

# The Drishty

A quarterly Newsletter from

## Kalinga Eye Hospital

(A unit of NYSASDRI)

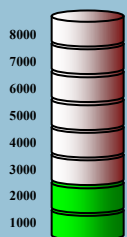


KEH is a distinguished member of **Vision 2020** India forum (a global initiative taken by **WHO-IABP** to eliminate avoidable blindness)



The  
Vision of  
KEH

*To promote quality of life  
in rural communities  
through providing afford-  
able eye care services on a  
sustainable basis.*



Planned Surgery  
for the year 2012

**7600**  
Achieved  
**22.46%**

Let's join hand for the noble cause  
And be a part of this achievement

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### Mission Netrotsav: Nominated for Prime Minister Award

With a mission to improve the quality of life by reducing the avoidable blindness, Mission Netrotsav was initiated in Dhenkanal district under the leadership of Mr. Girish S.N, IAS. In a mission mode under which comprehensive eye screening campaigns would be organized, Mission Netrotsav targets various segments of population with the participation of the community, civil groups, NGOs, Corporate & nodal agencies of Government with the aim to make the target mass free of avoidable blindness & ensure the requisite eye care. With its unique ideas and strategies for eradication of needless blindness, it has impressed many and been nominated for the

Prime Minister Award for excellence in public administration. In this regards Ms Ritika Bhatia, I.A.S, Representative of Administrative reforms of Government of India and Ms Sobhina Basu, Center of Human Development, Administrative Staff College of India had paid a two days visit to Dhenkanal to examine the study of the project. On 12<sup>th</sup> of January the team had a group meeting with the Mr. Girish S.N, Collector, Cuttack, Sarangadhar Samal, Director- Kalinga Eye Hospital, The DPC of SSA, The DWSO, The CDMO and other respected members of the District. After the meeting the team had visited some of the schools to see the procedures the teachers

are using to detect eye problems and the effectiveness and sustainability of the project. After the field visit the team paid a visit to Kalinga Eye Hospital and praised for the facilities and the activities that Kalinga Eye Hospital does for the community. On 13<sup>th</sup> of January 2012, the team visited some of the adults in post-operative care from cataract surgeries and paediatric cases of MADA. They also spared some time with the children who underwent strabismus surgery and currently wearing refractive glasses at Kalinga Eye Hospital During the visit the team praised the effort and initiatives of Mission Netrotsav for eradication of blindness within the community.

### Give the Gift of Sight: Make a DONATION

Kalinga Eye Hospital is internationally recognized for provided cutting-edge, high-quality care to Orissa's poorest residents. By providing free cataract surgeries to over 7000 patients annually, we bring light into the lives of children and adults throughout India's poorest district. One of

the most cost-effective global health interventions, cataract surgery gives patients new educational and economic opportunities, thereby boosting the local economy and helping to break the cycle of poverty. To continue this life-changing and community-building work, we need

your support. Only \$17 pays for a sight-restoring cataract surgery—please give now and restore someone's sight today. Together, we can build a brighter future for Odisha. For more information please log on to our website [www.kalingaeyehospital.org](http://www.kalingaeyehospital.org)



**Prof. Johannes Bircher, Emeritus Professor of International Medicine and Clinical Pharmacology addressing the gathering at Kalinga Eye Hospital.**

## Building Capacities through Meikerch Model

With a goal to ensure value of health care system through capacity building, Professor Johannes Bircher, Emeritus Professor of International Medicine and Clinical Pharmacology came to India to develop a partnership with NYSASDRI and developed the "Meikirch Model". The objective of the model is to In-

creased Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) of health service provider, health care personnel, civil society organization, policy makers, media, through capacity building training at district and state level. The-Meikirch model for a sustainable health care system focuses on increasing confidence

and social responsibility to reduce health care cost. A seminar was organized at Kalinga Eye Hospital, Dhenkanal on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2012. 58 participants of Government Organization, NGOs, and Doctors took part in it and shared their valuable thoughts and ideas over the model. The seminar showed a new

**112 people affected with Diabetes were treated with Laser Photocoagulation procedure, preserving their sight.**

## Reducing Avoidable Blindness: Rungta Mines Limited.

To reduce the avoidable blindness from the peripheral villages of the corporate house, Rungta Mines has partnered with Kalinga Eye Hospital in 2010. Kalinga has provided regularly eye screenings and treatment cum eye care educational camps organized

every year in those targeted villages. This year two eye camps were organized; Tarkabeda and Galpada on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of February 2012 respectively. Around 617 people were screened in those two days, 419 have provided with ophthalmic medicines,

247 have received refractive corrected glasses and 36 underwent sight restoration surgery at Kalinga Eye Hospital, Dhenkanal. All expenses of this sight restoration program were covered by the Rungta Mines Limited, Dhenkanal.



**Ms Ritika Bhatia, Ms Sobhina Basu along with Girish S.N meeting the community beneficiaries of Mission Netrotsav.**

## Transforming lives: Unite for Sight

Unite For Sight, a non-profit global health delivery organization that empowers communities worldwide to improve eye health and eliminate preventable blindness, joined forces with Kalinga Eye Hospital, Dhenkanal to provide comprehensive ophthalmic care including examinations by

eye doctors, diagnosis and care for all treatable conditions, and educate the community about preventive measures through conducting outreach eye treatment camps. Outreach camps are conducted in a radius of about seven hours from the clinic in the local villages to mini-

mize the patient traveling. These patients are provided with follow up care by our outreach teams regularly. Till March, more than 2282 people have been screened through 21 outreach eye camps and 820 adults have had their sight restored.



## Last mile Connectivity

Outreach for mass eye screening has always been a challenge due to paucity of Doctors & technicians in Odisha. So with the innovative solution of involving the community workers in detecting eye problems, AWWs and teachers have been trained to do eye screenings to reach out to every child without the preliminary requirement of doctor /

technician. Kalinga Eye Hospital has proven this model by training 1808 school teachers and 1546 village volunteers of Dhenkanal district for detection of eye problems amongst pediatric age group. After the successful project in Dhenkanal, the Sarva Sikshya Abhiyan (District School & Mass Education Department) Cuttack has showed

interest and requested Kalinga Eye Hospital to train Integrated Education volunteers on screening and detecting eye problems amongst the elementary school children of Cuttack. 161 Integrated Education volunteers were trained by Kalinga Eye Hospital in the first week of February 2012 at the CRC building of Sarva Sikshya Abhiyan, Cuttack.



**Trainer from Kalinga Eye Hospital empowering the knowledge of the Integrated Education Volunteers on Eye Care.**

## Volunteering at Kalinga Eye Hospital.

From January to March 2012, 5 volunteers traveled to Dhenkanal to work with Kalinga Eye Hospital through the organization Unite for Sight. Volunteer projects this quarter have included research studies investigating patient eye drop usage and analyzing the economic profile of cataract sur-

gery patients, improvement of the hospital's website, computerizing data from village eye screenings, and investigating options for a switchover to an electronic medical records system. In addition to working on these projects, volunteers also participate in village eye camps to observe

cataract surgeries. The following volunteers stayed at Kalinga Eye Hospital during the months of January & February: namely Anushka Das, Sanjana Chowdhury, Arjun Shenoi, Susan Smart, and Lancel Joseph.

**DIK Germany Consultant, Mr. Mark Paul has visited Kalinga Eye Hospital on 20-23rd February 2012.**

## Regional Review Meeting of NPCB

The regional review meeting of National Program for Control of Blindness (NPCB) was organized at the Swosti Premium on 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2012. The State Program Manager, District Program Managers of Odisha, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar and the Non Government Eye Hospitals have participated in the meeting.

On behalf of Kalinga Eye Hospital, Mr. Sunil Kumar Mishra- Program Manager also attended. The objective of the review meeting was to review the performance of the year 2011 to strengthen the program for 2012. The new method of electronically reporting method was presented before the participants. On behalf

of the NPCB, Ms. Sujaya Krishnan, Joint Secretary-Government of India, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Dr. N.K. Agarwal, Deputy Director General (O), Ms. Gayatri Mishra, Director, Dr. V. Rajshekhar- Eye Specialist, Mr. K.K. Jhell- Under Secretary, Dr. V. K. Tiwari -Health Education Officer have all attended



**The NPCB Central team addressing the gathering at the review meeting.**



**Kalinga Eye Hospital**



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## ACHIEVEMENTS (January– March 2012)

Sl No	Activities	In Nos
1	OPD in the Base Hospital	4672
2	Outreach screening camps conducted	51
3	OPD in those eye screening camps	3190
4	No of Free Adult Eye surgeries conducted	1555
5	No of Paying Adult eye surgeries conducted	127
6	No of Paediatric Eye Surgeries conducted	26
7	Total surgeries conducted	1708
8	No of Corneas Retrieved	0
9	Children Screened	3156
10	OPD at the Vision Centre	579
11	Persons educated on eye care	1707

## The Transformation: A Case Story

At an eye camp located a hefty four-hour drive away from the Dhenkanal district of Orissa, paramedics from the Kalinga Eye Hospital conduct screening tests upon dozens of villagers. Among the handful of people with identifiable cataracts is 60-year-old Mahalik Nayak.

In the village of Hariharpur, Mahalik's husband works as a farmer to support his family. Mahalik has no children to support her though; instead, her husband has a second wife, and she stays with them and their family. Mahalik has not received any formal schooling and takes care of the home. Over the last couple of years, however, she noticed that her vision became blurrier and, upon hearing about the eye camp arriving near her village, decided to get

her eyes checked. To her surprise, she was told that she has a cataract in her left eye and required it to be surgically removed in order to enjoy normal vision once more.

Interestingly enough, Mahalik had no idea that she was suffering from a cataract when she first decided to visit the eye camp operating near her village on April 6, 2012. She cites her increasingly blurry vision as the main factor that motivated her to seek treatment and get her eyes checked. When pressed with increasingly intricate questions regarding the nature of her affliction, she simply laughs. To her, the cataract is simply the source of her blurry vision, an inconvenience that impairs her daily household chores. Difficulties in sewing, cleaning and cooking, for example, are

merely a source of irritation that she has learned to live with. When questioned about what she expects from the sight-restoring surgery that she is about to undergo, she says: "Now, my eyes are bad. I hope the surgery is good, and I will be okay."

Post-operative visual acuity testing reveals that her eyesight is back to normal and for her, this is a cause for joy. No longer will her daily activities be clouded by the blurry vision brought on by the cataract; instead, thanks to the surgery, she goes home with a new bout of independence and productivity. Or, to put it more simply in her words: "The surgery was good. Now I am okay."



**Mahalik Nayak before her Cataract Surgery**



**Mahalik; after Cataract Surgery**

**Make a  
Difference  
Let's Save Somebody's Light  
DONATE NOW**

**According to the World Health Organization, 37 million people worldwide are blind — yet 28 million suffer needlessly. Their blindness could have been prevented or treated. Kalinga Eye Hospital is fighting against preventable blindness —let's join hands to eliminate blindness and transform lives.**