

## Acknowledging few of our supporters



Ms. Jasleen Kaur donates food items of worth Rs. 10,000 to Damien Project Delhi



Mr. Sri Konda Reddy donates centrifuge & 100 Kgs rice bag of worth Rs.7000 to Damien Project, Nellore



**# Rice Bucket Challenge**  
Supporters from Nellore take up the Rice Bucket Challenge by donating rice bags to our project. We have received around 400 Kgs of rice.

## DFIT Anniversary Day

**D**amien Foundation India Trust celebrated its Anniversary Day on 4<sup>th</sup> December in respective projects.

We had singing competition for persons affected by leprosy, games for inmates, music, dance, Certificate of appreciation, Employee of the Year award, etc... Sri. Pulla Reddy, Corporation Councilor, Nellore; Dr. Bijoy Kumar Pandey, State Programme Officer (Leprosy); Dr. K.N. Sahay, State Programme Officer (TB), Bihar were few of our Chief Guests. It was a day of merriment where the people affected by leprosy came together to laugh, chat, sing, dance and play.



## Belgian Diplomat visits DFIT, Delhi



Mr. Gaspart providing nutritional support to a person affected by TB

Directorate-General for Development (DGD) which is a part of the Belgium Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade & Development Cooperation has been supporting Damien Foundation's TB & Leprosy control activities for many years. Two DGD officials (Ms. Claire Terliden and Ms. Myriam Lemmeljin) and The First

Secretary of Belgium Embassy, Mr. Arnaud Gaspart visited DFIT Delhi Project in November. It was delightful to have them visit our project and field areas and explain about the project activities.



## Inauguration of Dr. Claire Vellut Memorial

As a tribute to our founder trustee, Damien Foundation India inaugurated Dr. Claire's Memorial & Palliative Care centre at Anandapuram Rehabilitation Centre, Polambakkam, which is Damien Foundation's first project in India. The palliative care centre is mainly for those affected by leprosy and fighting for their lives. Dr. Claire's Memorial was inaugurated by our Chief Guests,

Dr. Devendra Oza and the Palliative Centre was inaugurated by Dr. N.B. Baktha Reddy, former Secretary, DIFT. Our Chief Guests & well wishers shared their memories they had with Dr. Claire. "We have to salute Dr. Claire for her dedicated work towards leprosy control", opined Mr. Muthukumarappa, the son of Mr. Muthu Malla Reddiyar, who donated the land to run leprosy control activities.

## Continuing Medical Education

### Endowment Prize

As a part of continuing medical education, DFIT conducted endowment prize examination on leprosy for the final year medical students in Tamil Nadu. 164 students from 12 medical colleges appeared for the theory examination. Among which, 41 students were selected for practical examination. One student from Stanley Medical College & one from Sri Ramachandra Medical University were selected for the award.



### Orthopaedic Workshop for postgraduate students

India has the highest record of leprosy cases in the world. Leprosy is most common in people belonging to lower strata of the society because of their living conditions and lifestyle. Not many medical experts are aware / willing to work for the cause. On 28<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014, DFIT Nellore conducted 'Dr. Claire Vellut Memorial Orthopaedic Postgraduate Workshop on nerve palsy in

leprosy'. The whole idea of the workshop was to create awareness on leprosy and help orthopaedic students to learn nerve palpation, voluntary muscle testing and Re-Constructive Surgery (RCS).

## TB Awareness program in a School, Delhi

Tuberculosis remains a major public health problem in India. Damien Foundation organized a programme to create awareness about Tuberculosis (TB) at Sri Lal Convent School, New Delhi. Our staff members Dr. Loreen Gujral and Mr. Joginder Singh made the children aware about the disease, its symptoms and treatment. About 1000 students took part. Pamphlets and booklets were also distributed.



## DFIT takes part in Seva Mela 2014

The two day national level Seva Mela Exhibition themed “Celebrating Human Rights” was jointly organized by Confederation of Indian Organizations for Service and Advocacy (CIOSA), Sri Ramanuja Trust & Ethiraj College. This was a great opportunity for us to showcase our services with a stall provided during the mela. There was a competition among NGO's to highlight their respective project activities through a presentation among the college students.



## Community Awareness Program

DFIT recently conducted a TB awareness program in Kali Basti slum of New Delhi. Kali Basti is densely populated, lacks good sanitation facilities & most people in the area live on a shoe string budget. Our staff members, Dr. Loreen Gujral & Mr. Chanderbhan educated the community about symptoms & treatment of TB and spoke on importance of health and hygiene. About 60 people attended the program. TB in spite of being both preventable & treatable is largely a neglected disease in India and about 2.3 million TB cases are detected every year. The key activity is to make available all relevant information on healthcare community. Communities should participate in decision makings and take up responsibilities respectively. If you have a question related to TB, please feel free to contact us at [info@damienfoundation.in](mailto:info@damienfoundation.in) and our Doctors will be happy to provide information.

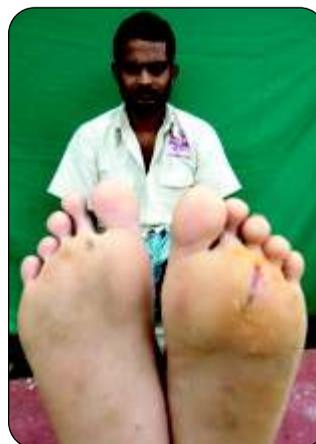


### All's well that ends well...

Chukka Laxmana, 36, hails from a village in Vizianagaram district and works as a seasonal labourer. He initially noticed ulcer on his left foot. He visited many private hospitals in an attempt to find out the cause of his symptoms, but none of them was able to give a correct diagnosis. When medical workers visited the Bhairipuram village to identify new cases, they examined Laxmana and immediately admitted him to IP Wards, Chilakalapalli for the treatment of these severely infected ulcers, and provide him medical & physio care for early deformities. He was treated with steroids, anti-biotics for infected ulcer, physiotherapy with active and passive exercises. Laxmana was admitted for a month. Laxmana showed excellent improvement with the treatment, and his ulcers were completely healed. Laxmana was counselled about leprosy and self care. He was happy to head back his home after spending one month in the hospital. His wife was a constant source of motivation. She inspired him to patiently complete the treatment. After the completion of his treatment, he said "Now I can undoubtedly get back to work and support my family. I'm extremely grateful to project Damien for the support. I may never be able to return your hospitality".



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>July – Dec 2014</b>
New leprosy cases diagnosed and referred	214
TB cases diagnosed and treatment started	1892
Drug resistant TB cases treatment started	35
Leprosy inpatients	1031
TB inpatients	201
Livelihood Support	231
Nutritional Support provided	213
Re-Constructive Surgeries	187

### Nutritional Support:

Nutrition plays a crucial role in healing a person affected by Tuberculosis. The needy TB patients are provided food grain supplements during the course of treatment. Usually MDR TB patients are provided two years of nutritional support and other TB patients are supported for 6-9 months. During July – Dec 2014, DFIT has provided nutritional support to 213 patients.



### Livelihood Support:

Socio-economic rehabilitation is offered under Livelihood Enhancement program (LEP) since 2007 for the poor persons affected by leprosy and tuberculosis. The whole idea of the program is to support the persons affected by leprosy and TB by providing a holistic rehabilitation to uplift their socio-economic condition.

The program intends to improve the quality of life of the poor persons affected by leprosy & TB to lead a dignified life. The affected persons are identified by the field staff and specific requests are considered in consultation with the beneficiaries. The proposal are scrutinised by the project committee and forwarded to head-office for approval.

Support is provided in various forms like safe shelter, live stock, self employment and education support for children. During July – Dec 2014, DFIT has provided livelihood support to 231 people.



Livelihood Support to persons affected by leprosy & tuberculosis

## Re-Constructive Surgeries (RCS) :

Persons affected by leprosy with disability often face stigma and discrimination in their families, work place and community. Reconstructive surgery plays a major role in improving the appearance and function of the hands, eyes and feet. Damien Foundation India Trust has done 187 surgeries for deformity correction in the last 6 months i.e July - December 2014.



**Before**



**After**

## A New House, A New Life

Salim Miyan, aged 65, a person affected by leprosy, ekes out an existence as a beggar, earning Rs. 1,500 monthly - a sum barely enough to support him and his wife - in a hut with a leaky roof that is prone to flooding in the rainy season. During a field visit, DFIT team selected him for LEP Support (house construction), and Rs. 50,000 was sanctioned last December. His present house after renovation.



**Before**



**After**

## Chantier Damien

Chaniter Damien is a volunteer group from Belgium which supports the infrastructural needs of leprosy & TB activities in areas where DFIT projects are located. Chantier Damien works in close relationship with Damien Foundation Belgium. The group has individuals from all walks of life who share a common motive of supporting leprosy & TB control activities.



Chantier Damien volunteers participating in construction activities at Damien Project, Amda.

## A play on Health Education at Damien Delhi



A group of nursing collage students from Chhawla Dispensary did a play on TB awareness at our Delhi project. Around 40 community volunteers and staff members attended the programme. The play ended with a positive note of how adherence to drugs and direct observation of treatment can play a major role in curbing the TB disease. The whole idea of the play was to propagate social messages in a humorous and innovative way and create awareness among the masses.

## Eye Camps

Four eye camps were conducted during Nov & Dec 2014 in the Chilakalapalli project area in collaboration with Sanakar Foundation, Visakhapatnam. The aim of conducting the camps is to restore the vision among the persons affected by leprosy especially the senior citizens.



## He felt all the ills of the world...

Anyone can get TB. You must take steps to protect your family before it is too late...

Mr. Kanaiyalal, aged 41 and originally from Bihar, currently lives with his wife & four children in south New Delhi. 20 years ago, Kanaiyalal was affected by Tuberculosis, but was cured after 6 months of treatment through a private doctor. He worked for a printing press as a book binder to make a living. He was extremely attached to his daughters. With his salary, Kanaiyalal somehow managed to cover the basic expenses of family. When his elder daughter became ill and was diagnosed with MDR TB – for which she took treatment from one of our Delhi centres – Mr. Kanaiyalal was absolutely heartbroken. But then, as ill-luck would have it, Kanaiyalal himself was diagnosed with MDR TB. Sadly, all the family members shared one room without adequate ventilation. Subsequently, except the wife, everyone in his



family contracted TB. Kanaiyalal's wife was shocked by this turn of events. She started doing menial jobs to pay for her family's expenses, and was a constant source of inspiration to the other family members. They were flat broke and living hand to mouth. Unable to face his wife's struggle, Kanaiyalal sold his house to sustain his family. He felt all the ills of the world, the tears rolling down his cheeks. Our staff continued to motivate him and ensured a timely supply of drugs. DFIT supported him and his 4 TB affected children with nutritional supplements during the whole period of 2 years. Gradually, his TB germs started fading. He's now able to eat in good quantity and has currently put on 7kgs. Kanaiyalal is back to normal life now, and is able to work. DFIT provided a battery for his auto-rickshaw and he now makes a living as a rickshaw driver. He says, "I was totally in pain when I saw my daughters in sickness, but I'm extremely grateful to Damien Foundation for all the motivation and support they have given me. When nobody was supporting me, DFIT gave me HOPE."

## DONATE

Rs. 500 - 1 month nutritional support for a person affected by tuberculosis

Rs. 3000 – 1 year education fee for a child of person affected by leprosy

Rs. 7000 – Hand/ Foot deformity correction of a person affected by leprosy

### Damien Foundation India Trust

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