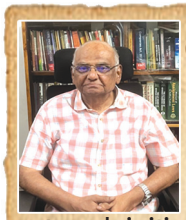
SANKAR FOUNDATION EYE HOSPITAL
Committed to the Community

VISIONARY INSIGHTS

Volume : 3 Issue 2 : August 2026 Monthly In-house Newsletter of Sankar Foundation

Chairman's Message



Sankar Foundation has scripted an impressive performance in conducting large number of eye surgeries, a milestone that reflects the effectiveness of its strong outreach initiatives and the enduring trust of the community in its quality eye care services. Guided by its commitment to serving society, the Foundation continues to touch and transform lives by restoring vision and improving the well-being of thousands of beneficiaries. I am pleased to note that generous CSR support from corporate partners has strengthened our infrastructure and enabled the conduct of free eye screening camps in rural and underserved regions. I sincerely appreciate our doctors, outreach teams, paramedical staff, employees, donors, and partners whose dedication and teamwork made this outstanding achievement possible.

M Ramdas
Chairman, Board of Trustees

MT & CEO Message



August 2026 stands as a landmark chapter in the history of Sankar Foundation, reflecting the power of corporate partnership and a shared commitment to advancing quality eye care and community well-being. This remarkable month has witnessed significant collaborations that have strengthened our healthcare services and amplified our social impact.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to **Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA)** for its generous support in sponsoring a 5 KVA Generator valued at Rs. 46.63 lakhs, a critical infrastructure addition that ensures uninterrupted power supply for essential medical operations and patient care services.

(cont...7th page)

A Krishna Kumar
Managing Trustee & CEO

LEAD VIEW

(K Bangar Raju)

CHANGING VISION: THE EVOLUTION OF EYE CARE IN INDIA



Credit: Visual Generated Via AI.

India's fight against blindness has long been celebrated as one of the country's most significant public health success stories. Over the past few decades, the nation has transformed eye care delivery, dramatically reducing avoidable blindness and creating innovative models that are now studied across the world. Yet, as old challenges recede, a new generation of threats is emerging, reshaping the future of vision health in the country.

From rising diabetes and an ageing population to excessive digital screen use and increasing childhood myopia, India today finds itself at a critical crossroads. The challenge is no longer limited to restoring sight-it is about protecting vision throughout life and ensuring that quality eye care reaches every citizen, regardless of geography or income.

(cont...2nd page)

Independence Day Celebrated with Patriotic Fervour



Sri **A. Krishna Kumar,** Managing Trustee & CEO, Sankar Foundation, unfurling the National Flag on the occasion of the 80th Independence Day celebrations.

(Report in Page 4)

VPA Sanctions Rs. 46.42 Lakhs for 500 KVA Generator



Fine Gesture: VPA sanctioned 46.42 Lakhs for 500 KVA Generator. Sri M Sankar Babu, Secretary, Visakhapatnam Port Authority, presenting the CSR sanction order for Rs. 23.21 lakh (first instalment) to Sri K. Bangar Raju, Deputy General Manager (PR, Corporate Relations & Liaison), Sankar Foundation, at his chamber in Visakhapatnam on 18th August.

(Details in Page 5)

Performance at a Glance

Total Eye Surgeries : 5,26,081 Since Inception
Total Outpatients Screened : 30,54,965 Since Inception

LEAD VIEW

CHANGING VISION: THE EVOLUTION OF EYE CARE IN INDIA

A Remarkable Journey: From Blindness to Access

A few decades ago, cataract was the primary cause of blindness across India, affecting millions and severely limiting quality of life. Today, thanks to sustained public health efforts under initiatives like the National Programme for Control of Blindness and Visual Impairment (NPCBVI), advances in surgical techniques, and the contributions of renowned institutions-such as Vizag-based Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital, Aravind Eye Care System, LV Prasad Eye Institute, and Sankara Nethralaya etc the landscape has changed dramatically.

India now performs over 8 million cataract surgeries each year, many at highly affordable or no cost, and with clinical outcomes comparable to global standards. The country has pioneered high-volume, high-quality eye care models that have made treatment accessible even to economically disadvantaged populations.

The New Face of Vision Loss: Chronic & Lifestyle Threats

Ironically, success in controlling traditional causes of blindness has exposed a new set of challenges. India is undergoing an epidemiological transition in eye health, where chronic and lifestyle-related disorders are replacing cataract and infectious diseases as major concerns.

The Growing Burden of Diabetic Retinopathy

As home to over 100 million adults living with diabetes, India is witnessing a sharp rise in diabetic retinopathy-one of the leading causes of preventable blindness among working-age adults. The condition damages retinal blood vessels and can progress silently until vision loss becomes severe and irreversible. Eye specialists report that many patients remain unaware of this connection, seeking care only after significant damage has occurred.

Glaucoma: The Silent Thief of Sight

Glaucoma develops without noticeable symptoms in its early stages. Thousands of individuals lose sight before receiving a diagnosis. Unlike cataract, vision loss caused by glaucoma cannot be reversed, making routine eye exams-especially for individuals over the age of 40-crucial for early detection.

An Ageing Population and Rising Demand

India's demographic profile is changing rapidly. Improved healthcare and increasing life expectancy have expanded the senior population, creating continuous demand for long-term ophthalmic care.

Age-related eye diseases-such as cataract, glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration (AMD), and complex retinal disorders-are projected to rise sharply over the coming decades. Consequently, healthcare providers must move beyond episodic treatments to adopt a lifelong approach to eye health management. This requires:

- Robust, nationwide preventive screening programs.
- Accessible rehabilitation services for individuals with irreversible visual impairment.
- Integrated secondary and tertiary care for continuous monitoring of chronic conditions.

The Digital Generation's Vision Crisis

Among the most concerning recent developments is the accelerating prevalence of myopia (near-sightedness) among children and adolescents.

Experts point to a combination of prolonged screen exposure, online learning, changing daily routines, and reduced outdoor activity. Children today spend significantly more time indoors on digital devices than previous generations, accelerating both the onset and progression of myopia.

Common Symptoms of Digital Eye Strain across Age Groups:

- Dry & irritated eyes
- Blurred vision
- Eye fatigue
- Frequent headaches
- Neck & shoulder stiffness

Overcoming Persistent Inequities

Despite impressive achievements, access to comprehensive eye care remains unevenly distributed across the country.

While tier-1 cities boast world-class eye institutes, highly trained specialists, and cutting-edge technology, many rural and remote areas continue to suffer from shortages of skilled personnel, diagnostic equipment, and specialized facilities. Economic constraints, transportation barriers, and delayed treatment continue to drive preventable vision loss.

Women, older adults, persons with disabilities, and economically weaker sections face the greatest barriers. Bridging these gaps requires strengthening primary eye care centres and integrating vision screening directly into broad public healthcare networks.

Technology as an Enabler, Not a Complete Solution

Artificial Intelligence, tele-ophthalmology networks, portable diagnostic cameras, and digital health platforms are poised to further revolutionize delivery. These tools facilitate early detection of diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma in remote areas where specialists are scarce.

However, technology alone cannot solve the challenge. Sustainable progress demands concurrent investments in human resources, public awareness campaigns, preventive healthcare infrastructure, and subsidized care models.

The Next Chapter: Preserving Lifelong Sight

India's eye care journey stands as a powerful example of what innovation, community outreach, and patient-centred healthcare can achieve. The country has demonstrated that avoidable blindness can be dramatically reduced when public health policy, clinical expertise, and social commitment align.

Now, the next chapter demands a broader vision. As India grapples with chronic diseases, population ageing, and lifestyle shifts, the focus must move from restoring sight to preserving lifelong eye health. The ultimate goal is ensuring that every citizen has the opportunity to enjoy clear, healthy vision throughout their life-regardless of background or geography.

(The author of the story is the Editor of Visionary Insights)

In the realm of sight, eyes reign as silent kings.

editorial

EYES ON THE FUTURE : TRENDS, CHALLENGES AND INNOVATIONS IN ORBIT AND OCULOPLASTY

SANKAR FOUNDATION
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The field of Orbit and Oculoplasty has undergone a remarkable transformation over the past decade. Once perceived as a niche subspecialty focused largely on routine eyelid surgery, lacrimal disorders, and acute orbital trauma, it has evolved into a highly sophisticated discipline. Today, the field integrates advanced imaging, minimally invasive surgery, molecular therapeutics, artificial intelligence (AI), regenerative medicine, and personalized reconstruction.

Orbital surgery-a core pillar of oculoplastic and reconstructive ophthalmic surgery-spans a complex spectrum of conditions, including orbital tumours, thyroid eye disease (TED), facial trauma, complex fractures, cysts, and total socket reconstruction. While the pace of global innovation continues to accelerate, India has emerged as a major contributor through sheer surgical volume, strong academic programs, and cost-effective clinical care. However, notable disparities remain between practice in India and developments at leading centers across North America, Europe, and East Asia.



Image generated using Google Gemini AI tools

Global Trends: The Shift from Surgical Reconstruction to Precision Medicine

Internationally, one of the most significant paradigm shifts has been the transition from conventional surgical management toward targeted biologic and molecular therapies.

Targeted Biologics in Thyroid Eye Disease (TED)

The introduction of **teprotumumab,** an insulin-like growth factor-1 receptor (IGF-1R) inhibitor, has fundamentally altered treatment algorithms for TED. Clinical evidence demonstrates substantial reductions in proptosis and diplopia along with marked improvements in patient quality of life-often bypassing the immediate need for surgical orbital decompression in selected patients. Biologic therapy has established targeted medical intervention as a primary pillar in orbital disease management.

Artificial Intelligence & Surgical Navigation

Machine learning and AI-assisted analytics are increasingly being integrated into clinical decision-making. Key applications include:

- Preoperative Planning: AI-assisted grading of ptosis, automated analysis of facial asymmetry, and automated segmentation of orbital imaging.
- Predictive Analytics: Algorithms designed to project disease trajectory and treatment responses.
- Intraoperative Precision: Machine learning coupled with navigation-assisted orbital surgery to improve accuracy while minimizing tissue morbidity.

Patient-Specific Solutions & 3D Printing

According to guidelines and clinical reports from the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO), personalized reconstruction has advanced significantly through three-dimensional (3D) imaging, virtual surgical planning (VSP), and patient-specific 3D-printed implants.

The Indian Scenario: Growth Through High Volume and Clinical Innovation

India has experienced exponential growth in orbit and oculoplasty over the last two decades. The nation is home to globally recognized centres of excellence-including Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital (Vizag), Aravind Eye Care System, Narayana Nethralaya, LV Prasad Eye Institute, Sankara Nethralaya, Sarojini Devi Eye Hospital, RP Centre, Sankar Deva Eye Hospital which offer world-class fellowship training and advanced surgical care.

Infrastructure and Access Challenges in India

Despite remarkable progress, structural challenges continue to impede uniform patient outcomes across the country.



Dr M. Subrahmanyam, Senior Consultant, Orbit & Oculoplasty, emphasized the need to strengthen this subspecialty in government hospitals and make diagnostic investigations and essential materials, including fracture repair implants, more affordable and accessible.



Dr N.J. Sireesha, Head of Orbit & Oculoplasty, Sankar Foundation, stressed the need for affordable access to medicines for Thyroid Associated Orbitopathy (TAO), a potentially sight-threatening condition that often requires prolonged and costly treatment.

Urban-Rural Inequities

Advanced oculoplastic and orbital oncology services are heavily concentrated in metropolitan tier-1 cities. Rural and semi-urban populations face shortages of specialized subspecialists, diagnostic imaging facilities, and multidisciplinary centers, frequently leading to delayed diagnoses and secondary complications.



K. Ranga Rao
EDITOR

(cont...7th page)

PFIZER SPONSORED FREE EYE CAMP DRAWS HUGE PUBLIC RESPONSE AT LEMARTHI

HAPPENINGS

Pfizer Healthcare India Pvt. Ltd., a leading multinational pharmaceutical and biotechnology company, in collaboration with Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital, organized a comprehensive free eye screening camp at Lemarthi, Parawada Mandal, Anakapalle District, under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative on 13th August 2026. The camp was inaugurated by **Sri Ravi Chander Katta**, Site Head, Pfizer, in the presence of senior Pfizer officials including Sri Ravi Poliseti, Quality Head; Sri Rajesh Ravuri, Finance Head; Sri Satjeet Singh, IT Head; Sri M.V. Rama Raju, Public Affairs & CSR Head; and Dr. P. Eswar Rao, Medical Officer, along with Sri K Bangar Raju, DGM (PR, Liaison & CR) and representatives from Sankar Foundation.

The visiting Pfizer officials inspected the camp facilities and congratulated Sankar Foundation for organizing the programme efficiently and effectively. Later, they distributed spectacles and medicines to the patients who attended the camp.

Sri P.V.S.N. Prasad, Headmaster of Lemarthi Zilla Parishad High School, and Sri J. Nageswar Rao, Chairman of the School Management Committee, extended their full support for the successful conduct of the camp.

The eye screening camp witnessed a positive response from local residents and reflected the shared commitment of Pfizer Healthcare India Pvt. Ltd. and Sankar Foundation towards improving community eye health and reducing preventable blindness.



Sri Ravi Chander Katta, Head of Pfizer unit addressing at the eye camp.



Sri Ravi Chander Katta, Head of Pfizer unit distributing glasses to the patients.

Medical Team & Support

Patient screenings were conducted by Dr. Yadhardh and Dr Ann Joseph 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, Manager, Sri Eswar Rao (Senior Manager), Sri Ramu (Manager - Optical Management), Sri Ratan Raju (Manager - Optometry Department), Smt. Sruthi (CR) and Smt Haritha, Pharmacist.

Key Highlights of the Eye Camp

- 535 outpatients screened
- 406 glasses prescribed
- 338 Spot delivery of glasses
- 68 glasses later delivered
- A total of 40 patients were identified for cataract surgery, and all surgeries were successfully completed.
- 155 patients provided with medicines

Independence Day Celebrated with Patriotic Fervour





Students presenting their march fast on the occasion of Independence Day.

Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital, Naidutota, joined the nation in celebrating the 80th Independence Day with great patriotism and enthusiasm. Sri A. Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee & CEO, unfurled the National Flag and inspected the Guard of Honour presented by the students of Samartha School of Optometry.

The March Past and vibrant cultural programmes performed by the students were among the highlights of the celebrations. Several competitions were organised to mark the occasion, encouraging active participation and showcasing talent among the students.

Prizes were distributed by Sri A. Krishna Kumar and Prof. P. Krishna Prasad, Head of Medical Education, to the winners of various competitions and outstanding performers in the March Past and cultural events. Dr. T. Raveendra and Dr. Sirisha were among the dignitaries present on the occasion.

Faculty members Sri K. Sri Vinod Kumar, Smt. Chode Bhuvana Kalyani, Smt. Alaikya, Smt. P. Devi, Smt. N. Jaya, Smt. Komala and Smt. Manjula, along with hospital officials, doctors, staff members, students actively participated in the celebrations.

Stars have nothing compared to sparkling eyes.

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VPA Sanctions Rs. 46.42 Lakhs for 500 KVA Generator

Demonstrating its commitment to Social Responsibility and community welfare, Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA) has sanctioned **Rs. 46.42 lakh** under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme for the implementation of the project titled **"Financial Assistance for Providing a 500 KVA Generator Set to Ensure Uninterrupted Eye Care Services at Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital, Naidutota, Visakhapatnam."**

The financial support will enable the procurement and installation of a 500 KVA generator, ensuring uninterrupted power supply for critical diagnostic, surgical, and patient care services at the hospital, thereby enhancing the quality and reliability of eye care delivered to thousands of beneficiaries.

As part of the project implementation, an order releasing the first instalment of 50% of the sanctioned amount (Rs. 23.21 lakh) was handed over by Sri M Sankar Babu, Secretary, Visakhapatnam Port Authority, to Sri K. Bangar Raju, Deputy General Manager (PR, Corporate Relations & Liaison), Sankar Foundation on 18th August 2026.

Sri A. Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee & CEO, Sankar Foundation, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Sri Jasmeet Singh Bindra, IRTS, Chairman, Visakhapatnam Port Authority, for the generous CSR support. He stated that the assistance would significantly strengthen the hospital's infrastructure and ensure the continuity of essential eye care services, particularly during power disruptions. He further noted that the support reflects VPA's commitment to improving healthcare outcomes and serving the needs of the community.

MICRO STENT TRIUMPH: A NEW ERA IN TREATMENT

Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital has added another feather to its cap by achieving a remarkable milestone in glaucoma care on 31st August. The Glaucoma Team, led by Dr. T. Raveendra, successfully performed a Hydrus® Micro stent implantation, on a patient, creating a significant milestone in the glaucoma management in Andhra Pradesh.

The Hydrus® Micro stent is a state-of-the-art Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgery (MIGS) device designed to improve aqueous humor outflow through Schlemm's canal, thereby ensuring sustained control of intraocular pressure while minimizing surgical trauma. This breakthrough technology offers a safer and more effective treatment option for glaucoma patients, reducing complications and promoting faster recovery. The successful implantation underscores Sankar Foundation's commitment to bringing globally advanced ophthalmic technologies to the region and providing world-class, patient-centric eye care. The landmark procedure was accomplished with the support of Dr. K. Manjuvalli and Dr. B. Keerthana, who assisted Dr. Raveendra in achieving this notable feat.



Dr. T. Raveendra and his team celebrate the successful Hydrus® Microstent implantation, marking a significant milestone in advanced glaucoma care at Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital.

Congratulating the medical team, Sri M. Ramdas, Chairman, Board of Trustees, and Sri A. Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee & CEO, Sankar Foundation, hailed the achievement as a testament to the institution's unwavering pursuit of clinical excellence.

FROM CALIFORNIA TO VIYYAMPETA: STUDENTS DRIVING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A dedicated team of undergraduate students from the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) is creating a meaningful impact in rural India through Project RUSHI (Rural Indian Social Health Improvement), a student-led initiative focused on improving healthcare, education, and community well-being.

As part of their outreach activities, the team partnered with Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital to conduct a Free Eye Screening Camp at Viyyampeta village, Kothavalasa Mandal, Vizianagaram District, on 29 August 2026. The camp aimed to promote eye health awareness, facilitate early detection of vision problems, and enhance the quality of life of rural residents through timely intervention.



The volunteer team, comprising Rithika, Riya Senjalia, Vindhya Duggineni, Arshat Singh, Krishay Patel, Karan Urs, and Vrinda Prakash, are pursuing studies in Neurobiology, Human Biology, Molecular and Cell Biology, and Neurosciences at UCSD. Their active involvement reflects a strong spirit of social responsibility and service.

Dr Joseph screened the patients. A team lead by Sri N Appala Raju, Senior Manager (Outreach), Sri Ratan Raju, Manager, Optometry and other supporting staff participated.

Caption: The team observing the eye screening camp conducted in the village.

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Wellness View

Our Eyes: A Precious Gift

Every morning, Maya stepped outside to greet the sunrise. As she admired the golden glow, she paused to appreciate a priceless gift she had often taken for granted: her eyesight. Through her eyes, she could cherish her family's smiles, admire nature's beauty, and experience the vibrant colours of life.

Like Maya, her colleague Ravi depended on his vision every day. Whether reading books, connecting with loved ones, or performing his work effectively, healthy eyes played a vital role in everything he did.

However, as with many of us in today's digital world, long hours spent in front of computers and mobile screens began to take a toll. Dryness, eye strain, headaches, and fatigue became frequent companions. They soon realized that eye health deserves the same attention and care as overall physical well-being.

Determined to protect their vision, Maya adopted simple but effective habits. She followed the 20-20-20 rule: every 20 minutes, she looked at something 20 feet away for 20 seconds. She ensured adequate sleep, stayed well-hydrated, and consciously blinked more often during prolonged screen use.



Image generated by Google Gemini AI

Ravi focused on strengthening his eye health through nutrition and preventive care. He included Vitamin A-rich foods such as carrots, spinach, kale, and sweet potatoes in his diet, while Vitamin C-rich fruits like oranges and berries became regular additions to his meals. He also consumed Omega-3-rich fish and nuts, wore UV-protective sunglasses outdoors, and never missed his annual eye examination.

Within a few weeks, both noticed a remarkable difference. Their eyes felt more comfortable, refreshed, and less strained. More importantly, they gained a renewed appreciation for vision itself. They understood that healthy eyes are more than just organs of sight; they are the windows through which we experience life's most meaningful moments.

The lesson was simple: our eyes are precious windows to the world. Protecting and strengthening them is an essential part of overall wellness, helping us enjoy a healthier, brighter, and more fulfilling life.

A Gentle Reminder

Our eyes work tirelessly every day, yet they are often among the most neglected aspects of our health. Small lifestyle changes, regular eye check-ups, proper nutrition, and mindful screen habits can go a long way in preserving this invaluable gift.

"Take care of your eyes today, and they will help you see a brighter tomorrow."

-Insights by **K. Bangar Raju, Editor**

Research Findings

Modern Spectacle Lenses May Cut Childhood Myopia Progression by Up to 50%

A review published in Ophthalmic and Physiological Optics (31 July 2026) concluded that recent research indicates that modern myopia-control spectacle lenses, including DIMS (Defocus Incorporated Multiple Segments), HALT (Highly Aspherical Lenslet Target), and CARE designs, can reduce myopia progression and axial eye elongation by approximately 40-60% compared with conventional single-vision spectacles.



These lenses work by creating controlled myopic defocus or contrast modulation on the peripheral retina, thereby slowing excessive eye growth while maintaining good visual acuity, comfort, and daily wearability. Long-term clinical studies have demonstrated sustained effectiveness and a favourable safety profile, making these lenses an evidence-based option for childhood myopia management.

The review noted that while short-term outcomes are promising, treatment efficacy varies among lens designs and studies, long-term effectiveness remains less certain, and the exact biological mechanisms are not yet fully understood. Emerging evidence suggests that, beyond peripheral myopic defocus, a reduction in medium- and high-spatial-frequency contrast in the peripheral retina may be a common mechanism underlying myopia control across different spectacle designs.

One representative 2-year randomized clinical trial of defocus incorporated multiple segments lenses in Chinese children aged 8 to 13 years reported approximately 50% efficacy for axial length and 60% efficacy for myopia progression relative to single-vision lenses.

Complementary Lifestyle Recommendations

▲ Outdoor Time: Encourage at least 90-120 minutes of daily outdoor daylight exposure, which naturally stimulates dopamine release in the retina and helps inhibit axial lengthening.

▲ Visual Hygiene: Practice the 20-20-20 rule (every 20 minutes of close work, look at something 20 feet away for 20 seconds) and maintain a comfortable working distance (>30 cm) during screen use and reading.

Overall, current evidence positions myopia-control spectacles as a safe, well-tolerated, and evidence-based intervention that can be integrated into routine paediatric eye care, particularly when contact lenses or pharmacological treatments are unsuitable.

Insights by **K Bangar Raju,** Editor based on inputs from [pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov] [mdpi.com]

The eyes are the silent language of the universe.

MT & CEO Message

Our sincere appreciation also goes to **INOX Air Products** for sponsoring a state-of-the-art Steriliser worth ? 30 lakhs, significantly enhancing surgical efficiency, infection control, and patient safety standards. Furthermore, **Pfizer Healthcare India and Larsen & Toubro (L&T)** have extended valuable support for conducting **free eye screening camps,** contributing **Rs. 39.96 lakhs and Rs. 8 lakhs** respectively. Through these CSR initiatives, thousands of underserved individuals will gain access to quality eye care, restoring vision and transforming lives.

These impactful contributions, made under the **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** initiatives of the respective organizations, underscore the growing confidence of the corporate sector in Sankar Foundation's mission and credibility.

I take this opportunity to congratulate our doctors, outreach team, paramedical staff, and employees for their outstanding performance and for achieving the best results during the month.



Sri Ravi Kumar, Manager, Srikakulam Branch, accompanied by Sri Atchuta Rao, Junior Manager, called on Dr. E.N.V. Naresh Kumar, who assumed charge as District Medical & Health Officer (DM&HO), Srikakula district on 25 August 2026, and felicitated him with a bouquet. During the meeting, Dr. Naresh Kumar was cordially invited to visit Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital. He appreciated the hospital's services and assured his full support and cooperation for its healthcare initiatives.



High Gratitude: As they stepped out from the ward to enjoy a cup of tea at our Coffee Shop, their candid impressions were beautifully captured by the Editor of Visionary Insights and marked with in a heartfelt interaction "four rural patients from Salur in Vijayanagaram district — all of whom underwent successful eye surgeries — shared their joy and gratitude. They praised Sankar Foundation for its excellent treatment, compassionate nursing care, the warmth of hot meals, and the healing green and clean environment that made them feel at home. With laughter and smiles, they declared it the best eye care centre in the region." Every patient's journey here is filled with joy, care, and gratitude irrespective of their status.

editorial

EYES ON THE FUTURE : TRENDS, CHALLENGES AND INNOVATIONS IN ORBIT AND OCULOPLASTY

Key Strengths of the Indian Oculoplasty Ecosystem

- High Clinical Volumes: Indian centers manage a large number of congenital, traumatic, lacrimal, and orbital disorders, providing unparalleled clinical exposure and enabling cost-effective, high-quality care.
- Innovative Surgical Techniques: Indian oculoplastic surgeons have pioneered and refined several modifications in procedures such as DCR, ptosis correction, and an ophthalmic socket reconstruction, enhancing outcomes while reducing costs.
- Leadership in Managing Complex Infections: India's multidisciplinary response to COVID-19-associated rhino-orbital mucormycosis demonstrated global leadership in tackling complex orbital infections and advanced the understanding of these challenging conditions.

Conclusion

Orbit and Oculoplasty sits at a vital intersection uniting ophthalmology, facial plastic surgery, oncology, endocrinology, and digital health. Internationally, the discipline is leaning heavily toward precision medicine, molecular biology, and intraoperative technology. India continues to excel by leveraging surgical expertise, high-volume clinical management, and pragmatic innovation.

The core task ahead for the Indian ophthalmic community is bridging internal access gaps, expanding structured training programs, and developing scalable, cost-effective technologies tailored to resource-conscious settings. By combining vast clinical exposure with targeted adoption of global technologies, India is well-positioned to not only keep pace with global developments, but actively help direct the future of orbital care.

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Surgical Success Metrics
August 2026

Total Eye Surgeries	2,792
Cataract Surgeries	1,972
Retina Surgeries	96
Retina Injections	210
Glaucoma Surgeries	22
Cornea Surgeries	1474
Paediatrics Surgeries	10
Orbit & Oculoplasty	64
Total OP Screened	16,526
BRANCHES	
Srikakulam	
Eye Surgeries + Injections	389
OP Screened	2,051
Maddilapalem	
Eye Surgeries + Injections	99
OP Screened	1,1072
Gajuwaka	
Eye Surgeries + Injections	32
OP Screened	1,033
Madhurawada	
Eye Surgeries	08
OP Screened	580
Total 53 Outreach free eye camps conducted and screened 3,542 patients and Performed 1,320 surgeries.	

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Dy GM (PR, Liaison & Corporate Relations)

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The World's Most Attractive Eye Colours: A Global Comparison

Brown eyes dominate India and much of Asia, while blue, green, and hazel eyes are among the world's rarest and most admired eye colours.

Eye colour is one of the most striking features of human appearance, varying widely across the globe. While brown eyes are the most common worldwide-especially in India, where they are admired for their depth and warmth-lighter shades like blue, green, and hazel are frequently regarded as unique due to their rarity.

India's population predominantly has brown eyes, reflecting rich genetic heritage and higher melanin levels that offer natural protection against sun damage. However, shades of hazel, green, and blue occasionally appear across the Indian subcontinent, particularly in certain northern and mountain regions.



Image Generated by Google Gemini AI

Globally, distribution varies significantly:

- Blue eyes (8-10%): Most common in Northern and Eastern Europe, particularly in countries such as Iceland, Finland, Denmark, Sweden, and the Netherlands.
- Hazel eyes (approx. 5%): Frequently seen in parts of Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East.
- Green eyes (approx. 2%): The rarest of all primary eye colours, most commonly associated with populations in Ireland and Scotland.

Cultural perceptions of attractiveness are heavily influenced by novelty and rarity. While lighter shades draw global fascination, brown eyes remain the world's most versatile and protective eye colour.

Beyond aesthetics, research shows that eye colour genetics are far more complex than simple dominant and recessive traits. Dozens of genes interact to determine pigmentation, which is why children in the same family can have dramatically different eye colours-and why two blue-eyed parents can occasionally have a child with green or light brown eyes. Furthermore, eye colour can shift over time. Many infants of European ancestry are born with light blue or grey eyes due to low initial melanin levels, which gradually darken into green or brown as pigment builds during early childhood.

Insights by **K Bangar Raju,** Editor with inputs from [ophthalmology24.com]



Independence Day Celebrations

Students of Samartha School of Optometry showcased their talent at the celebrations.

Prize-winning students are seen here with their faculty mentors, celebrating their outstanding achievements.

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The soul dances silently in the windows of the eyes.