



**Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital**  
Caring for the community since 1922...



# Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital

Delhi | Alwar | Lakhimpur Khiri | Meerut | Ranikhet | Saharanpur | Vrindavan

[www.sceh.net](http://www.sceh.net)

Newsletter Issue: 31

## Comprehensive Cataract Program for Tackling Needless Vision Loss



Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital is at the forefront of the battle against cataract-induced blindness in India, confronting the formidable challenges of access and human resources. Despite the cost-effectiveness of cataract surgery, it remains the predominant cause of blindness in the country, constituting nearly 70 percent of cases—a reality also reflected in our assessment of avoidable blindness in Shahjahanpur and Lakhimpur Kheri districts.

The unfortunate truth persists that individuals afflicted with cataract-induced vision loss often languish at home due to a lack of awareness and accessibility. In response, our hospital has implemented a comprehensive strategy to bridge this gap. Door-to-door screenings in villages serve the dual purpose of raising awareness and identifying those with poor vision due to cataract, ensuring even the most marginalized receive the necessary care. Collaborating with the government, we leverage the efforts of ASHA workers to conduct screenings and connect identified cases to care.



Operating at the primary level, 80 strategically positioned vision centers in urban slums and rural areas act as hubs for cataract work-ups. These centers provide comprehensive assessments, schedule surgeries, and offer free transportation to secondary centers for the procedure. Our hospital has introduced innovative on-site final work-ups including biometry at primary level, streamlining the process and minimizing the burden on patients.

Critical to the success of these interventions is the provision of cataract surgeries not only in Delhi but also at our six secondary centers in northern India. Operating on a cross-subsidy model, our network performed over 45,000 cataract surgeries last year, with more than 23,000 conducted free of cost for those in need. Ranging from manual small incision surgery to state-of-the-art phacoemulsification with premium IOLs, all our surgical centers offer a comprehensive spectrum of cataract services.

Recognizing the need for trained human resources beyond major cities, SCEH invests in its Medical Officer program, equipping ophthalmologists for high-volume, high-quality cataract surgeries. Complementing this initiative, the Allied Ophthalmic Paramedic (AOP) team trains local women, enhancing the efficiency of medical teams in underserved regions. Complications and sequelae of cataract surgery came out as another cause of vision loss in the national

survey. Being a quality conscious organization, we diligently monitor outcomes, achieving an 80 percent final follow-up rate at one month, with 90 percent exhibiting good visual outcomes, as defined by the WHO. This fight against avoidable blindness thrives through collaboration with corporates, national and international non-governmental organizations, and supportive government programs like the national program of blindness and visual impairment and Ayushman Bharat.

We understand much more needs to be done and we believe that we have built a strong foundation, which can enable us to scale up. **"Miles to go....."**

Written By:  
Dr Shalinder Sabherwal  
Director Public Health & Projects - SCEH Network

## OPTOEXCELLENCE- 2023



SCEH organized a two-day **international Optometry and Vision Science conference**. It's been a first of its kind to be organized at such a large scale. The

occasion was graced by four international and 14 national faculty with around 250 attendees. The eminent speakers included Professor Padmaja Sankaridurg, Padmashri Vipin Buckshey, Ms. Stuti L. Mishra, Dr. Raji Shyam, Dr. Pradipta Bhattacharjee, Ms. Lakshmi Shinde, Professor Monica Choudhary and Mr. Amod S. Gogate. SCEH was represented by senior optometrists and ophthalmologists who talked on various topics and led various workshop. The conference reiterated the fact that is important

to integrate ophthalmology with optometry for better patient management. The theme of the conference was **"Innovate, educate, and transform"**. The sessions included talks on myopia management, the impact of diseases and nutrition on the ocular surface, public health and optometry education, research and artificial intelligence, ocular diagnostics and imaging, low vision and prosthesis, binocular vision disorders, and contact lenses. In addition to this, there were hands-on workshops as well.



## Focus Group Discussion – Patient experience

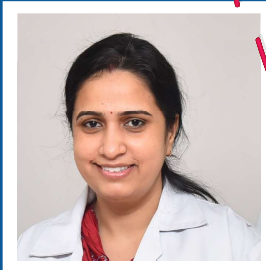
A Focus Group Discussion was held in our hospital in December. Small groups of patients from the ones who got operated, patients in the outpatient department and those who were admitted at the time, were invited to talk about their experiences at the hospital. It focused on aspects such as waiting time, communication with healthcare professionals, quality of medical care received, and cleanliness. They also talked about areas where they feel improvement is needed. We got valuable feedback to improve and address patient needs.







We congratulate Dr. Suma Ganesh for the grant from SBI for grass root level work with vulnerable children with disabilities.



We congratulations Dr. Soveeta Rath for winning the second prize at the Indian Neuro ophthalmology Society meeting at Hyderabad on Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension.

## Donor Speaks

I visited Dr.Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital for my wife's eye problem. It had come well recommended by my family. I knew about the expertise of the doctors but I was amazed to see the quality of work the hospital and staff were doing. I was impressed with the staff's behavior with patients which was warm and comforting. The hospital infrastructure, though old was clean and well maintained. I saw lot of patients who could not pay for their treatment but were being treated with care considering their board mandate of 50% surgeries are to be done free of cost. I am very happy to see that this institution takes care of all sections of society, and I see myself as part of their mission.



**Mr. Ravinder K Gilani**  
Managing Consultant  
Goldratt Bharat.

## Christmas Day Celebration



**Dr. Nidhi Dhawan, Director - PDCM & Consultant ENT, achieves designation of Level 1 Life Coach.**

## Human Story

***"Success is not final, failure is not fatal.***

***It is the courage to continue that counts" - Winston Churchill***



My journey at SCEH has been like a roller coaster ride. I was merely 22 years old and had only completed school, when I joined as a house-keeping staff in the year 2007. Now I am working as an OT technician. Call it fate or just a stroke of luck that hospital was low on manpower in the operating theater at that time, and they recruited me in the patient care department. I am an inquisitive person, and had learned all there was to learn about sterilization and patient shifting. Hence, I was the best fit amongst the available people. Later, my in-charge was pleased with my work, and recommended by name for a technician course. I completed this course in 2012. I also worked while I studied. It wasn't easy but I was determined to make something big of myself. Sister Alice supported me throughout and I can never thank her enough.

After two years of working as an ophthalmic nursing assistant, I felt like I wanted a change. I decided to quit my job, probably because it didn't know any better. I worked elsewhere for a while. Having worked at SCEH, no other place seemed to fit into my set of values. So after the COVID pandemic, I joined back in January 2022 as an OT technician. And that's when I realized how great it was to work here at SCEH. I was just happy to be back, learning new things each day.

Apart from work I am also blessed at a personal front. I live with my mother, wife and three children. My father is no more, but he will always remain alive in our hearts. He supported me financially when I was studying and always encouraged me to pursue my dreams. It may sound cliché, but I strongly believe that if you want to do something badly you will always manage to find support.

**-Jatin**  
**OT Technician**  
**Karol Bagh Center**

## Sukarya Story

***"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out" - Robert Collier***

Mr. Saumya Ranjan, Executive- Purchase & Stores, implemented a Sukarya ideology to do something better with current resources. He found three microscopes that were considered scrap and of no use. He took the initiative to find a vendor who could take these old microscopes. Instead of disposing of them he successfully sold them at a high price of INR 130,000.



## PATIENT STORY

***"Life is very interesting and in the end, some of your greatest pains become your greatest strengths" - Drew Barrymore***



Mr. Manchanda's father was operated for cataract at SCEH in the year 1962. Today he came for his own cataract surgery. His faith in the hospital has been unwavering over the years. On entering the hospital, this 76 years old gentleman noticed the changes that have taken place since then. An eye shield has replaced a green bandage, the building had expanded, and the hospital is swarming with people.

He finds the symbolism behind the black spectacles prescribed after the surgery poetic. As per him it represents the transition from darkness to light. He speaks volumes about the positive environment and quality of care provided by SCEH. His commitment to bringing more patients to the hospital further unveils his belief in the institution's capabilities.

***"I am a director of a local Ram Leela and once I am fine after the surgery I will get back to it. I can't wait to see the world through my new lenses"***



## Dr. L.K. Gandhi-Shroff Eye Institute

***"Excellence is doing ordinary things extraordinarily well" - John W. Gardner***

SCEH in collaboration with **Dr. L.K. Gandhi Dental and Medical Education Trust** launched an eye care center at Modi nagar, Uttar Pradesh, to carry forward its mission to make a lasting impact on the eradication of blindness and deliver eye care

services to the unreached population. The new center is already providing full-fledged outpatient services and will soon start providing the facility of surgery as well.



***"We are pleased to have the soft launch of the Dr. L.K. Gandhi- Shroff Eye Institute today with the start of the out-patient services. It's a memorable day as we partner with Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital. This collaboration has a mission to provide comprehensive eye care services with utmost compassion, quality and affordability to all living in and around Modi nagar"***

**-Dr. Vikram Gandhi,  
Secretary, Institute of Dental Studies and Technologies**

## India Eye Institute

SCEH has supported Mr. Rajeev Agarwal, the founder, and Chief Executive Officer of **MAQ Software and India Eye Institute (IEI)** in Greater Noida to help them in their initiative to reduce avoidable blindness in Uttar Pradesh. MAQ Software's new division, Vision Source LLP, has entered into collaboration with SCEH in a month, under the able guidance of Dr. Nupur Gupta, Sister Alice and Mr. Anand Sudhan, IEI has performed 43 cataract surgeries and two pterygium surgeries.



Orbis celebrated contribution of women leaders in bridging the gap between communities and care. Dr. Suneeta Dubey was featured on the Orbis platform in Visionary Women series.

## PEEK Vision Visit

From 20th November 2023 to 24th November 2023, SCEH had the honor of hosting Prof. Andrew Bastawrous - Founder and CEO of **Peek Vision**, Professor at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Jules Hopkinson -Senior Advisor Peek Vision, and Mr. Simon Venturi -Senior Advisor Peek Vision.

Dr. Shalinder Sabherwal and Mohd Javed greeted the team at our hospital and they had In depth discussions with them along with Dr. Mathur, Dr. Sabherwal, Dr. Virender Sangwan and Mr. AK Arora

On the second day of the visit, Prof Bastawrous enthralled the clinical, public health and allied staff from across the SCEH network with a narrative of his journey in global eye health. From his experiences in Africa as a comprehensive ophthalmologist, that led to the genesis of Peek to the subsequent expansion of Peek's end-to-end services (Peek Solutions) to transform eye health in 12 low- and middle-income countries including Pakistan, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, India, Nepal, Ethiopia, Botswana, South Africa, Zambia and Ghana. An expert in his field and an established TED Talk speaker, Prof Bastawrous peppered his experiences richly with anecdotes, enabling his audience to visualise the thought process and situations that led to him packing up his entire life and moving to Africa, with an aim to help more than just the patients accessing care in his clinic in the UK.

Later, the contingent, visited SCEH's secondary center in Mohammadi, Kheri district, Uttar Pradesh. Upon their arrival, they received a traditional and ceremonious welcome from the secondary center



team, led by Mr. Anurag Mishra. The time there was spent in the field by the team, overseeing the work being done in the region through the research grant provided by the Peek Foundation. They team interacted with vision center technicians and the community health workers associated with vision centers in the area where the numerous programs funded by the grant are underway. They also saw the team in the field conducting near and distance vision testing in the community using the Peek Acuity smartphone-based vision check application developed by Peek Vision, as well as observed the workflow.

This visit was illuminating and inspirational for the entire SCEH network and we look forward to hosting the Peek Vision team again as well as our continued collaboration with them to attain the goals set by the 2030: In Sight platform, furthered by the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness.

## International Day of Persons with Disabilities



**rescue and achieve the sustainable development goals for, with and by persons with disabilities**

In collaboration with **Vision Aid**, we had the privilege of hosting a talent hunt show featuring visually impaired children. The event showcased the remarkable talent of these young individuals, who presented

International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) is celebrated every year on 3 December. The theme for 2023 was **"United in action to**

motivational speeches, Shayari, poems, songs, and engaging dance performances with unwavering energy and enthusiasm.

This was accompanied by a certification ceremony to honor those who have successfully completed their computer course and mobile technology course at the Shri Lachhman Dass Gupta Vision Aid Resource Center **"Ujaala."** Notably, smart phones were distributed to visually impaired students as part of our partnership with Vision Aid. These individuals have also been enrolled for a training course so that they can learn to operate smartphones with the use of special applica-

*-Story contributed by  
Soniya Shrivastava*

*Assistant Manager-Low Vision Services*



### Value Story - Integrity

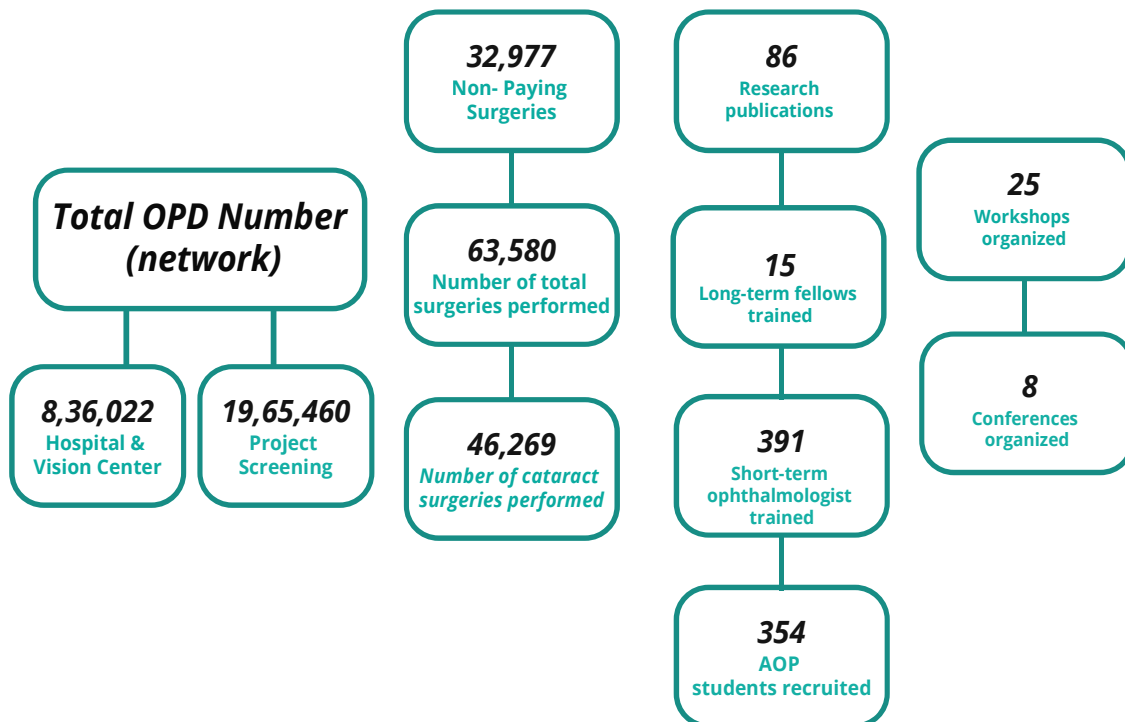


Ms. Anshika Devi, an AOP trainee patient educator at SCEH Mohammadi found a mobile phone in the OPD. She traced the patient who had left it here amid the OPD rush and returned it to her.

### LASIK Camp at SCEH

**LASIK**  
Freedom From glasses...  
**Get free lasik examination** On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023 10.00 am. To 3.00 pm.  
Each Eye 18,000/- **NOW JUST Each Eye 12,500/-**  
Are You Worried about Your Glasses for Marriage Or Job Get Rid of your Glasses.  
For appointment : 9818715989, 9971460094  
**DR. SHROFF'S CHARITY EYE HOSPITAL**  
5027, Kedarnath Road Daryaganj, New Delhi-110002  
Phone : 011-43524444/8888

## 2023 Reflections



Orbis team launched Children's Eye Centre at SCEH Saharanpur centre



SCEH with support of Orbis International, inaugurated Digital Training Hub at SCEH Delhi



Long-term ophthalmology fellows Batch 2022 graduated from Standard Chartered -Shroff's Eye Care Education Academy



SCEH inaugurated Shroff-Pandorum Centre for Ocular Regeneration (SP-CORE) in partnership with Pandorum Technologies



Visit by Dr. Deepak Chopra for Doctors' Day celebration



SCEH and National Eye Institute (NEI), part of U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) inaugurated a dedicated centre for Project Prakash



SCEH inaugurated Urmila Khemka Cataract Centre courtesy Seth Paramanand Charitable Trust in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Delhi South

Checkout the previous editions of our newsletter on our website:  
<https://www.sceh.net>

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