba Hospital, Govt. Medical College, Mysuru on 3rd March 2021. The leading Kannada actress Amulya Jagadish inaugurated the camp. Dr. C.P. Nanjaraj, Dean and Director, Mysore Medical College & Research Institute, Dr. M. Pushpavathi, Director, AISH and others were present during the launch. The audiologists of the Institute conducted otoacoustic emission (OAE) test, a fast, reliable and inexpensive test to detect hearing loss, among the neonates.

Hearing screening camp for railway employees: The Institute in association with the Railway Medical Department, Mysuru conducted a hearing screening camp for Railway employees at Mysuru Divisional Office of South Western Railway. A total of 160 staff participated in the camp, and among them 26 were referred to AISH for further detailed evaluation. The programme was co-ordinated by Dr. D.C. Pradeep, Assistant Chief Medical Superintendent, Railway Hospital, Mysuru along with an Institute team led by Shri. Shreyank P. Swamy, Assistant Professor in Audiology,

AllSH. Dr. G.S. Ramachandra, Chief Medical Superintendent, Railway Hospital, Mysuru was present on the occasion.

Live phone-in programme: A live phone-in programme was organized giving people across the state of Karnataka, an opportunity to clear their doubts and concerns about hearing and auditory disorders from the experts of the Institute. There was an overwhelming response from public to this new initiative.

Radio talk at Community Radio Stations in Karnataka: An interview with Dr. Sharath Kumar K.S. and Ms. Srividya, the audiologists working with the Institute was recorded and broadcasted over ten community radio stations in Karnataka. The topics covered include 'Ear and hearing care', 'Assessment of hearing', and 'Diagnosis of hearing disorders and rehabilitation'.

Ear and hearing care awareness through competition: Several competitions were conducted in virtual and physical mode to create awareness about ear and hearing health care. The target groups include journalists, central government employees, high-school, undergraduate and postgraduate students, parents of special children from Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Rajasthan and the staff and students of SVYM, Sarguru, Karnataka.

Distribution of masks: Custom-printed khadi face masks with World Hearing Day, 2021 message were distributed among the staffs and students of the institute and among the participants of the hearing screening camps, orientation programs, street plays and walkathon organized by the Institute.

Distribution of gift hampers with World Hearing Day card: Gift hampers consisting wooden spoon, wooden fork, paper straw, sugar, milk powder, salt, tissue paper along with a World Hearing Day card having QR code and facts on hearing were distributed in 130 star hotels of Bengaluru. The QR code directed to the hearing screening and World Hearing Day web page of the Institute.

Display of Standees: To raise awareness on hearing loss, standees carrying Information on hearing loss and promotion of World Hearing Day were displayed in 100 localities in Mysuru city including the airport, railway station, University of Mysore campus, central public work department, Mysore city corporation, hospitals, primary health centres, restaurants, hotels, and shopping malls. All the displays had QR code directed to the hearing screening and World Hearing Day web page of the Institute.

Video bytes of cine celebrities: Several tele-vision and cine celebrities gave video messages on the importance of ear and hearing health care including need for early identification and rehabilitation of hearing disorders. The messages were widely circulated over the Institute social media platforms and the personal social media pages of the celebrities.

Short video production: Four short videos stressing the benefits of early identification and effective rehabilitation of hearing loss were produced in Hindi and disseminated on social media platforms.

Publishing newspaper articles: Several newspaper articles were published in different languages on facts about ear and hearing health, clinical services and facilities on hearing care, benefits of early identification and effective rehabilitation. Also, press releases on hearing screening camps were made and news reports on camps published.

Cyclothon and street play: The Outreach Service Center of AIISH at Sarguru, Karnataka conducted cyclathon and street play on the occasion of the World Hearing Day 2021.

Photo booths: Photo booths displaying the World Hearing Day 2021 theme, 'Hearing Care for All: Screen, Rehabilitate, Communicate' were set up within and outside the AIISH campus. The general public and the beneficiaries of screening camps were

encouraged to click photos in the photo booths and use them as display picture on social media accounts to spread the World Hearing Day messages.

Screening camps and hearing aid distribution: The Outreach Service Centers of the Institute located in different districts of Karnataka conducted hearing evaluation and screening camps. The individuals identified with hearing loss were tested with hearing aids and the suitable hearing aids were provided free of cost.

5th March 2021

Free Hearing Aid Distribution

To mark the World Hearing Day, the Institute distributed hearing aids to the needy people, free of cost on 5th March 2021. On the occasion, Sri. Pratap Sinha, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Mysuru-Kodagu Constituency gave away the aids to 70 beneficiaries from Mysuru, Mandya, Chamarajanagar and Kodagu districts. Dr. M. Pushpavathi, Director, AIISH was present.

5th March 2021

Smart class for specially-abled children

The Institute launched a Digital Teaching System (smart class) in 20 class rooms of the Pre-school, Department of Special Education on 3rd March 2021. The leading Kannada actress Amulya Jagadish inaugurated the facility. Dr. M. Pushpavathi, Director, AIISH and others were present during the event.