

Editorial

Global Vision : How Ophthalmology Is Bridging Health Care Gaps Across Continents

More than 1 billion people worldwide live with preventable or treatable vision impairment. In response, ophthalmology has evolved beyond a clinical discipline it has become a global movement advancing equity, access, and transformative care.

Historically, eye care was inaccessible in many regions. Rural communities, low-income nations, and conflict zones often lacked basic diagnostic tools, trained professionals, and surgical infrastructure. Today, ophthalmology stands as a model for global health innovation driven by technology, collaboration, and compassion.

Initiatives like the Arclight Project from the University of St. Andrews have introduced ultra-portable, solar-powered ophthalmoscopes and otoscopes designed for low-resource settings. These tools empower frontline health workers to diagnose and manage eye conditions without relying on expensive equipment or electricity bringing care to where it's needed most.

The World Health Organization's Package of Eye Care Interventions (PECI) outlines 64 evidence-based treatments for 15 priority eye conditions, including cataracts and diabetic retinopathy. This framework enables countries to integrate eye care into universal health coverage, ensuring that even the most marginalized populations receive timely, effective treatment.

Remote diagnostics and AI-assisted screenings are now reaching patients in remote villages, refugee camps, and underserved urban areas. These platforms reduce travel burdens, shorten wait times, and enable cross-border consultations bringing expert care to those who need it most.

Global institutions are investing in ophthalmic education across continents. From Mexico City to South Asia, training programs are equipping local professionals, sharing best practices, and fostering region-specific innovation. This decentralized approach strengthens local capacity and ensures sustainable progress.

Ophthalmology's global reach is a powerful example of what medicine can achieve when it prioritizes access, affordability, and adaptability. As we look ahead, the mission remains clear: to eliminate avoidable blindness and uphold the universal right to sight regardless of geography, income, or circumstance.

K. Ranga Ravi
EDITOR

LEAD VIEW

SANKAR FOUNDATION CELEBRATES FOUNDER'S DAY : SUPPORTERS LAUD LIFESAVING SERVICES



Rich tributes paid to Late Atmakuri Sankar Rao

Sankar Foundation commemorated the 94th birth anniversary of its visionary founder, Late Atmakuri Sankar Rao, with a heartfelt Founder's Day and Partner's Meet. The event brought together corporate dignitaries and long-standing partners who expressed deep appreciation for the Foundation's pioneering work in eliminating avoidable blindness across the region.

Attendees praised the Foundation's unwavering commitment to excellence in eye care and its transformative impact on community health. They also reaffirmed their pride in being associated with the Foundation's journey and pledged continued support for its future initiatives aimed at strengthening hospital services.

To mark the occasion, Sri Atmakuri Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee; Sri A. Vijay Kumar, Trustee; and Sri K. Radhakrishnan, General Manager, felicitated the dignitaries and supporters.



The dignitaries lighting the lamp to mark the occasion.



Felicitations to Mrs Richa Shinde, M.D. & CEO South Asia LPG, Commodore Rakesh Prasad, Director, Corporate Planning & Personnel-HSL (cont...2nd page)

DECADES OF DEVOTION : SANKAR FOUNDATION FELICITATES ITS PILLARS OF SERVICE



Sri A Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee presenting long service awards to Sri SKL Rao, AGM (HR), Dr Nasrin, Dr Suparna and Dr Rashmi Rath for completing eventful services of 30, 20, 10 years respectively. Sri K Radhakrishnan, GM presenting the award to Sri V Ramesh Kumar, DGM for completing 20 years of service to mark the occasion of Founder's Day.



On the occasion of Founder's Day, celebrated on 2nd September, Sankar Foundation paid heartfelt tribute to its dedicated employees who completed 10, 20, and 30 years of exemplary service. Sri A. Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee, and Sri K. Radhakrishnan, General Manager, felicitated 25 dedicated employees of Sankar Foundation in recognition of their milestone years of service 10, 20, and 30 years respectively. Each honoree was celebrated for their invaluable contributions and commitment to the Foundation's mission.

As a token of appreciation, they were presented with silver medals, commemorative shawls, and a certificate of remembrance recognizing their unwavering commitment and remarkable contributions to the Foundation's mission.

Supporters Laud Lifesaving Services

Sri V. Ramesh Kumar, DGM (PC & CR), compered the program, shared insights into the hospital's facilities and services.

Prominent corporate leaders including Mrs. Richa Shinde (Managing Director & CEO, South Asia LPG), Sri Sarad Prasad Dash (Senior Divisional Manager, LIC), Commodore Rakesh Prasad (Director, Corporate Planning & Personnel, Hindustan Shipyard Ltd), Sri Uday Perera (Country Head, Brandix), Sri Madan Mohan Lade (Head HR, GAIL), Sri Yadwinder Singh (Head CSR, L&T), Sri K. Rambabu (Chairman, Kanaka mahalakshmi Bank), Sri Kesava Majji (Barzilai Foundation), and representatives from NTPC, Bank of India, and Inox Products, shared their

admiration for the Foundation's community care initiatives during their addresses.

Sri A Ravi Kumar, younger son of Late Sankar Rao was present and witnessed the celebrations of Founder's Day.

In their interactions, partners acknowledged the steadfast leadership and dedication of the Foundation's management in driving impactful programs to combat blindness. As a gesture of gratitude, key supporters were honored with certificates and mementos, recognizing their vital role in propelling the hospital toward new milestones.

The celebration also featured presentations by Heads of Departments from Glaucoma, Retina, Orbit, and Paediatrics, who showcased the Foundation's clinical achievements.

THE EMPLOYEES WHO WERE FELICITATED :

30 Years

Sivakoti Kanaka Lingeswara Rao

20 Years

Dr. Nasrin

Santhathi Kalyani

Akkireddy Kamala

Eerlapati Surya Appala Raju

Palli Ramu

Senapathi Mallikarjuna Rao

Vadali Ramesh Kumar

10 years

Dr Suparna

Dr Rashmi Rath

Gajju Demudu Babu

Gandreddy Santhosh Kumar

Akkireddy Adi lakshmi

Kuram Bhagya Lakshmi

Pothala Eswaramma

Miryala rani

Karanam Tanvi

Kella Padmaja

Sandaka Dharani

Jommala Ramesh

B Santhi Kumari

Jami Adi Lakshmi

Saketi Prameela

Appikonda Ramulamma

Gorle Suneetha

Kothakota Sridevi

Chinni Kalyani

Maturu lakshmi

Chodavarapu Kumari

"Stars have nothing compared to sparkling eyes."

VOICES OF IMPACT: CORPORATE LEADERS AND SUPPORTERS APPLAUD SANKAR FOUNDATION ON FOUNDER'S DAY



"It was inspiring to witness the work of Sankar Foundation, a pioneer in providing world-class yet affordable eye care. Their compassion for the underprivileged and their pursuit of excellence in community health is commendable" **Mrs Richa Shinde, MD & CEO SALPG.**



"The hospital is one of the best eco-friendly eye care centre in this region treating patients with utmost care" **Sri Udaya Perera, Country Head, Brandix**



"Nursing staff are highly efficient and compassionate. Their prompt attention and gentle approach make a real difference" **Smt S Kalyani, Vision Centre, Ranastalam**



"The staff treats patients with a human touch. Their dedication is truly commendable and exceptional hygienic care" - **Sri Sarada Prasad Dash (Senior Divisional Manager, LIC).**



"Efforts toward eliminating avoidable blindness are deeply appreciated by the region's partners and beneficiaries" **Sri Kesav Kishore Majji, Director, Crema Solutions of Barzilai Foundation.**



"From registration to discharge, the process is smooth and well managed. The team's professionalism is truly commendable" **Sir Y. Satyanarayana, Supporter, Tummapala village, Anakapalle District**



"The hospital maintains exceptional hygiene and patient care standards every visit feels safe and reassuring." **Commodore Rakesh Prasad, Director, Corporate Planning & Personnel, HSL**



"One of the best eye hospitals in Vizag affordable and compassionate care" **Sri K. Rambabu, Chairman, Kanaka Mahalakshmi Co-op Bank, Visakhapatnam**



"Sankar Foundation is committed to eradicating avoidable blindness and delivering quality, affordable eye care to underserved communities through its outreach programs and compassionate service" **Sri P. Ratnakar, Best Supporter Awardee, Pinnintipeta, Polaki (M) Srikakulam Dist**

A Clearer Tomorrow : The Journey of Two Brave Children



In a school near Visakhapatnam, a 11-year-old boy Jayanth Kumar and Akhil (11) from Ranasthalam faced daily ridicule due to their vision impairments. Despite the challenges, they chose courage over despair.

Determined to change their fate, they approached Sankar Foundation, known for its compassionate eye care.

After thorough evaluations, Jayanth underwent squint correction and Akhil received cataract surgery both by Dr. Suparna. Both procedures were successful, restoring their vision and transforming their lives.

Returning to school with newfound clarity and confidence, their academic performance soared. Their laughter returned, and they began inspiring others with their resilience. On Founder's Day, the boys shared their journey from hardship to healing earning heartfelt applause from guests and supporters. Their story stood as a powerful reminder: from blurred beginnings to brilliant futures, no challenge is insurmountable when met with hope and heart.



BLOOD DONATION CAMP MARKS FOUNDER'S 94th BIRTH ANNIVERSARY



In commemoration of the 94th birth anniversary of its esteemed founder, Late Sri Atmakuri Sankar Rao, Sankar Foundation organized a blood donation camp on 1st September at its campus, in collaboration with the Indian Red Cross Society.

Demonstrating compassion and community spirit, 40 staff members came forward to donate blood, extending support to those in need.

The initiative was lauded by Sri A Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee, and Sri K Radhakrishnan, General Manager, who commended the employees for their noble gesture.

The camp was efficiently conducted by Dr. BVV Prasad and his team from the Indian Red Cross Society, with valuable assistance from Sri K V Venugopal, DGM (Operations). Dr. Nasrin, Dr. Sirisha, and several others graced the occasion, making the event a meaningful tribute to the founder's legacy of service.

"Clear eyes, a testament to enduring peace."

In a commendable gesture of corporate social responsibility, Bank of India has donated a state of the art Fundus Camera worth Rs. 10 lakhs to Sankar Foundation on 6th September, further strengthening the foundation's commitment to delivering high-quality eye care services to the community.

This initiative marks the Foundation's Day celebrations of Bank of India.

The newly installed facility was inaugurated on 6th September by Sri Nikesh Kumar Sinha, Zonal Manager, BOI, in the presence of Sri A Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee, Sri K Radhakrishnan, GM, Dr T Krishna, HOD Retina Department, Sri V Ramesh Kumar, DGM, Sri K V Venugopal, DGM, Sankar Foundation, Sri V. Ravi Sankar, President, officers association A. P & Telangana, Sri N Seetaram, DGM, Sri Samson Joseph, Manager, CSR, BOI.

Sri A. Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee of Sankar Foundation, who expressed heartfelt gratitude to Bank of India for their generous contribution.

On the occasion, Sri Sinha applauded the impactful services rendered by Sankar Foundation and expressed his

Bank of India Donates Fundus Camera to Sankar Foundation to Elevate Eye Care Services.



Sri Nikesh Kumar Sinha, Zonal Manager, BOI, in the presence of other dignitaries inaugurating the Fundus Camera in Sankar Foundation.

happiness in being associated with its noble cause. Sri Krishna Kumar said, "This donation will significantly enhance our diagnostic capabilities and help us

serve patients with greater precision and care. We deeply appreciate Bank of India's support in our mission to eliminate avoidable blindness."

SANKAR FOUNDATION EYE HOSPITAL ORGANIZES EYE DONATION AWARENESS RALLIES



As part of the 40th Eye Donation Fortnight observed from 25th August to 10th September 2025, Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital, Naidutota, organized an impactful awareness rally to promote the importance of eye donation. The rally was flagged off by Dr. Nasrin, Head of the Cornea Department, alongside Sri K. Venugopal, Deputy General Manager, joined by doctors, staff, and students.

Participants carried placards highlighting the significance of eye

donation, drawing attention from onlookers and passersby along the route. The initiative successfully raised public awareness and reinforced the Foundation's commitment to restoring sight through community engagement.

Sankar Foundation extended heartfelt gratitude to the Visakhapatnam Police Department, especially WEST ACP Prudvi Raj and Gopalapatnam CI Sanyasi Naidu, for their support and permission to conduct the rally.

GLIMPSES OF FOUNDER'S DAY



A vibrant celebration honoring the legacy of Late Sri Atmakuri Sankar Rao.

Participants and corporate representatives joined hands in admiration of Sankar Foundation's impactful journey in serving society an inspiring tribute to decades of dedication and care.



"Eyes are the heralds of the soul's true nature."



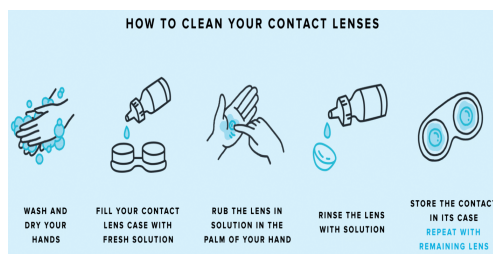
Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital in association with District Blind Control Society (DBCS) organised an eye donation awareness rally on 31st August at RK Beach on the occasion of 40th Eye Donation fortnight campaign. Dr V Meenakshi, Superintendent, Regional Eye Hospital and District Project Manager, DBCS flagged off the rally in which large number of doctors, employees and students of Sankar Foundation participated.

BLINK BOLDLY, BLINK SAFELY : YOUR GUIDE TO CONTACT LENS WELLNESS

Contact lenses offer a seamless blend of vision correction and aesthetic appeal, allowing wearers to enjoy clear sight without the bulk of glasses. However, this elegance comes with responsibility. Proper care and awareness are essential to ensure safe and effective use.

What Are Contact Lenses?

Contact lenses are thin, transparent discs made of plastic that rest directly on the cornea the black, central part of the eye. They are designed to correct refractive errors, which affect how light is focused in the eye, leading to blurred vision.



Types of Contact Lenses

A) Based on Vision Correction Needs:

- **Myopia (Nearsightedness):** Difficulty seeing distant objects.
- **Hyperopia (Farsightedness):** Difficulty seeing nearby objects.
- **Astigmatism:** Irregular curvature of the cornea; corrected with toric lenses.
- **Presbyopia:** Age-related difficulty in near vision; corrected with multifocal lenses.

B) Based on Material Composition:

1. **Hard Contact Lenses (Rigid Gas Permeable - RGP):** Made from materials like PMMA, silicon acrylate, and fluoro-siloxane acrylates, these lenses retain their shape and allow oxygen to pass through. They are ideal for

conditions like keratoconus or severe astigmatism.

2. **Soft Contact Lenses:** Crafted from hydrogel or silicone hydrogel, these lenses are more flexible and comfortable. They come in various forms:
 - **Daily Wear:** Worn during waking hours and removed at night. Available in disposable (daily, weekly, monthly) formats.
 - **Extended Wear:** Can be worn overnight but require weekly cleaning. Less commonly recommended due to higher infection risk.



- **Colored/Tinted:** Enhance or change eye color while correcting vision. Also used to mask corneal opacities.
- **Hybrid Lenses:** Combine a rigid center with a soft outer ring for both clarity and comfort.
- **Scleral Lenses:** Larger lenses that rest on the white part of the eye, ideal for irregular corneas.
- **Bandage Lenses:** Used therapeutically to protect and heal the cornea after injury or surgery.

Risks and Warning Signs

Improper use or poorly fitting lenses can cause:

- Corneal abrasions
- Abnormal blood vessel growth
- Increased risk of infection from incompatible eye drops

Dr Rashmi Rath,
Consultant, Cornea
INOX Campus.
Maddilapalem



Seek immediate medical attention if you experience redness, pain, excessive tearing, discharge, or light sensitivity these may indicate a serious infection.

Contact Lens Care Essentials

To prevent complications:

- Follow your eye care provider's instructions for wear and replacement.
- Clean lenses using the recommended solution and method always "rub and rinse," even with "no-rub" solutions.
- Never use water, saliva, or non-sterile liquids to clean or store lenses.
- Use fresh solution each time and avoid transferring it to other containers.
- Keep the bottle tip sterile and tightly sealed.

Contact Lens Case Care:

- Rinse with sterile solution and air dry daily.
- Replace every 3 months or if damaged.

Who Should Avoid Contact Lenses?

You may not be a suitable candidate if:

- You suffer from chronic eye allergies.
- You have moderate to severe dry eyes.
- You work in dusty environments.
- You cannot commit to proper lens hygiene.

Final Thought

Contact lenses can be a safe and stylish choice when used responsibly. Consult your ophthalmologist to determine if they suit your lifestyle and vision needs. With proper care, every blink can be both elegant and healthy.

HSL-Sponsored Free Eye Camp Inaugurated in Parvatipuram Manyam District

Hindustan Shipyard Ltd (HSL), in collaboration with Sankar Foundation, organized a free eye screening camp 8th September at Vandua village in Veeraghattam mandal, Parvatipuram Manyam district. The initiative drew an overwhelming response from surrounding villages.

The camp was inaugurated by Sri Srinivasa Rao, Chief General Manager and Chairman of CSR, HSL, in the presence of Sri V. Ramesh Kumar, Deputy General Manager, Sankar Foundation, along with other dignitaries. Conducted under HSL's Corporate Social



Sri Srinivasa Rao, Chief General Manager, HSL, distributing spectacles to beneficiaries. Responsibility (CSR) programme, the outreach effort screened over 250 patients. Of these, 70 individuals were identified for further eye surgeries to be performed at Sankar Foundation's main

hospital in Naidutota, Visakhapatnam. Additionally, approximately 150 patients received spectacles of their choice on the spot.

The initiative aligns with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision to uplift and develop India's backward districts.

Sankar Foundation team, including Sri Appalaraju, Senior Manager; Sri Eswar Rao, Senior Manager; and Sri Ramu, were present to mark the occasion.

*"Let your eyes reflect
a better tomorrow."*

Half-Yearly Performance Highlights (April–September 2025)

Sankar Foundation, a renowned multi-specialty eye care hospital serving the north coastal region of Andhra Pradesh, has demonstrated exceptional performance during the first half of the 2025–26 fiscal year. The institution continues to uphold its commitment to excellence in clinical care, outreach, and infrastructure development.

Operational Excellence

Key Performance Highlights (April–September 2025)

During the first half of FY 2025–26, Sankar Foundation delivered exceptional results across core service areas:

- **Eye Surgeries:** Performed 12,861 surgeries highest in this period.
- **Outpatient Screenings:** Screened an unprecedented 75,222 outpatients.
- **Outreach Eye Camps:** Organized 296 free rural camps, screening 19,288 patients and performed 7,606 surgeries all at no cost to beneficiaries.

These milestones have elevated the Foundation's cumulative impact since inception in 1997 to:

- **Total Eye Surgeries: 4,94,051**
- **Total Outpatients Screened: 28,68,828**

A key highlight of the period was the sharp rise in demand for specialty services in glaucoma and retina care, underscoring growing confidence in Sankar Foundation's advanced clinical capabilities. The main hospital, along with its branches in Maddilapalem, Madhurawada, Srikakulam, and Gajuwaka, collectively recorded notable performance, setting a new benchmark in service excellence.

The Board of Trustees, led by Sri M Ramdas, Sri Krishna Kumar Atmakuri (Managing Trustee), and Sri K. Radhakrishnan (General Manager – Administration & Operations), extended heartfelt congratulations to the entire team for this outstanding performance.

Sankar Foundation's half-yearly achievements reflect its unwavering dedication to patient-centered care, innovation, and community impact. As the fiscal year progresses, the hospital remains focused on scaling its services and deepening its reach to ensure vision for all. (Details in page-8)

Academic Brilliance

BHUVANA KALYANI SHINES AT FLORENCE-ITALY

Smt Bhuvana Kalyani, Incharge Academics, Samartha College of Optometry, Sankar Foundation, was honored with a prestigious invitation to participate in the 15th International Conference on "Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation" held from 8th to 12th September 2025 in Florence, Italy.

As the sole representative from India and notably from Sankar Foundation, Smt. Bhuvana delivered a compelling presentation that was met with resounding appreciation from international delegates. A gold medalist in M Sc Optometry from Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education & Research, Chennai, she showcased groundbreaking insights into low vision care and rehabilitation strategies, emphasizing innovative approaches in eye care management.

The Managing Trustee, Sri A. Krishna



Mrs Bhuvana receiving a certificate of appreciation at Florence, Italy.

Kumar; General Manager, Sri K. Radhakrishnan; Prof. P. Krishna Prasad, Head of Medical Education, doctors along with faculty members and students, extended heartfelt congratulations to Smt. Bhuvana for her outstanding achievement and for elevating the reputation of Sankar Foundation at the global platform.

INOX Donates 2 Nidek Phaco Machines to Sankar Foundation

INOX Group, as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, has generously donated a state-of-the-art Nidek Phacoemulsification machines (2) to Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital & Institute, Visakhapatnam. This advanced surgical system, known as the NIDEK Cube a, is designed to enhance cataract surgery outcomes through its cutting-edge Gyro torsional ultrasound technology.



The addition of the Nidek Phaco machine will empower ophthalmic surgeons at the Foundation to perform complex cataract procedures with greater precision and efficiency, ultimately improving patient outcomes.

INOX's support underscores the vital role of corporate partnerships in advancing public health and enabling access to modern medical technology for all. Sankar Foundation Managing Trustee Sri A Krishna Kumar, General Manager Sri K Radhakrishnan express their gratitude to INOX management for their continuous support in enhancement of its infra .

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FREE EYE SCREENING CAMP AT ANDHRA UNIVERSITY



Dr. G.P. Rajsekhar, Vice Chancellor, inaugurating the eye camp and undergoing an eye test.

As part of the Centenary Celebrations of Andhra University, Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital, in collaboration with JD Foundation, conducted a free eye screening camp on 20th September 2025 in its premises. The initiative aimed to benefit the teaching and non-teaching staff, as well as students of the university. The camp was inaugurated by Dr. G.P. Rajsekhar, Vice Chancellor of Andhra University, in the presence of Prof. K. Rambabu, Registrar; Smt. Anuradha, Uttarandhra Convenor of JD Foundation; faculty members; research scholars; and students.

A total of 278 individuals were screened during the camp by a dedicated team from Sankar Foundation, led by Dr. Nikhita and Sri M. Chandrasekhar, Manager, along with supporting staff.

"Strength is born from eyes that inspire resilience."

Knowledge Exchange in Ophthalmology

Sankar Foundation Team Participates in "Glaucotaal 2025" at Bhopal



A team of doctors from Sankar Foundation, led by Dr. T. Raveendra - Director of CQI & Research and Head of the Glaucoma Department - actively participated in the three-day national conference "Glaucotaal 2025," organized by the Glaucoma Society of India (GSI) in Bhopal from 12th to 14th September 2025. Dr Raveendra gave a presentation on "The Risks and Rewards of Developing a Glaucoma Neuroprotective" at the conference.

Joining Dr. Raveendra were Dr. Kavitha and Dr. Diksha Datta, esteemed members of the Glaucoma Department, who contributed to the event through their engagement and presence.



The Glaucotaal Conference in Bhopal convened leading ophthalmologists and glaucoma specialists from across the globe to exchange insights and explore cutting-edge advancements in glaucoma care. The event featured a dynamic program of lectures, hands-on workshops, and expert-led discussions focused on emerging treatment modalities, including novel pharmacological therapies and innovative surgical techniques.

Key highlights included sessions on micro invasive glaucoma surgeries (MIGS), advanced laser interventions, and next-generation drug delivery systems.



Sankar Foundation Doctors Shine at APOS Eyecon 2025

A distinguished team of doctors from Sankar Foundation, led by Dr. T Raveendra, Director of CQI & Research and Head of the Glaucoma Department participated in the three-day "APOS Eyecon 2025" conference held from 19th to 21st September in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.

The event was organized by the Andhra Pradesh Ophthalmic Society (APOS). Dr Raveendra gave an insightful presentation on **"OCT in Glaucoma A New Ball Game"** In addition to his academic contributions, Dr. Raveendra served as a judge for poster and

presentation sessions focused on Phacoemulsification.

In recognition of his exemplary service, he was honored with the prestigious **"Pride of APOS Trophy"** alongside several other eminent ophthalmologists of the state.

Joining him at the conference were Dr. T. Krishna, Dr. N.J. Sirisha, and Dr. T. Suparna Heads of the Retina, Orbit, and Paediatrics departments respectively. Also in attendance was Dr. K. Annaji Rao, Senior Consultant in Retina, who delivered a compelling presentation that left a lasting impression on the audience.



Dr Raveendra receiving the trophy at the conference.



Dr Annaji Rao Unveils Breakthroughs at APOS Eyecon



Dr Annaji Rao giving his presentation at the conference.

Dr Annaji Rao, Senior Consultant in the Retina Department at Sankar Foundation, delivered a compelling presentation at Andhra Pradesh Ophthalmic Society - APOS Eyecon 2025 held from 19th to 21st September in Guntur, showcasing innovative surgical strategies for managing recurrent retinal detachments.

His talk focused on two pioneering techniques:

- **Targeted Sub Retinal Fluid (SRF) Management:** A refined approach to precisely address residual SRF, enhancing retinal reattachment outcomes.
- **Silicone Oil Optimization:** Strategic modulation of silicone oil use to improve tamponade effectiveness while minimizing complications. Dr. Rao's insights drew attention for their clinical relevance and potential to redefine surgical protocols in complex retinal cases. His contribution reflects Sankar Foundation's commitment to advancing ophthalmic excellence through research-driven innovation.

*"Dreams linger tenderly where
her eyes dare to wander."*

News that Matters

Clinical Snapshot Metrics- April - September 2025

✦ Total Eye Surgeries	12,861
✦ Cataract Surgeries	10,398
✦ Retina Surgeries	562
✦ Retina Injections	1191
✦ Glaucoma Surgeries	140
✦ Cornea Surgeries	1267
✦ Pediatric Surgeries	35
✦ Orbit & Oculoplasty	369
✦ Other minor Surgeries	90
✦ Total OP Screened	75,222

BRANCHES

✦ Srikakulam -Eye Surgeries	2659
✦ OP Screened	13143
✦ Maddilapalem -Surgeries	659
✦ OP Screened	7779
✦ Gajuwaka -Surgeries	170
✦ OP Screened	6801
✦ Madhurawada -Surgeries	106
✦ OP Screened	3806
✦ Total 296 Outreach free eye camps conducted and screened 19288 patients and Performed 7606 surgeries	

EDITOR

K BANGAR RAJU,
Dy GM (PR & Liaison)

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From Blindness to Breakthroughs : How Eye Care Transformed to Improve Quality of Life

Over the past five decades, eye care has undergone a remarkable evolution from rudimentary treatments to cutting edge innovations that restore sight, independence, and dignity. This transformation has not only reduced global blindness but significantly enhanced the quality of life for millions across the world.

Vision: A Gateway to Life

Vision contributes to nearly 85% of human perception, learning, and cognition. When compromised, it affects every aspect of life from mobility and employment to mental health and social interaction. Untreated conditions such as cataracts, glaucoma, and diabetic retinopathy have historically led to irreversible blindness, particularly in low-resource settings.

Breakthroughs That Changed the Game

- ✦ **Cataract Surgery:** Once a high-risk procedure, cataract surgery is now routine and life-changing, thanks to innovations like phacoemulsification and affordable intraocular lenses.
- ✦ **Anti-VEGF Therapy:** These injections revolutionized the treatment of retinal diseases, preserving vision in conditions such as wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and diabetic macular edema.
- ✦ **Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT):** This non-invasive imaging technology enables early detection of retinal disorders often before symptoms arise.

- ✦ **AI-Powered Diagnostics:** Artificial intelligence now identifies early signs of eye disease with remarkable precision, making preventive care accessible even in remote regions.

Expanding Access, Restoring Lives

Global initiatives and teleophthalmology have extended eye care to underserved populations. Outreach programs and mobile surgical units have dramatically reduced blindness rates in many regions. For aging populations and vulnerable groups, these services restore not just sight but autonomy, dignity, and hope.

Quality of Life : The True Metric

Vision impairment is closely linked to reduced mobility, increased dependence, and higher rates of depression. Restoring sight leads to measurable improvements in:

- Independence in daily activities
- Mental health and social engagement
- Productivity and safety in the workplace

The Road Ahead : Emerging technologies such as gene therapy, smart lenses, and robotic-assisted surgery promise even greater breakthroughs. Yet the mission remains unchanged: to ensure that every individual regardless of geography or income has the right to see the world clearly.

Written by **K Bangar Raju**, Editor
with inputs from www.news18.com;
www.Natasha.com

SHORT TAKES

Alcon announces launch of personalized LASIK treatment in the US and Canada

- ✦ Alcon has unveiled Wavelight Plus, the first fully personalized LASIK treatment now available in the United States and Canada. This groundbreaking approach leverages advanced ray tracing technology via the Sightmap diagnostic system, which captures over 100,000 data points to create a precise 3D model of each patient's eyes. By factoring in individual eye anatomy and unique visual requirements, Wavelight Plus enables surgeons to deliver highly tailored refractive procedures with the potential to surpass 20/20 vision.
- ✦ New World Medical Launches Ahmed ClearPath® ST. New World Medical has introduced the Ahmed ClearPath® ST, a new nonvalved glaucoma drainage device expanding its ClearPath family, which includes Models 250 and 350. Designed for use in glaucoma shunt surgeries with or without a patch graft the ST model reflects the company's ongoing commitment to innovation and global patient care. This model empowers surgeons and improve the lives of patients globally.
- ✦ University of Houston Secures \$3.6M Grant to examine Retinal Diseases. Researchers at the University of Houston have received over \$3.6 million from the NIH's National Eye Institute to study peripherin 2, a gene vital for normal vision. When mutated as PRPH2, it can lead to over 300 variants associated with retinal diseases such as retinitis pigmentosa, cone-rod dystrophy, and several forms of macular degeneration.

"Vision is the art of seeing what is invisible to others."

Insights by **K Bangar Raju**, Editor.
Sourced from Optometry Times