

## A Cursory Glance: Curse vs. Gift

### Case Study

**Name:** Jonnada Rukmini Devi (77)  
**Resident:** Visakhapatnam  
**Visual impairment:** Retina and Cataract  
**Doctor consulted:** Dr. Veerendra

The case of Jonnada Rukmini Devi is a case feared by other practicing ophthalmologist doctors of Visakhapatnam, but successfully treated by LV Prasad Eye Institute. Rukmini Devi is a 77-year-old woman residing in MVP Colony, Visakhapatnam with her husband J S R Anjaneyulu. He is a retired government servant (*retired as Executive Engineer, Irrigation*). Rukmini Devi developed issues with her eye sight that finally dragged her to various doctors in Vizag in the initial stages. According to her husband, she was taken to three hospitals in the city for necessary treatment. Every time she stepped into the hospital; routine tests were conducted which always ended on a discouraging note.

All the three hospitals had a conclusive statement issued on her case: *the non-availability of treatment for her delicate problem*. Her ailment was dual in nature, retina issue and emerging cataract problem. She had faced rejection thrice at three hospitals and every time her hope for appropriate treatment ended in despair and personal agony. She was finally asked to consult L V Prasad Eye Institute. It was here she found solace for her agony and line of correct treatment. In her own words, *L V Prasad Eye Hospital is a safe haven for all problematic human eyes*. She was doubly satisfied with patient-friendly arrangements in the hospital such as availability of wheel chairs for aged and older adults patients.

In addition, the services provided by nursing and administrative staff are second to none. The only minor irritant according to the couple has been comparatively expensive treatment for non-insured patients. They forward a request to the hospital: *to offer maximum possible concessions in case of critical eye ailments so that many more would be enjoying the benefit of top-notch treatment at an affordable cost*. Her problem was treated by Dr. Veerendra. Equating him with the sight-saving remedy, Rukmini Devi and her husband had one unanimous declaration: *the Doctor did not treat. Rather he gifted us an eye*. She feels that the treatment received at L V Prasad Eye Institute is a panacea for her at this age and juncture of life. For, loss of eye sight during old age is a mundane curse.

Her husband puts it in the simple matrix, with a humane and pastoral touch: *we have approached the hospital being cursed by the distressing disease. Dr. Veerendra helped us leave the premises with an enduring gift*. Of course, the precious and invaluable gift was about restoration of proper eye sight for Rukmini Devi. The experience at this hospital made the older adults couple undeclared agents for the institute. They have fluted the message among many and sent six patients to the hospital after Rukmini Devi recovered. In a poetic similarity, Dr. Veerendra expanded her vision; she in turn expanded the visibility of the institution in sending new patients. Her case which earlier was rejected by many met its final redemption at L V Prasad Eye Institute. The geriatric elation in the present episode is nonetheless a direct outcome of the support extended by Aurobindo Pharma Foundation to the L V Prasad Eye Institute at Visakhapatnam.