

*Science Academies Summer Research Fellowship
Programme 2014*

**NATIONAL CENTRE FOR CELL SCIENCE
NCCS COMPLEX (WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY OF PUNE CAMPUS)
GANESHKHIND, PUNE 411007**

SPECIAL LECTURE

Speaker: Prof. D. Balasubramanian
Director of Research, L V Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI),
Hyderabad

Date: 19th June, 2014 (Thursday)
Time: 2 pm
Venue: NCCS Auditorium, Ganeshkhind, Pune

Talk title:
'Reaching the unreached to offer better eyesight-so that all may see'

Abstract:
Our epidemiological study told us that 1.5% of India is blind, and of these 70% live in villages, with no access to eye care. Keeping this in mind, we have over the years designed a pyramidal model of rural eye care, which reaches out to over 30 million people across AP, through 108 primary centers in villages, 15 secondary centers in towns, 3 tertiary centers in cities and an advanced tertiary center at Hyderabad. This has allowed us to treat 16 million people over the years, about 54% of them free of charge and done over 700,000 surgeries. This non-government, non-profit, non-corporate pyramidal model of eye care delivery, can be easily extended to other diseases such as infection, maternal health and so forth. I will discuss both the science and sociology behind this pyramidal model.