

Editorial

## INDIA'S FIGHT AGAINST CORNEAL BLINDNESS NEEDS GLOBAL VISION

Corneal blindness, a major cause of vision loss, is a matter of serious concern in India, with over 1.3 million people affected due to damage or scarring of the cornea. It is generally reported due to damage or scarring of cornea, the eye's visible outer layer. Treatment requires transplantation or a surgical procedure to restore sight. It is reversible though the awareness level is yet to catch up vigorously.

Around 1,20,000 new cases are reported annually. While corneal transplantation is the most effective remedy, India faces challenges in donor availability compared to Western countries, making eye banking and awareness crucial for future eye. Eye donation awareness should be created aggressively.

### Causes and Remedies of Corneal Blindness

**Indian Context:** According to experts, corneal blindness in India is largely driven by preventable causes such as infections, trauma, nutritional deficiencies, and complications following eye surgeries necessitating a massive awareness campaign. Infections like trachoma and keratitis remain common due to poor hygiene and limited access to timely medical care, while vitamin A deficiency continues to affect children in vulnerable communities. Trauma, particularly from agricultural and occupational hazards, also plays a significant role in corneal damage.

Remedies in India therefore emphasize preventive strategies improving sanitation, expanding vaccination coverage, strengthening nutritional programs, and ensuring early treatment of infections. Despite these measures, India still carries a disproportionate burden of blindness, with nearly 49% of global cases concentrated between India and China, highlighting the scale of the challenge.

### According to the World Health Organization (WHO):

- ★ Each year, approximately 1,85,000 corneal transplants are performed across 116 countries, and about 2,84,000 corneas are procured in 82 countries.
- ★ With an estimated 12.7 million people waiting for corneal transplantation, only 1 in 70 of the global needs are currently being met.

**Global Perspective:** Globally, however, the picture is different. In developed countries, infections are less prevalent thanks to stronger public health systems and better access to medical care. Instead, degenerative conditions such as keratoconus, age-related corneal dystrophies, and complications from refractive or cataract surgeries are the leading causes of corneal blindness. Remedies in these regions focus on advanced medical interventions, including specialized surgical techniques, widespread availability of donor corneas, and robust ophthalmic care infrastructure. Well-established eye banking systems and greater public awareness about organ and tissue donation ensure a steady supply of corneal tissue for transplantation.

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*K. Rangarajan*  
 EDITOR



Sri A Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee accompanied by his wife Smt Usha Atmakuri paying tributes by garlanding the statue of the Founder of Sankar Foundation Sri A Sankar Rao on 18<sup>th</sup> March to mark his 14<sup>th</sup> death anniversary

(Report in page 2)

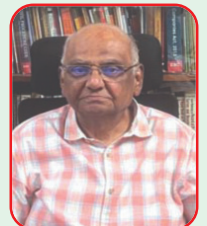
## STRENGTHENING TRUST, EXPANDING REACH: 2025-26 ACHIEVEMENTS OF SANKAR FOUNDATION

- ★ Significant Achievement of 5.10 Lakh Eye Surgeries since inception
- ★ A high of 601 Outreach eye camps conducted in the region
- ★ Highest number of Surgeries was 35,171 during 2025-26
- ★ Trust of Corporates and PSUs Fuels Foundation's Growth

The year 2025–26 marked a significant achievement for Sankar Foundation, with over 5 lakh eye surgeries performed a true testament to our dedication, compassionate care, and commitment to delivering quality eye care management. With this accomplishment, the Foundation reached a historic milestone of 5,10,246 eye surgeries by the end of March 2026 since its inception (1997). This landmark reflects not only the skill and perseverance of our medical teams but also the trust and support of our partners and beneficiaries, reinforcing our mission to eliminate avoidable blindness and transform lives through restored vision.

The year 2025–26 has been one of remarkable growth and service. I warmly congratulate our doctors, employees, and paramedical staff for their achievements. Through the Dr. NTR Vaidya Seva Programme, thousands of poor and needy patients received life-changing surgeries and treatments. CSR partners, government agencies, and district officials played a vital role in expanding our reach. Awards inspire us, but our true reward lies in restored vision and the smiles of patients.

**Sri M. Ramdas, Chairman, Board of Trustees**



A matter of great pride to reflect on Sankar Foundation's journey in 2025–26. My heartfelt congratulations to our doctors, employees, and paramedical staff for their outstanding success. With remarkable dedication, our branches worked tirelessly to eliminate avoidable blindness. The trust of corporate partners, NGOs, and the Government of Andhra Pradesh strengthened our resolve to serve underserved communities. National and district recognitions reaffirm the impact of our work. I extend sincere gratitude to all stakeholders and look forward to scaling greater heights in service to humanity.

**Sri Atmakuri Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee**

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## Performance at a Glance

**Total Eye Surgeries : 5,10,246** Since Inception  
**Total Outpatients Screened : 29,64,576** Since Inception

### RICH TRIBUTES PAID TO SRI A. SANKAR RAO, OUR FOUNDER



Rich tributes were paid to the late Sri Atmakuri Sankar Rao, founder of Sankar Foundation, to mark his 14th death anniversary on 18th March 2026.

Rich tributes were paid to the late Sri Atmakuri Sankar Rao, founder of Sankar Foundation, to mark his 14th death anniversary on 18th March 2026.

Sri A. Krishna Kumar, elder son of the founder and Managing Trustee, accompanied by his wife Smt. Usha Atmakuri, Deputy General Manager, garlanded the statue of Sri Sankar Rao and offered floral tributes at the hospital premises.

The solemn occasion was graced by Dr. T. Raveendra, Dr. Nasrin, Dr. Krishna, Dr. Sirisha, Dr. Suparna, Dr. K.V. Satyanarayana Rao, Sri K.V. Venugopal Rao (DGM), Sri S.K.L. Rao (AGM), Smt. M. Padavathi (AGM), HODs along with a large number of employees.

Together, they paid floral tributes in remembrance of the visionary founder whose legacy continues to inspire the institution.

### Awareness Session on POSH at Sankar Foundation

Sankar Foundation organized an awareness talk on 26th March on Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH), delivered by Dr. Hema Yadavalli, to reinforce workplace conduct, rights, and responsibilities under the POSH Act. She emphasized that harassment in any form carries serious consequences, including criminal action, and highlighted the importance of fostering respect and dignity at work.

Sri A Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee, Dr Sirisha, Dr Suparna, Sri KV Venugopal, DGM, Smt M Padmavathi, AGM and HODs, graced the occasion.

With nearly 75% of the workforce at Sankar Foundation being women, Dr. Hema stressed the need for such sessions to be conducted periodically. She called for a friendly and supportive atmosphere

### India's Fight Against Corneal Blindness Needs Global Vision

#### Corneal Transplantation in India

India reports 1,20,000 new corneal blindness cases annually, but transplantation rates remain lower than demand. Challenges include limited infrastructure in rural areas and shortage of trained surgeons and advanced equipment. Low donor tissue availability due to cultural hesitations and lack of awareness.

India's growing eye bank network is a cornerstone of its progress. With over 700 eye banks and retrieval centres, institutions like the Eye Bank Association of India (EBAI) have played a pivotal role in streamlining cornea collection and distribution. Government initiatives such as the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) have further bolstered awareness, funding, and outreach.

Only the United States and Sri Lanka exported large numbers of donor corneas. About 53% of the world's population had no access to corneal transplantation. A survey globally quantified the considerable shortage of corneal graft tissue, with only 1 cornea available for 70 needed.

#### Countries with High Donor Availability

**United States:** Strong eye banking networks and public awareness campaigns ensure high donor tissue availability.

**European nations (e.g., Germany, UK):** Well-organized donation systems and supportive legislation.

**India:** Despite progress, donor availability remains insufficient compared to Western countries.

#### Future of Corneal Disease

**India's Outlook:** There is every need to expand eye banks and launch awareness campaigns and adoption of artificial corneas and stem-cell therapies to reduce reliance on donors. Government should take initiatives to integrate corneal care into national blindness control programs.

**Global Advances:** Bioengineered corneas and regenerative medicine are emerging as promising alternatives. Improved surgical techniques (lamellar keratoplasty) reduce complications and improve outcomes.

Countries like the United States, India, Singapore, Thailand, South Korea, and Spain stand out as top destinations for corneal transplant surgery.

#### Artificial Intelligence Revolution in Corneal Treatment

Artificial intelligence (A.I) is beginning to transform corneal care. AI powered diagnostic tools can analyse corneal topography and tomography scans with remarkable accuracy, helping ophthalmologists detect early signs of keratoconus, dystrophies, or scarring. Machine learning algorithms are also being used to predict graft survival rates, optimize donor recipient matching, and even guide surgeons during complex procedures.

#### Looking Ahead

The future of corneal treatment lies at the intersection of transplantation and technology. India's challenge is twofold: scaling up donor availability and infrastructure while embracing AI driven innovations to bridge gaps in accessibility. Abroad, the focus is shifting toward refining surgical techniques and integrating cutting edge technologies into routine practice. Together, these efforts promise a world where corneal blindness is no longer a barrier to vision, and where AI helps democratize access to sight saving care. Strengthening eye banking, promoting awareness, and embracing future innovations like bioengineered corneas will be key to reducing blindness in India.



Dr Hema speaking at the training session

**Healthy eyes make the world a more vibrant place.**

## SANKAR FOUNDATION EXPANDS EYE CARE WITH B BLOCK RETINA UNIT

### SANKAR FOUNDATION'S OUTREACH TEAM SETS BENCHMARK IN COMMUNITY EYE CARE

The outreach team of Sankar Foundation demonstrated remarkable commitment and excellence during 2025–26 by conducting an unprecedented 601 free eye screening camps across the north coastal region of Andhra Pradesh. This extraordinary effort played a pivotal role in eliminating avoidable blindness and restoring vision to thousands of individuals.

These camps reached deep into urban, rural, and tribal communities, illuminating lives by providing the gift of sight and thereby enhancing the quality of life for countless beneficiaries. The initiative was spearheaded by Senior Manager Sri N. Appala Raju, with the dedicated support of Sri Arun Kumar, Manager and their tireless team. With strategic planning and relentless execution, they ensured that every camp was impactful and inclusive.

The eye camps not only restored vision but also generated widespread awareness among the public, inspiring thousands to come forward for treatment of their eye ailments. The overwhelming response reflected the trust and hope in Sankar Foundation's outreach efforts, turning awareness into action and ensuring that more people received timely care.



Retina specialists along with Managing Trustee Sri A Krishna Kumar and the supporting staff at the new facility.

A newly established Retina facility in B Block at Sankar Foundation was formally inaugurated on Friday, 13th March, dedicated especially to serving the outpatients under Dr. NTR Vaidya Seva, the flagship healthcare program of the Government of Andhra Pradesh. This is in addition to the comprehensive Retina department in A block. The new facility was necessitated due to the heavy inflow of patients coming from this region through our outreach camps.

The inauguration was graced by Retina specialists Dr. Challa, Dr. Ajay Sarma, and Dr. Krishna (HOD), in the esteemed presence of Sri A. Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee, Dr Sirisha, Dr Suparna along with doctors and supporting staff.

This new block, equipped with state-of-the-art infrastructure and modern technology for Retina care, marks a

significant step forward in providing advanced treatment. The Retina Department of Sankar Foundation now stands as one of the most sophisticated facilities in the region, catering to the needs of both paid and unpaid patients across the north coastal region. From high - resolution imaging systems to advanced surgical equipment, the department offers comprehensive solutions for retina disorders.

**Dedication in Action :** With unwavering commitment, doctors at Sankar Foundation perform around 100 retina surgeries and 200 retina injections every month. These numbers reflect not only the scale of the department's operations but also the trust patients place in its expertise. Each procedure is carried out with precision, compassion, and a focus on restoring sight and improving quality of life.

### WELLNESS VIEW

## EAT FOR SIGHT: EVERYDAY FOODS THAT PROTECT YOUR EYES

When we think about wellness, we often picture exercise routines, balanced meals, or mindfulness practices. Yet one of our most precious senses vision deserves equal attention. Eye health is not just about seeing clearly; it's about preserving the window through which we experience the world.

Good vision isn't just about genetics or luck it's deeply connected to what we put on our plates. While carrots often get the spotlight, a wide variety of everyday foods can help safeguard your eyes and keep your vision sharp.

• **Leafy Greens:** Spinach, kale, and collard greens are rich in lutein and zeaxanthin, antioxidants that act like natural sunglasses, filtering harmful blue light and reducing the risk of macular degeneration.



• **Citrus Fruits:** Oranges, lemons, and grapefruits provide vitamin C, which strengthens blood vessels in the eyes and may lower the risk of cataracts.



• **Nuts and Seeds:** Almonds, sunflower seeds, and walnuts deliver vitamin E and omega 3 fatty acids, helping prevent age related damage and dryness.



• **Fish:** Salmon, tuna, and sardines are packed with omega 3s that support the retina and reduce inflammation.

• **Colorful Peppers and Berries:** These are loaded with antioxidants that fight oxidative stress, keeping eye tissues healthy.

(By K Bangar Raju, Editor)

*The eyes reflect what is in the heart and soul.*

**REGULAR EYE CHECK-UP : KEY TO PREVENTING GLAUCOMA**

Sankar Foundation observed **World Glaucoma Week** from March 8-14, 2026, with a series of awareness programs at the hospital highlighting the causes, prevention, and impact of glaucoma.

As part of the week-long campaign, a rally was organized on 9th March from the main hospital at Naidutota to Vepagunta Junction and back, drawing attention to glaucoma often called the silent thief of sight.

The rally was flagged off by Sri A. Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee of Sankar Foundation, and led by Dr. T. Raveendra, Director of CQI & Research and Head of the Glaucoma Department. Dr Manjuvalli, Dr Kavita Devi, Dr Keerthana, Dt Ditsha Dutta, Dr Revathi, DNBs, Fellows, employees, and students actively participated, reinforcing the importance of community involvement in spreading awareness.

Sri Pappala Syam, Sales Officer, INYX, a division of Ajanta Pharma Limited and



Sri Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee with the doctors, employees and students during the rally.



Rally under procession

Sri T Ramanaidu, Sales officer, Anscra, a division of Ajanta pharma Ltd participated and donated tea shirts to the participants in the rally. Speaking at the event, Dr. Raveendra emphasized that glaucoma is a group of eye conditions that can irreversibly damage the optic nerve, leading to vision loss and, in severe cases, blindness. He

stressed that early detection is crucial for effective management. Advances in diagnostic technologies, he noted, have significantly improved the accuracy and reliability of glaucoma identification, enabling timely intervention and better patient outcomes.

Sankar Foundation expresses its gratitude to the Police Department for smooth conduct of the rally.



Dr Manjuvalli addressing the patients about glaucoma disease during awareness campaign in the hospital on 13th March.

**PATIENT VOICES: VISION RESTORED, LIVES TRANSFORMED**

At Sankar Foundation, patients who underwent eye surgeries experienced complete recovery thanks to the precise skill and expertise of our surgeons, supported by the unwavering dedication of our nursing staff. Their restored vision stands as living proof of effective clinical practice combined with compassionate care. With vision restored, their hearts brim with gratitude, and their voices resound with joy.

**(Before Surgery & After Surgery) Patient Reflections**

- 1) At Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital, the doctors treated me with exceptional kindness and gave me the confidence I needed throughout my procedure. The nursing staff ensured my well-being with attentive care at every stage of the treatment. **Galla Suribabu**, Sabbavaram, Anakapalle district.
- 2) I was cared for with warmth and attention throughout my stay. Nutritious, freshly prepared meals were served, and the nursing staff provided personal support right up to the moment of discharge. I feel deeply satisfied with the treatment and profoundly grateful to have regained my vision **Bhumireddy Appala Naidu**, L Kota, Vijayanagaram district
- 3) The hospital provided a calm, comfortable environment, and the nursing staff cared for me as though I were at home. I am deeply grateful to the doctors of Sankar Foundation for helping me regain my vision. **Yedla Jayamma**, Mindi, Visakhapatnam
- 4) The nursing staff guided me with patience and created awareness about the eye surgery process. Nutritious meals were served during my stay, and their attentive care continued until my discharge. **Somireddy Mahalaxmi**, Lachimpeta, Parvathipuram.



**Love Yourself,  
Love Your Eye Safety**

# SANKAR FOUNDATION LEADS THE WAY IN ACADEMIC SUCCESS

## Achievements of the Medical Education Department, Academic Year 2025–2026

SFEHI continues to uphold its reputation as a center of academic distinction and professional excellence in ophthalmic education. The year 2025–2026 has been marked by outstanding achievements across all levels of medical and allied health training.

The Institute thrives under the visionary leadership of Prof. P. Krishna Prasad and Dr. Nasrin, who are steering the College of Optometry and its paramedical courses with a steadfast commitment to academic excellence and professional advancement.

Sri K. S. Vinod Kumar, Senior Manager (Training), and Smt. Bhuvana Kalyani, Faculty In-charge, are dedicated to nurturing students and fostering an atmosphere of academic well-being.

The faculty consists of highly experienced women professionals, bringing with them a wealth of clinical expertise, academic rigor, and a strong commitment to nurturing the next generation of eye care specialists.

### Academic Excellence

#### DNB Ophthalmology Success:

All three final-year DNB Ophthalmology candidates achieved a 100% pass rate, reflecting the institute's rigorous training and mentorship.

#### Meritorious Admissions:

Seven highly ranked candidates (6+1) secured admission to the DNB Ophthalmology program through NEET



PG Medical Counselling 2025, further strengthening the academic caliber of the department.

#### Accreditation Renewal:

The hospital received five-year renewal of accreditation for DNB Ophthalmology (NBEMS), valid from January 2026 to December 2030, reaffirming its national standing in postgraduate medical education.

#### Optometry & Allied Health Results:

The institute recorded 100% results in B.Sc Optometry and diploma courses (DOA, DOM, DMST). All 48 graduates successfully secured placements across Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, and Odisha, underscoring the employability and competence of SFEHI-trained professionals.

#### New Admissions:

18 meritorious students joined the B.Sc Optometry program for the academic year 2025–26, ensuring continuity of excellence in the next generation of eye care specialists.

#### Recognition Renewal:

SFEHI received five-year renewal of recognition for DOA, DOM, and DMST courses from the Andhra Pradesh State Allied and Healthcare Professions Council, consolidating its leadership in allied health education.

#### Academic & Conference Achievements

##### • Faculty Distinction:

Mrs. Chodda Bhuvana Kalyani presented an abstract on Low Vision at the 15th International Conference on Low Vision and Rehabilitation, Florence, Italy (September 2025), showcasing SFEHI's global academic presence.



##### • Student Achievement:

Mr. Manmadha Rao, Final Year B.Sc Optometry student, presented a paper on Artificial Intelligence in Eye Care and won First Prize at a National Conference organized by Dr. Agarwal Institute of Higher Education, Chennai (October 2025), highlighting the innovative spirit nurtured at SFEHI.

• SFEHI remains committed to advancing ophthalmic education, fostering innovation, and producing graduates who excel both nationally and internationally.

## SANKAR FOUNDATION CELEBRATES WORLD OPTOMETRY DAY

Sankar Foundation celebrated World Optometry Day on 23rd March 2026 with enthusiastic participation from optometrists and students. Sri A. Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee, graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

In his address, Sri Krishna Kumar highlighted the vital role of optometrists as the bridge between doctors and patients, urging them to extend compassionate service while treating patients.

The event was attended by Prof. P. Krishna Prasad (Principal, Medical Education), Dr. Nasrin (Vice Principal & HOD, Cornea), Dr. N.J. Sirisha (HOD, Orbit & Oculoplasty), Dr. Krishna (HOD, Retina), and Sri K.V. Venugopal (DGM & Administrator), Sri K Bangar Raju, DGM



Sri A Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee addressing the gathering.

(PR, Liaison & Corporate relations), Sri SKL Rao, AGM (HR).

Dignitaries later distributed prizes to winners of Optofare (working model of an eye) organized by Optometry students. The programme was compered by Smt. Bhuvana Kalyani, Faculty In-charge, with faculty members Smt. Alekya, Smt. Jaya, Smt. Devi, and Smt. Komala in attendance.



Prize winning students with the dignitaries.

**Your Future is Bright,  
See it Clearly**

# Pfizer and Sankar Foundation's Free Eye Camp Draws Huge Public Response

**Pfizer Healthcare India Pvt Ltd**, a leading multinational pharmaceutical and biotechnology company, in collaboration with Sankar Foundation, organized a comprehensive free eye screening camp at Pedomushidiwada, Parawada Mandal, Anakapalle District under its CSR initiative on 18th March 2026.



Sri Ravi Chander Katta, along with Pfizer officials, lighting the ceremonial lamp to inaugurate the eye camp.

The camp was inaugurated by Sri Ravi Chander Katta, Site Head, Pfizer, in the presence of senior Pfizer officials: Sri Ravi Kiran (HR Head), Sri Vijaya Mahajan (Manufacturing Head), Sri Rajesh Ravuri (Finance Head), Sri Arvind Jayaraman (EHS Head), Sri M.V. Rama Raju (Public Affairs & CSR Head), Sri Satjeet Singh (IT Head), along with representatives from Sankar Foundation including Sri K. Bangar Raju (DGM – PR, Liaison & Corporate Relations), Sri N Appala Raju

(Senior Manager – Outreach) and others. Speaking on the occasion, Sri Ravi Chander expressed his delight at partnering with Sankar Foundation and commended its commitment to delivering quality eye care services. He emphasized Pfizer's intention to continue this association in the future to benefit more patients. Pfizer officials also went round the camp facilities and congratulated Sankar Foundation for organizing the event in an impressive manner. Later, Pfizer official distributed glasses and medicines to the patients.



Sri Ravi Chander Katta, Head of Pfizer's unit, distributing spectacles to patients.

### Key Highlights of the Eye Camp

The camp received an overwhelming response from nearby villages, with significant participation from the community.

- ▶ 523 outpatients screened
- ▶ 380 glasses prescribed
- ▶ 342 Spot delivery of glasses
- ▶ 38 glasses also delivered
- ▶ 35 patients identified for cataract surgeries were Performed
- ▶ 174 patients provided with medicines

### Medical Team & Support

Patient screenings were conducted by Dr. Y. Lakshmi and Dr. M. Pravalika from Sankar Foundation. The camp was supported by a dedicated team of employees and paramedical staff led by Sri N. Appala Raju (Senior Manager – Outreach), Sri Arun Kumar, Sri Eswar Rao (Senior Manager), Sri Ramu (Manager – Optical Management), Sri Ratan Raju (Manager – Optometry Department), and Smt. Sruthi (CR).



Pfizer officials examining the spectacles with keen interest.

## AlufLOURIDE Ltd -Sponsored Free Eye Camp under CSR Receives Strong Response at Mulagada

AlufLOURIDE Limited, in association with Sankar Foundation, organized a free eye screening camp under their CSR initiative today at Mulagada on 22nd March, 2026. The camp was inaugurated by Sri K. Purushtham Naidu, Director (Finance & Commercial), and Sri A. Chandrasekhar, COO AlufLOURIDE Limited.

Speaking at the inauguration, the officials urged patients to make full use of the camp facilities and commended Sankar Foundation for its dedicated service to the community in combating avoidable blindness. They assured continued support for such initiatives in rural areas and expressed appreciation for the well-organized facilities at the camp. As part of the program, medicines and spectacles were distributed free of cost to patients.

Patients were screened by Dr. Ditsha and Dr. Gauthami, with assistance from Sri N. Appalaraju (Senior Manager), Sri Eswar Rao (Senior Manager), Sri Ramu,



The AlufLOURIDE dignitaries inaugurating the eye camp



Distributing medicines

manager, Sri Ratnam Raju, Sri Arunkumar, Smt Ch Sruthi and other members of Sankar Foundation.

### Fact Sheet

Patients Screened	: 504
Selected for Spectacles	: 350
Spot delivery of spectacles	: 280
Medicines distributed	: 102



Dignitaries looking at the distribution of spectacles.

**Get Clear Vision for a Great Life**

# Strengthening Trust, Expanding Reach: 2025-26 Achievements of Sankar Foundation

Sankar Foundation concluded the financial year 2025–26 with remarkable milestones outstanding outreach activities, exemplary service across all branches, and a record number of eye surgeries. These achievements were made possible by the dedication of our doctors, nursing staff, and patient care teams, whose tireless efforts ensured the highest levels of patient satisfaction and reaffirmed our mission of delivering compassionate, quality eye care to all.

**Strong Outreach Activities :** Sankar Foundation’s outreach efforts remain the driving force of our mission. With the continued trust and support of corporates, Public Sector Undertakings, and NGOs through CSR funding, we have expanded infrastructure and conducted comprehensive free eye screening camps across numerous villages. These large-scale outreach programs have brought quality eye care directly to underserved communities, transforming lives through restored vision. The enduring partnership of corporates and PSUs not only strengthens our initiatives but also underscores the Foundation’s credibility as a trusted institution in community health.

“During the year, Sankar Foundation conducted a record of 601 outreach eye camps across the region and screened outpatients reaffirming its deep commitment to eliminating avoidable blindness and extending quality eye care to underserved communities.”

**Corporate Trust and Support :** The unwavering trust and confidence placed in Sankar Foundation by corporates, Public Sector Undertakings, and NGOs has been a cornerstone of our journey. Their generous CSR contributions have enabled us to expand infrastructure, organize extensive free eye screening camps across villages, and deliver quality eye care to underserved communities. We gratefully acknowledge this enduring partnership, which not only strengthens our initiatives but also reflects the credibility of Sankar Foundation as a trusted institution in community health.

**Government Support Vital:** Equally vital has been the continued support and guidance of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, District Administration, DMHOs, DPMs, DBCS officials, and District Coordinators of Dr. NTR Vaidya

Performance Highlights during 2025-2026:	
Impressive number of eye surgeries	35,171
Highest number of Out Patients screened	2,02,499
Highest number of Outreach free eye camps	601
Total OP Screened thro free eye camps	43,930
Eye surgeries performed under Dr NTR Vaidya Seva	23,298
Surgeries under Employee Health Scheme (EHS)	659

**Seva.** Their collaboration has enabled Sankar Foundation to deliver quality eye care services to the needy and underprivileged. This synergy between government agencies and our organization has ensured that our services reach the most vulnerable sections of society, reinforcing our commitment to equitable healthcare.

**Significant Awards:** The year also brought significant recognition to Sankar Foundation. Our monthly newsletter Visionary Insights earned national acclaim by securing the 2nd prize at the PRSI National Awards 2025 in Dehradun, recognized as one of the best communications magazines in the country. Sankar Foundation honoured with second prize for the Second Consecutive Year in succession by the PRSI National Awards 2024. This honour reflects our commitment to transparent communication and knowledge sharing in the field of eye care.

Further, on Republic Day 2026, Sri MN Harendhira Prasad, IAS, Visakhapatnam District Collector & Magistrate, presented the prestigious Meritorious Award (Best NGO) to Sankar Foundation. This award is a testament to our relentless pursuit of excellence and our impact on the community. Sankar Foundation honored with Meritorious Award for the Second Consecutive Year in succession by the district Collector.


**Our Branches Shine:** All branches of Sankar Foundation Srikakulam, Maddilapalem, Gajuwaka, and Madhurawada have delivered notable performance during the year. Their collective efforts have significantly contributed to reducing avoidable blindness across rural, interior, and tribal areas of the North Andhra Pradesh districts. These achievements have earned appreciation from district officials

and District Project Managers, as they align closely with the objectives of the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB).


Through the Andhra Pradesh Government’s prestigious Dr. NTR Vaidya Seva Programme, Sankar Foundation has made a significant impact by performing thousands of surgeries and outpatient treatments for the poor and needy. These efforts have restored vision, improved quality of life, and reinforced our mission of delivering equitable, accessible, and quality eye care to the most vulnerable communities.

As we look ahead, Sankar Foundation remains unwavering in its mission to eliminate avoidable blindness and deliver quality eye care to all. The achievements of 2025–26 inspire us to expand our reach, strengthen partnerships, and innovate further, confident that with the support of our doctors, staff, partners, and government agencies, we will scale greater heights in the years ahead.

## IN SERVICE OF SOCIETY



True to its mission of serving society, Sankar Foundation extended its support to Bangaru Kutumbam, the flagship program of the Government of Andhra Pradesh aimed at eliminating poverty.

  
**మార్గదర్శి బంగారు కుటుంబం 10-20 స్వర్ణాంధ్ర @2047**  
 ప్రశంసా పత్రము

శ్రీ / కల్యాణ / కల్యాణ కేంద్రం / Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital & Institute  
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 మార్చి 30, 2026

To mark the occasion, Visakhapatnam West MLA and Government Whip, Sri “Ganababu, felicitated Sankar Foundation on 30th March. On behalf of the organization, Sri N. Appalaraju Raju, Senior Manager, received the merit certificate. The services of Sankar Foundation were hailed by the dignitaries.

**Your Vision is Our Mission**

## SANKAR FOUNDATION DOCTORS EARN RECOGNITION AT PRESTIGIOUS AIOS CONFERENCE

### Clinical Snapshot Metrics- March 2026

❖ Total Eye Surgeries	3,072
❖ Cataract Surgeries	2,282
❖ Retina Surgeries	92
❖ Retina Injections	170
❖ Glaucoma Surgeries	18
❖ Cornea Surgeries	187
❖ Orbit & Oculoplasty	52
❖ Total OP Screened	17,284

### BRANCHES

❖ <b>Srikakulam</b>	
Eye Surgeries + Injections	484
❖ OP Screened	2,155
❖ <b>Maddilapalem</b>	
Eye Surgeries + Injections	115
❖ OP Screened	1,264
❖ <b>Gajuwaka</b>	
Eye Surgeries + Injections	31
❖ OP Screened	1,153
❖ <b>Madhurawada</b>	
Eye Surgeries	19
❖ OP Screened	704
❖ Total 54 Outreach free eye camps conducted and screened 4,348 patients and Performed 1,361 surgeries.	

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A distinguished team of doctors from Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital proudly represented the institution at the 84th Annual Conference of the All India Ophthalmological Society (AIOS), held in Jaipur from 12th to 15th March, 2026. This prestigious gathering served as a dynamic platform for knowledge exchange, cutting-edge advancements in ophthalmology, and collaboration with leading experts from across India. Our team actively engaged in scientific sessions, workshops, and high-level discussions, gaining invaluable insights into evolving clinical practices and innovations in eye care



A highlight of the conference was the instruction course on "Tough Phaco Surgeries", led by Dr. Nasrin as Chief Author, with co-authors Dr. Raveendra, Dr. Soujanya and Dr. Sreevinya. The session was widely appreciated, offering



practical approaches and surgical strategies for managing complex cataract cases an impressive reflection of the team's clinical expertise and academic contribution to the field.

It was a proud moment for Sankar Foundation when Dr. Ashish Gupta, in collaboration with Dr. Ajay Sharma, Dr. T. Krishna, and Dr. K. Annaji Rao, presented a poster on Ocular Oncology that won the Best Poster Award at the conference.



Dr. K. Annaji Rao, Senior Consultant in Retina, also participated as both author and faculty at AIOS, reflecting the institution's unwavering commitment to excellence in clinical care, academics, and training. His active involvement contributed significantly to advancing patient care standards and enriching academic activities within the hospital.

Adding further distinction, Dr. Soujanya and Dr. Sreevinya delivered a video presentation that showcased advanced surgical techniques and clinical insights. Their work received enthusiastic recognition from peers, underscoring the hospital's commitment to excellence and innovation in ophthalmology.



**Your Sight is Our Priority**