



VISION 2020: The Right to Sight-India World Sight Day Report

October 2025



Image Courtesy: Dr. R.P. Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences

Introduction

Vision 2020: The Right to Sight- India is a registered not-for-profit national forum and is a key driver of the global initiative of the World Health Organization (WHO) and International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) for reducing avoidable visual impairment. It is a collaborative effort of INGOs, NGOs, Dr. RP Centre AIIMS, and eye care organizations in India to coordinate and advocate for improved eye care programs: to gain and share knowledge and together develop solutions to achieve quality, comprehensive and equitable eye care.

Mission

To work with eye care organisations in India to eliminate avoidable blindness by providing equitable and affordable services, and rehabilitating visually challenged individuals through the promotion of best practices, with special emphasis on the poor, marginalised, and underserved communities.

Vision

An India free of avoidable blindness, where every citizen enjoys the gift of sight and the visually challenged experience an enhanced quality of life.



From President's Desk

This year, VISION 2020 INDIA celebrated World Sight Day at one of our esteemed member institutions, Alakh Nayan Mandir, Udaipur—an organisation deeply respected for its compassion and commitment to quality eye care. Our annual celebrations are a reminder of our shared mission to promote the significance of sight across communities, and this year's event held special meaning as our efforts align closely with the Government of India's vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

The day began with a Walk for Vision through the serene landscapes of Udaipur, the City of Lakes, where participants united to champion the cause of protecting eyesight, preventing avoidable blindness, and prioritising regular eye care for all. We all marched together alongside FatehSagar Lake and sloganed for a eye screening and timely eye check ups.

In the evening, we proudly launched two important manuals—Situational Analysis of the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) Scheme in India and Insurance Systems Pertaining to Eye Care in India—designed to strengthen policy understanding, enhance programme delivery, and build a more inclusive and equitable eye health ecosystem nationwide. We also released a series of awareness videos by our Goodwill Ambassador, Shri Krishnamachari Srikanth, focusing on cataract, refractive error, and the importance of wearing spectacles, further amplifying our public outreach.

A highlight of the evening was the conferment of the Lifetime Achievement Award upon Dr. B.K. Jain, honouring his decades-long contribution to advancing eye care and touching countless lives. As President of VISION 2020 INDIA, I am proud to affirm that our efforts continue to support India's journey toward Viksit Bharat.



Dr. Rajesh Saini

President

Vision 2020: The Right to Sight - India

‘Walk for Vision: Walkathon’ with Alakh Nayan Mandir in Udaipur



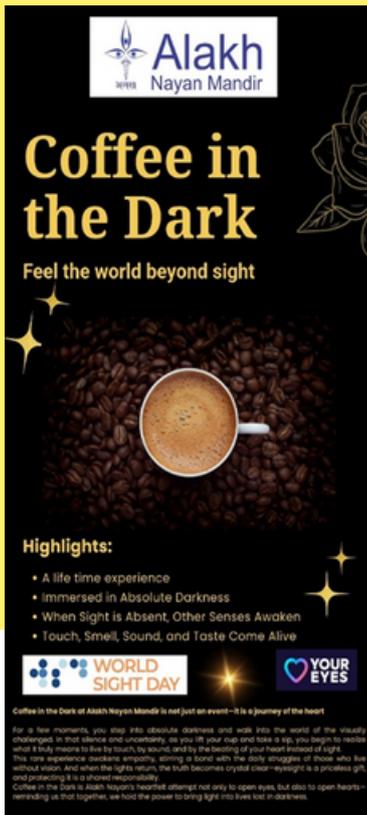
This year, VISION 2020 INDIA celebrated World Sight Day at one of our esteemed member institutions, Alakh Nayan Mandir, Udaipur—an organisation widely respected for its compassion and dedication to quality eye care. The day began with a **Walk for Vision** through the serene landscapes of the City of Lakes. Participants marched together along the Fateh Sagar Lake, raising slogans on the importance of regular eye screenings, timely check-ups, and preventing avoidable blindness. The walk served as a collective reminder of our mission to promote the significance of sight across communities and aligned with the Government of India’s vision of **Viksit Bharat 2047**.



Marching Together with a clear message of Save Sight; Save Life

Our Host member celebrated World Sight Day in a unique way

“Coffee in the Dark”: A journey that allows individuals to experience, even briefly, what a person without vision lives with every day.



Alakh Nayan Mandir organised a unique workshop for participants, where a closed, completely dark hall was set up with a few objects chosen for their distinct smell and texture. Participants, blindfolded, were guided to touch and feel each object, relying solely on their senses of touch and smell.

The purpose of this fully dark, sensory experience was to help individuals with sight briefly understand what a person without vision encounters in their daily life. A total of 87 participants took part in this activity and later shared their reflections on the powerful experience.

More events organized by Alakh Nayan Mandir Eye Institute



465 were screened through free eye camps



465 Auto Rickshaw Drivers were Screened

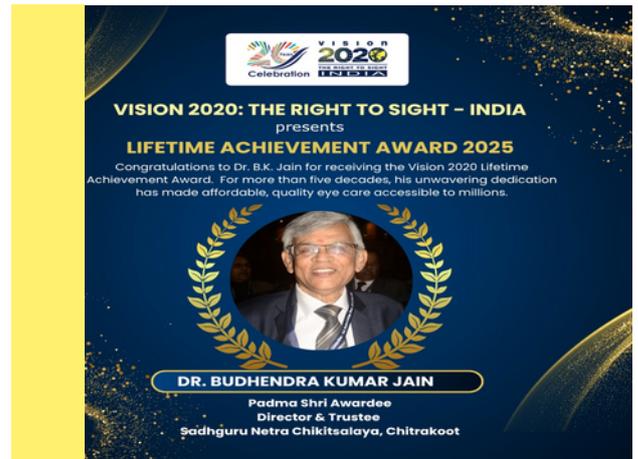


3335 school students were screened



750 Nursing students attended lectures on eye health

In the Evening, we all came together for Udaan organized by Alakh Nayan Mandir Eye Institute



In the evening, VISION 2020 INDIA proudly launched two important manuals aimed at strengthening India's eye health ecosystem. The Situational Analysis of the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) Scheme in India and Insurance Systems Pertaining to Eye Care in India were unveiled to enhance policy understanding, improve programme delivery, and support more inclusive, equitable access to eye care services nationwide.

These knowledge resources mark a significant step in guiding stakeholders toward better-designed interventions and informed decision-making.

A highlight of the evening was the conferring of the Lifetime Achievement Award upon Dr. B.K. Jain, honouring his decades-long contribution to advancing eye care and his unwavering dedication to transforming countless lives through service. The ExCom members of VISION 2020 INDIA proudly presented this prestigious recognition to Dr. Jain.

"As President of VISION 2020 INDIA, I am proud to share that recognitions such as these reflect our continued commitment to strengthening India's journey toward better eye health and contributing to the nation's aspiration of Viksit Bharat 2047," said Dr. Rajesh Kumar Saini.



As part of our public awareness efforts, we also released a series of eye health videos featuring our Goodwill Ambassador, Shri Krishnamachari Srikanth. The messages focused on cataract, refractive errors, and the importance of wearing spectacles. These engaging videos are intended to broaden outreach, encourage preventive eye care practices, and empower people with the information needed to safeguard their vision.

Member's in Action



With over 200 members across India, we bring you glimpses of the activities conducted under the **#LoveYourEyes Campaign**. This is our Members' Corner, where we have highlighted the initiatives shared by our members as they celebrate **World Sight Day**. Catch a glimpse of their efforts below.



The Campaign reached millions across the country!



नज़र के महत्व

कमाने के लिए सही दृष्टि का होना आवश्यक

सीखने के लिए सही दृष्टि का होना आवश्यक

सुरक्षित रहने के लिए सही दृष्टि का होना आवश्यक

डॉ. एनई प्रसाद, मेडिकल सेक्टर, चण्डी, आई विजल

Rotary DEVA FOUNDATION 2020 2025 ARAVIND EYE CARE SYSTEM

WORLD SIGHT DAY

Date : 09.10.2025

YOUR EYES AT WORK

90% OF ALL SIGHT LOSS IS PREVENTABLE OR TREATABLE. THE MAJORITY OF EYE DISEASES CAN BE TREATED, OR PROGRESSION SLOWED, IF DETECTED EARLY.

"Love Your Eyes"

ROTARY HOOGHLY EYE HOSPITAL
ADCCONAGAR, HOOGHLY, WEST BENGAL, INDIA

WORLD SIGHT DAY LOVE YOUR EYES

General Care of Our Eyes

Do's

- Use clean water to wash your eyes.
- Always keep your environment clean.

Don'ts

- Don't use kajal, surma, harsh cosmetics etc in your eyes. They may be harmful.
- Never use eye drops without prescription from a doctor.

In case of any problem in the eyes, consult an eye specialist immediately

AUROSIKSHA SIKSHA BITE - 80

Assessing Visual Acuity in Children

Infants (0-12 months)

- Use fixing and following light to check visual response.
- This helps assess vision when the baby cannot speak or identify symbols.

Toddlers (12-36 months / 1-3 years)

- Use Teller Acuity Cards.
- Based on preferential looking — toddlers will naturally prefer to look at lesser grating if they can be seen.

Pre school Children (3-5 years)

- Use Lea Symbol Chart.
- Simple symbols such as apple, house, circle, and square for children who cannot read letters.
- Child points to matching symbols on a card.

School age Children (Above 5 years)

- Use Snellen Chart.
- Suitable for children who can recognize and name letters and numbers confidently.

ARAVIND EYE CARE SYSTEM

Love Your Eyes

Your Window to the World

Keep Your Eyes

- Wash your face with clean water and mild soap.
- Use eye drops only if prescribed by a doctor.
- Do not rub your eyes.
- Use eye protection when working with machinery or chemicals.

Use Corrective Lenses

- Wear your glasses or contact lenses as prescribed.
- Get your eyes checked regularly.
- Do not share your glasses or contact lenses.

Use a Cleanse Life

- Use eye drops only if prescribed by a doctor.
- Do not use eye drops without prescription.
- Do not use eye drops if you have an eye infection.

See the Specialist

- Visit an eye care professional for a comprehensive eye exam.
- Follow their advice and treatment plan.
- Do not delay in seeking eye care.

Your sight is precious. Love your eyes, protect your future.

Dr. Garima Sarwal, PhD Scholar, Community Opt. & Healthology

OTOMETRY

WORLD SIGHT DAY COMPETITIONS

Competition Details Who is it for?

- Digital Art Competition on Spectacle Stigma Optometry Students
- Quiz Mania on Instagram Stories Open to all Optometrists
- Spread Awareness through '100' Optometry Practitioners

Stay tuned to our social media pages for more information

OCTOBER IS EYE INJURY PREVENTION MONTH

DID YOU KNOW?

- Eye injuries are preventable.
- Most eye injuries occur at work.
- Wearing eye protection can prevent eye injuries.
- Eye injuries can lead to permanent vision loss.
- Eye injuries can be painful and costly.
- Eye injuries can be prevented by wearing eye protection.

Common Symptoms of Eye Injury

- Redness
- Swelling
- Discharge
- Blurred vision
- Pain
- Itching
- Foreign body sensation

First Aid for Eye Injuries

- Do not rub the eye.
- Do not use eye drops.
- Do not use eye ointment.
- Do not use eye patches.
- Do not use eye shields.
- Do not use eye splints.
- Do not use eye shields.
- Do not use eye shields.

Personal Protective Equipments

- Safety glasses
- Face shields
- Eye protection film

Take All Eye Injuries Seriously
DO NOT try to treat them yourselves
VISIT YOUR NEAREST EYE CARE PROFESSIONAL.



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