

REACH Lilly MDR-TB Partnership Media Fellowship Programme

2012-13 FELLOW : YASIR FAYAS



Yasir Fayas is from Alappuzha in Kerala and is presently working as Sub-Editor at Mathrubhumi, a leading Malayalam media group. For the last six years Yasir has focused his energies on health journalism and reports on a range of health issues for Mathrubhumi Arogyamasika, the leading health magazine in India. He has bagged many awards including the first Pravasi Media Award instituted by the Government of Kerala for his work exploring the health issues of expatriates.



“Raziya was apprehensive when her children Diya and Dilshad were not recovering from persistent cough and fever. ‘Usually they used to find relief in a week or two. But this time, the fever does not subside and increases during night. They lose their appetite and feel very weak. Though they are studying in UKG and second standard respectively, they look like pre-schoolers,’ Raziya said. They visited the doctor again and were advised for an X- ray and blood tests along with Mantoux test. When the results were out, the doctor said the kids were affected with paediatric TB. Raziya says, ‘Doctor instructed to take medicine for 6 months. He prescribed some medicines and tonics then. On that day alone, we spent Rs 1000 for tests and consultation fee. Every week we need at least Rs 300 for medication.’”

