

## **Report on South Asia Regional Meeting 2026**

### **South Asia Rising: Bridging Care, Building Futures**

**9–11 March 2026 | Hotel Four Seasons, Mumbai, India**

#### **Introduction**

The South Asia Regional Meeting “**South Asia Rising: Bridging Care, Building Futures**” was held from 9th to 11th March 2026 in Mumbai, India, organized by St. Jude Global in collaboration with regional and international partners. This landmark gathering represented the first regional conference of its kind in South Asia focused on strengthening childhood cancer care systems.

The meeting brought together clinical leaders, foundations, policymakers and development partners committed to improving survival outcomes for children with cancer. The primary objective was to foster collaboration, exchange best practices and align regional strategies to ensure equitable access to quality cancer care for every child, regardless of geography or economic background.

#### **Participation and Representation**

The meeting convened representatives from:

- Leading cancer hospitals
- Childhood cancer foundations and NGOs
- Government health authorities
- Global health organizations
- St. Jude Global Alliance partners

#### **Countries Represented**

India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Timor-Leste, along with regional participation from Bangladesh and Myanmar.

The event was honored by the presence of the Honorable Health Minister of Sri Lanka and representatives from the Ministry of Health, Government of India, demonstrating strong governmental commitment toward pediatric cancer care. Participation from the World Health Organization (WHO SEARO) further strengthened policy-level dialogue and regional cooperation.

#### **Objectives of the Regional Meeting**

The meeting aimed to:

- Build a regional collaboration platform for childhood cancer care.

- Align national and regional priorities.
- Share scalable models of care and patient support.
- Strengthen partnerships between hospitals and foundations.
- Enhance sustainable fundraising and organizational capacity.
- Promote cross-border learning and innovation.

## **Key Sessions and Discussions**

### **Day 1: Regional Vision and Systems Strengthening**

Sessions focused on regional alignment, survivor stories, and national framework discussions. Emphasis was placed on integrating clinical treatment with psychosocial support, accommodation services, and financial protection mechanisms.

**Key Insight:** Improved survival outcomes require holistic and coordinated care systems.

### **Day 2: Closing Care Gaps and Partnerships**

Think tank discussions involving Nepal, Bhutan, and Timor-Leste explored national challenges and collaborative solutions. Partnership models and successful regional experiences were shared.

**Key Insight:** Regional collaboration can accelerate progress in countries developing pediatric oncology systems.

### **Day 3: Sustainability and Fundraising Excellence**

Sessions addressed strategic partnerships, fundraising team development, major donor engagement, and resource mobilization strategies.

**Key Insight:** Sustainable childhood cancer programs depend on both medical excellence and strong philanthropic ecosystems.

## **Participation of Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust**

It was a matter of great pride that Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust participated as a regional partner representing Nepal.

During the opening session, we presented the PPT covering story of Pt. Samarpan Mishra then who we are and what we are making impact.

## **Recognition Received**

The presentation received strong appreciation from international participants, clinicians and foundation leaders. Our work was recognized as an impactful and compassionate model contributing to improved treatment journeys for children with cancer in Nepal.

This recognition reaffirmed our growing regional visibility and credibility within the South Asian childhood cancer ecosystem.

### **Organizational Impact**

Participation in the regional meeting has:

- Enhanced Trust international credibility and visibility.
- Validated the Trust's holistic model of care.
- Opened opportunities for strategic collaborations and partnerships.







