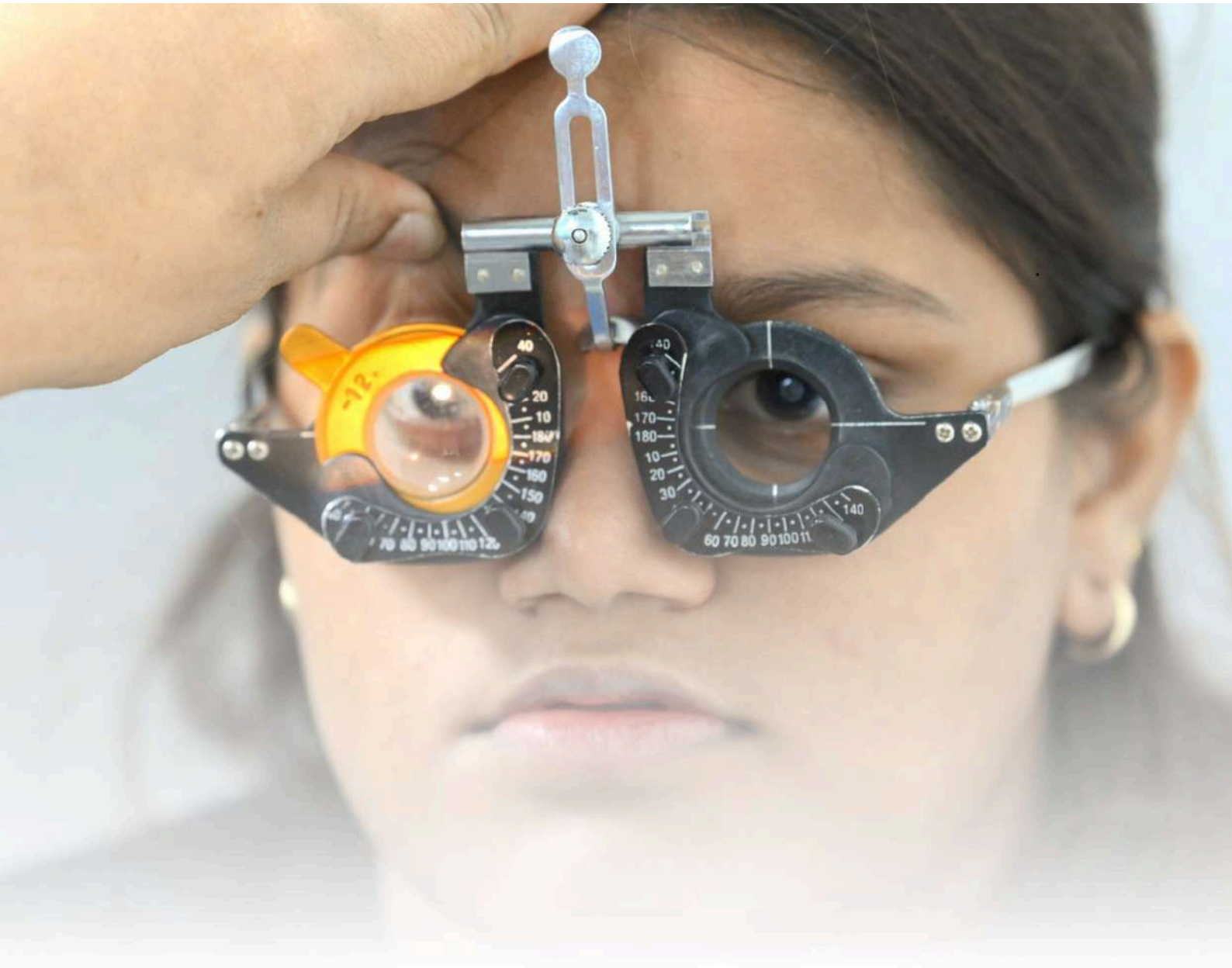




VISION FOUNDATION OF INDIA

Providing Community Eye Care



Film Centre Building, Ground Floor, 68 Tardeo Road
Mumbai- 400034, Maharashtra , India



FROM THE DESK OF MANAGING TRUSTEE

Dr. Kulin Kothari

Vision is not a privilege, it is a basic human right!

We at Vision Foundation of India have a very clear purpose that no human being should be left behind in terms of vision. Pan India, millions of adults and children continue to live with avoidable visual impairment because most of them do not have access to primary eye care. Poor vision silently wears away productivity, independence, education & dignity mostly in rural and among marginalised population. Vision Foundation of India envisages and is working towards eliminating avoidable blindness by 2047, by strengthening community eye care and providing holistic & comprehensive care to those who need them the most.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Almighty for giving us the privilege to serve the community at large. We deeply value the benevolence of all our supporters and would like to thank all our esteemed donors, partners and every well-wishers those who are a part of this drive towards achieving VFI's mission & vision.

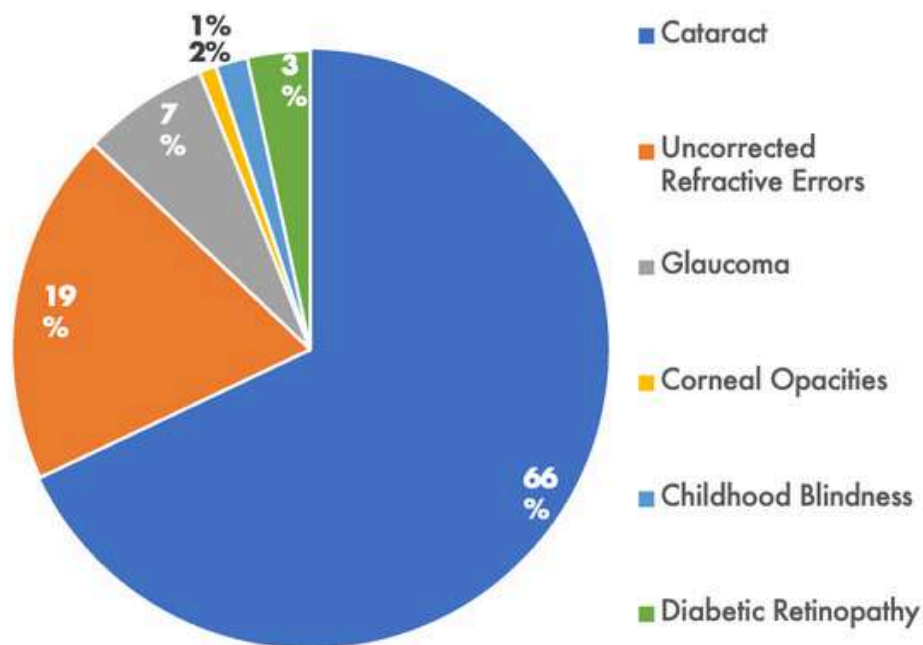
Together let us ensure that every adult can work productively every child can read clearly and all geriatric/senior citizen can live with dignity with the gift of sight.

Thank you for being a part of this vision!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kulin Kothari". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Dr Kulin Kothari
Managing Trustee
Vision Foundation of India

CAUSES OF BLINDNESS IN INDIA



More than 80% of the blindness is avoidable in India

Source: National Blindness and Visual Impairment Survey (2015-19)



FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dr. Nayan Chakravarty

In public health eye care, the most transformative impact comes not from isolated interventions, but from strong systems and continuity of care.

India has made remarkable progress in ophthalmology, yet avoidable blindness and visual impairment remain persistent public health challenges. Millions of children struggle to learn because they cannot see clearly. Adults lose livelihoods due to untreated eye conditions. Families face unnecessary financial hardship for visual impairments that are preventable, detectable, and treatable.

At Vision Foundation of India (VFI), we are reimagining how eye care reaches the most marginalised. Our mission is to ensure that quality eye care is accessible, affordable, and continuous, regardless of geography or socio-economic status. We are building a comprehensive eye health ecosystem, one that connects early screening with timely treatment and long-term follow-up. Our work spans across school eye health programmes, community outreach, and vision centres that serve as the first point of care, supported by strong referral networks. By integrating tele-ophthalmology and AI-enabled solutions, we promise to strengthening access and continuity, particularly in underserved regions. Vision Foundation of India believes that sustainable change is built through partnerships, with communities, governments, donors, and corporate leaders.

This brochure reflects not just our work, but our commitment to a future where no one is left behind due to poor vision.

Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nayan". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Dr Nayan Chakravarty
Chief Executive Officer
Vision Foundation of India



The Burden of Vision Loss in India

In India, blindness and visual impairment are broadly preventable but millions of people still lose their sight because of the untimely diagnosis and the lack of access to medical help.

In India, cataract is the leading cause of blindness (66 percent), which is then followed by corneal opacities, retinal diseases, and glaucoma; most of them can be prevented and treated.

Source: Sudhan A, Sharma S, Dole K, et al. Blindness and visual impairment and their causes in India: Results of a nationally representative survey. *Indian J Ophthalmol*. 2023

Good vision is one of the greatest but correctable issues in India. One in ten adults has uncorrected refractive error, and almost one in three has no correction of presbyopia- unveiling a huge market potential of simple and cheap eye treatment.

Source: Sheeladevi, S., Seelam, B., Nukella, P. B., Borah, R. R., Ali, R., & Keay, L. (2019). Prevalence of refractive errors, uncorrected refractive error, and presbyopia in adults in India: A systematic review. *Indian Journal of Ophthalmology*, 67(5), 583–592.

In the people aged 50 years and above, it is found that about 28 percent of adults reside with vision loss, and 2 percent are blind. The positive fact: nearly 80 percent of blindness is preventable- sight can be spared or recovered.

Source: Vashist P, Senjam SS, Gupta V, et al. Blindness and visual impairment and their causes in India: results of a nationally representative survey. *PLoS One*. 2023;18(6):e0271736. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0271736.

The net loss of Gross National Income (GNI) due to blindness was estimated at INR 845 billion. The potential loss of productivity due to vision impairment (including mild to severe cases) was estimated at INR 646 billion.

Source: Mannava S, Borah RR, Shamanna BR. Current estimates of the economic burden of blindness and visual impairment in India: A cost of illness study. *Indian J Ophthalmol*. 2022 Jun;70(6):2141-2145.

LIVES IMPACTED DIRECTLY: 7,29,291+
LIVES IMPACTED INDIRECTLY: 36,46,455+

Note: As on January 2026, Vision Foundation of India has undertaken more than Seven lakhs twenty nine thousands free eye surgeries in India, impacting their lives directly and more than thirty six lakhs family members indirectly



ABOUT VISION FOUNDATION OF INDIA

Founded in 1993 by Dr. Kulin Kothari, Vision Foundation of India (VFI) is driven by a simple yet powerful belief, that no one should live in darkness because they cannot afford treatment. For over three decades, VFI has been restoring sight by providing free eye check-ups, surgeries, and advanced eye care to the most vulnerable communities, especially in rural and underserved areas. Every contribution helps return not just vision, but independence, dignity and hope to individuals and their families. As a registered not-for-profit Trust, VFI continues its mission toward a blind free India, transforming lives, one pair of eye at a time.

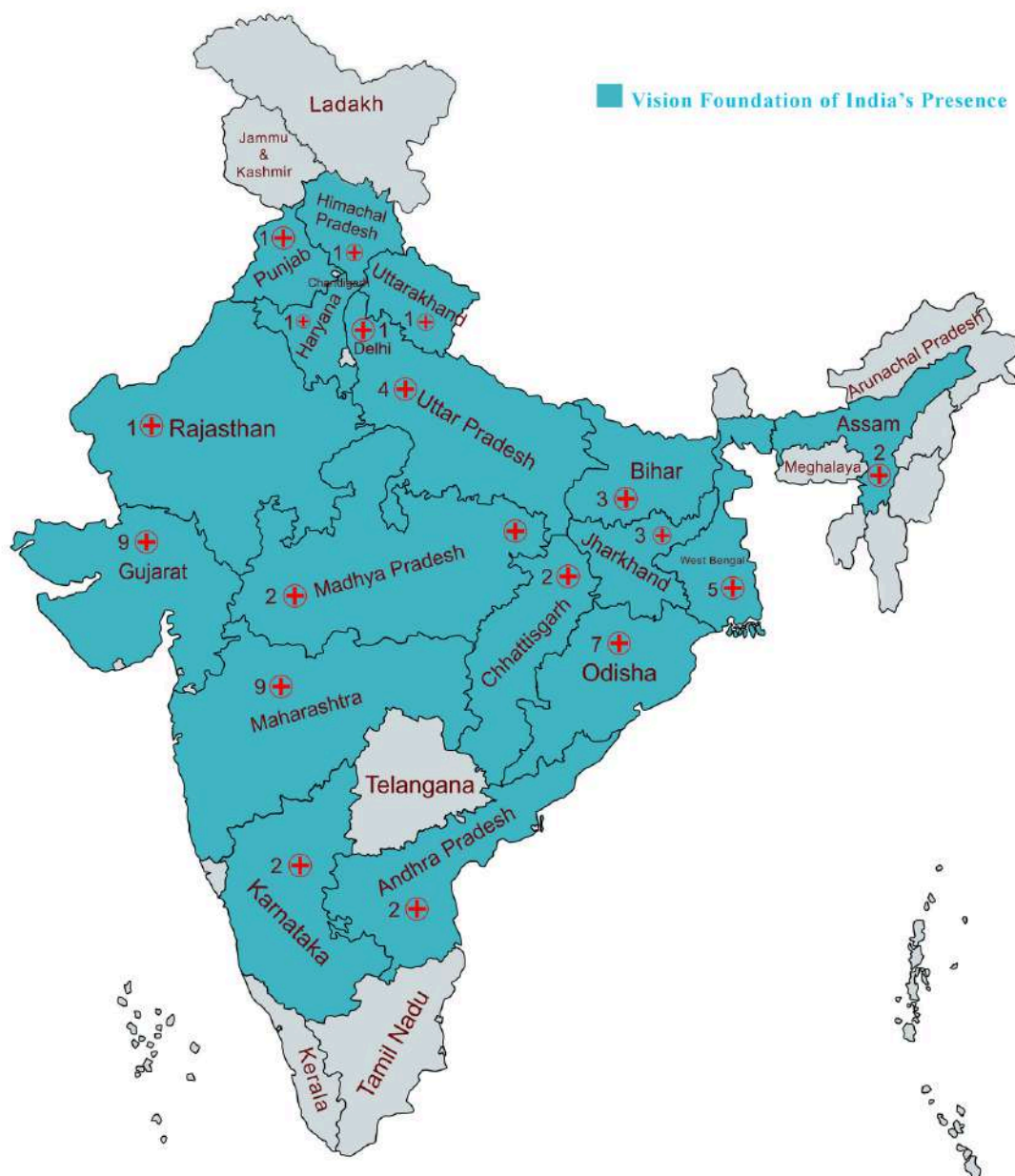
It reflects the idea that the fight against blindness is not just about large numbers, but about restoring sight to each individual patient. Every eye surgery, eye treatment, and every act of care transforms one life, one family, and eventually an entire community.

VFI at a glance, its pivotal focus is to prevent the occurrence of blindness in our country to the greatest extent possible, to treat all kind of curable blindness and to establish a network of associate hospitals and partners located strategically in various parts of the country.

Vision Foundation of India today is looking to expand its prowess into strengthening community eye care at a large scale in terms of comprehensive Eye health Care which is inclusive of School Eye Health Initiatives, Eco-Friendly Vision Centres, Diabetic Retinopathy, Glaucoma, and other ocular morbidities, at some of the most vulnerable groups across the country.

OUR FOOTPRINTS

Vision Foundation of India, in partnership with a robust network of over 65 Associate Hospitals, operates across 19 states, mobilising the expertise of more than 200 doctors and over 1,000 dedicated support staff.



OUR GOALS, VISION & MISSION

GOALS

Eliminate avoidable blindness by 2047 in India .

Poverty and blindness are highly undesired combination. Out of global total of 39 million, India is home to around 12 million individuals with visual impairment. Vision Foundation of India with the support of partners and Associate hospitals are working towards giving sight to every citizen in India.

VISION

To be the leading force in the fight against avoidable blindness in India.

MISSION

To reach out to deserving and needy individuals suffering from curable eye ailments and provide quality, timely and affordable treatment.



Key Projects of Vision Foundation of India

Rashtriya Netra Yagna

RNY is the Pan India initiative of the Vision Foundation of India, launched in 2015 with a focused mission to eliminate avoidable blindness. RNY enables free, high-quality eye surgeries for individuals from marginalised and underserved communities. The initiative prioritises the treatment of high-burden conditions including cataract, retinal disorders, corneal diseases and glaucoma.

Bal Drishti

Bal Drishti is a child eye health initiative of the Vision Foundation of India that focuses on early detection and timely treatment of vision problems among children. Through eye screening programmes in municipal and private schools, the initiative ensures that children with visual impairments receive prompt medical care, safeguarding their learning, brain development, and future potential.

Mobile Eye Clinics through mobile van

Mobile Eye Clinics bring essential eye care services to remote and underserved villages where access to medical facilities is limited. Through fully equipped mobile vans, the Vision Foundation of India delivers screening, diagnosis, and referrals at the community's doorstep, ensuring timely eye care for those who would otherwise be left unreached.

Primary Rural Vision Care

Primary Rural Vision Care is designed to strengthen access to eye care for rural populations, with a focus on early detection and treatment of cataract. Through sustained outreach, the Vision Foundation of India brings essential vision services to remote and underserved communities, with long-standing operations in the Manor and Shahpur regions of Maharashtra, ensuring care reaches even the last mile.



Smt. Rajashree Ji Birla, Member- Board of Advisors and Dr Kulin Kothari, Managing Trustee VFI, felicitating Erstwhile Governor of Maharashtra

Key Projects of Vision Foundation of India

Community Eye Clinic

CEC is a Vision Foundation of India facility located in the heart of Mumbai, providing comprehensive eye care at highly subsidised rates to both marginalised and general communities. Recognised as one of the largest charitable eye care OPDs in the city, the clinic ensures accessible, high-quality eye services for all.

Police Jyoti

Under this project, a special OPD session for serving police personal and their families are available at Community Eye Clinic, Tardeo. Police personal are operated free of cost and their family members are treated at highly subsidised rates.

BMC-VFI Bal Drishti Project

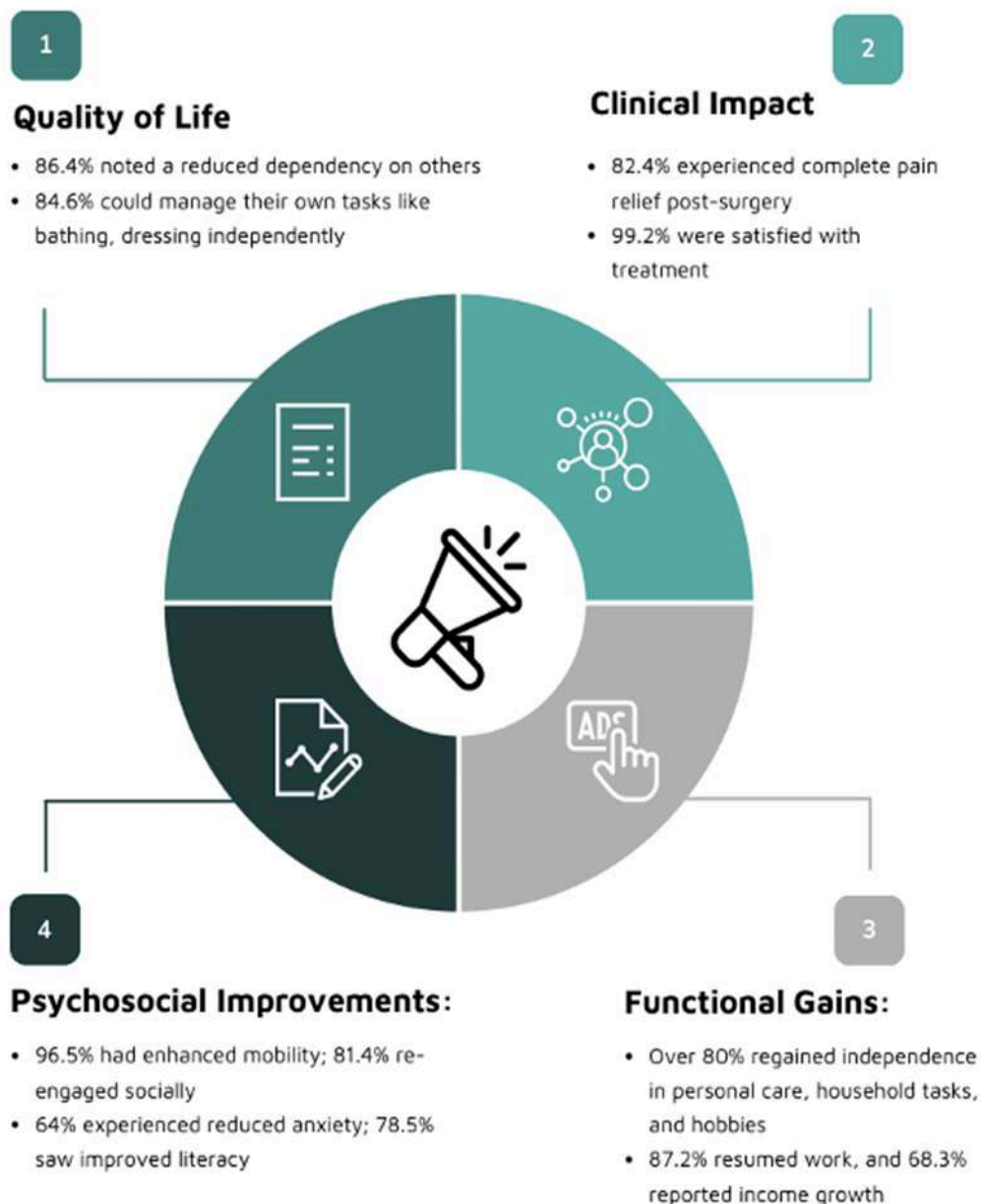
BMC-VFI Bal Drishti Project is a comprehensive school eye health initiative aimed at screening students across all 1,200+ BMC schools in Mumbai. The programme provides eye care knowledge, free spectacles and necessary eye surgeries to children aged 6 to 15 years, ensuring timely correction of refractive errors and other vision conditions, and supporting better learning outcomes and long-term visual health.

Upcoming Project

Project Netra Yatra

Project Netra Yatra is a targeted eye health initiative in Mumbai that provides primary eye screenings, free spectacles, and surgical interventions for auto-rickshaw drivers, safeguarding their vision, livelihoods and road safety.

Impact Assessment 2023-24: key Findings





From Darkness To Dignity

Dated: 21st March 2025

Location: Dandapur, Gadag, Karnataka

In the small village of Dandapur, 54-year-old Yallavva Gasti has faced life's hardships with quiet strength. After losing her husband, Mallappa, to alcoholism six years ago, she was left to care for herself with the support of her son, a driver who works hard to provide for the family. One day, while working in the fields, Yallavva injured her eye. The irritation worsened, and though she visited a government hospital, the treatment provided didn't help. Soon, her vision began to blur, making even simple tasks like cooking and farming nearly impossible.

Hope came when Yallavva heard about a free eye camp in Nulavi, conducted with support from the Vision Foundation of India (VFI) and through the generous support of JM Financial Foundation. At the camp, doctors discovered she had a cataract in her right eye and offered her free surgery. Yallavva bravely underwent the procedure.

The moment her bandages were removed, her world transformed. With her sight restored, Yallavva now works independently and lives with renewed confidence. Her story is a testament to how compassionate support from JM Financial Foundation has changed her life; restoring not just sight, but dignity and independence.

"The hospital provided everything, from free meals and medicines to arranging transportation from my village. I'm grateful to VFI for this support and Surgery"

"The surgery changed my life. I can work, walk, and live without depending on others. From diagnosis to treatment, everything was done with care and compassion, at no cost. Vision Foundation of India has been a blessing for me".

Yallavva Gasti



Chottu Verma, Bhandaro Village, Giridih, Jharkhand

From Darkness to Dreams

Dated: 18th November 2023

Location: Bhandaro Village, Giridih, Jharkhand

At just 14 years of age, Chottu Verma was slowly losing his sight. Faces became unrecognizable, books unreadable, and playtime with friends a distant memory. Each step was filled with fear as his world grew darker. Coming from a modest family earning barely ₹8,000–10,000 a month, his parents were heartbroken, knowing they couldn't afford the treatment their son desperately needed.

Then, hope arrived in the form of Vision Foundation of India and through the generous support from Kotak Mahindra Investments Limited. From the first eye check-up to his life-changing cataract surgery and follow-up care, everything was provided free of cost, including medicines, protective glasses, nourishing meals, and even transportation from his village. With an intraocular lens implant, Chottu's vision was fully restored!

The day Chottu opened his eyes after surgery, light and joy returned to his world. Today, with Kotak Mahindra Investments Limited's generosity, he didn't just restore his sight; it gave him back his childhood, independence, and hope.

"Vision Foundation of India helped restore my vision and confidence. I'm deeply thankful to everyone who made this possible."

Chottu Verma



Sibu Manjhi, Sherghati Village, Gaya, Bihar

Sibu's Journey Back to Hope

Dated: 18th Jan 2024

Location: Sherghati, Gaya, Bihar

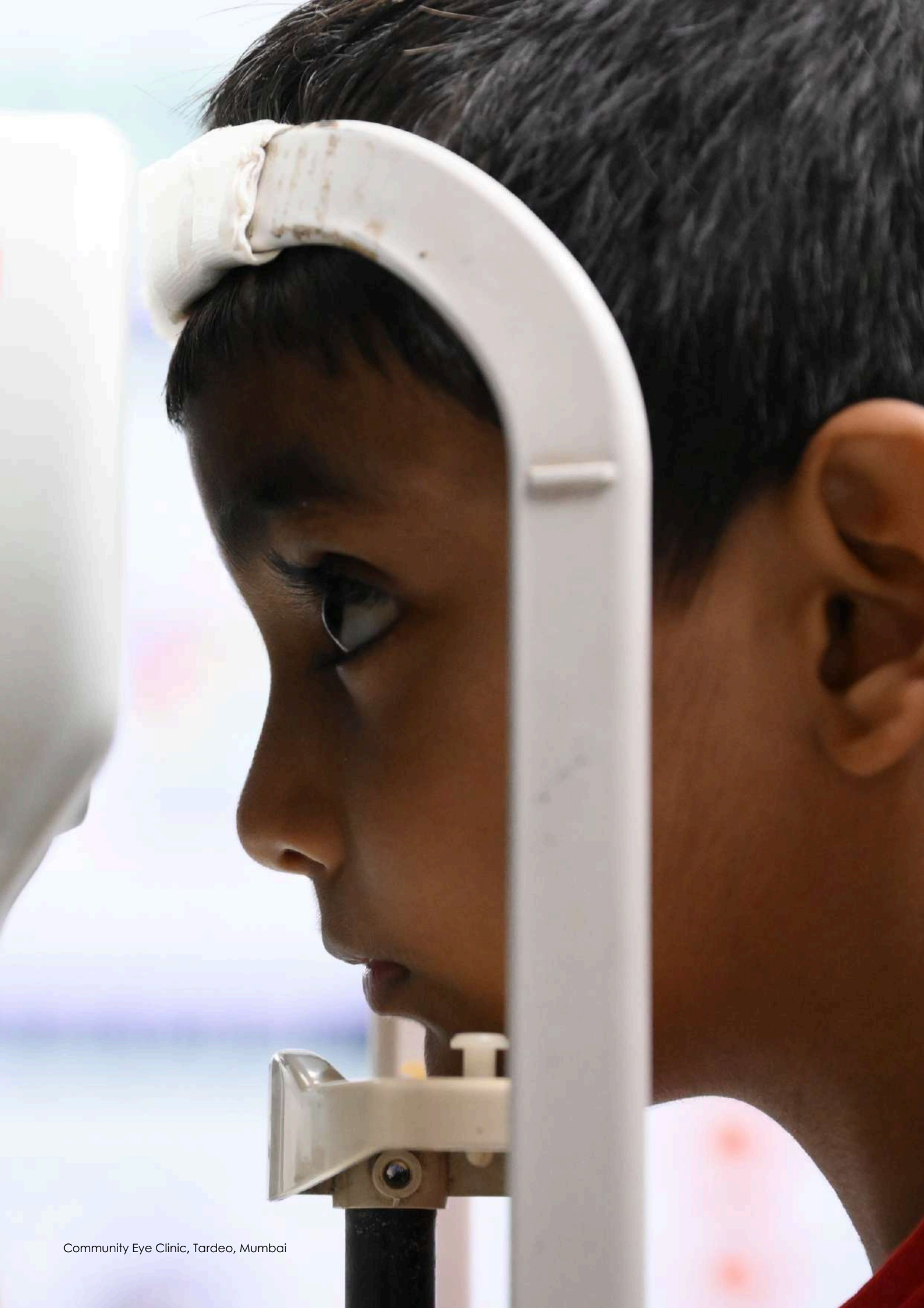
In the small village of Sherghati, Gaya, 37-year-old farmer Sibu Manjhi carried the weight of his family's survival on his shoulders. Farming was his only livelihood and his greatest pride. But when his vision began to fade, his world turned upside down. As his eyesight deteriorated, Sibu could no longer work in his fields or perform daily tasks. Soon, he was completely dependent on his wife and children. "Not being able to look after my family was the hardest pain of all," he recalls. The man who once provided for everyone was left helpless, and his family struggled to make ends meet.

Hope arrived when Sibu received free cataract surgery and essential medicines through Vision Foundation of India, and with the thoughtful support of Kalpataru Foundation. The moment his bandages were removed, Sibu's eyes welled up with tears, he could finally see his loved ones, and the life he thought he had lost.

Today, Sibu is back on his farm, working with renewed energy and pride. His wife and children no longer live in constant fear of the future. The generous support provided by Kalpataru Foundation has restored Sibu's life with confidence, dignity, and independence.

"Thanks to the support of VFI, I regained my sight, my dignity, and the hope to build a better future for my family."

Sibu Manjhi



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Dr. Raman Nair
Project Manager



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Chief Ophthalmologist



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Cornea Specialist



Dr. Bhavik Jain
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Baidanath Yadav
Support Staff



Renuka Naik
Support Staff

Change Lives with Us



VOLUNTEER

Be the reason someone sees again: Your time and skills can change lives



DONATE

Every Contribution directly funds free eye care for the underserved. For just INR. 3,000, one surgery can restore and change a life forever.



PARTNER WITH US

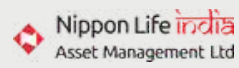
Corporate and institutional partnerships helps us improve and impact across vulnerable population in India.

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Donation Details

To: The Managing Trustee, Vision Foundation of India



Yes! I/We want to be a part of the solution to help ensure people with visual impairments have the opportunity to live with independence and dignity.

I/We wish to _____ No. of eye surgeries @ Rs _____

I wish to donate a lump sum amount.

(* Please tick whichever applicable)

Total Rs. _____ by

Cheque / DD / Cash / Electronic Transfer

the name of "Vision Foundation of India"

Donor Details:

Name of Donor: _____ Organization: _____

Address: _____

Pin: _____ Contact No: _____

Email: _____ PAN: _____

Cheque / DD / Electronic Transfer Details

Cheque No: _____ Txn No: _____

Date: _____ Drawn On: _____

Bank Details for CSR Donation :

Account Name : Vision Foundation of India

Bank Name : Axis Bank Ltd

IFSC Code : UTIB0001004

Saving Account No : 913010056217081

Branch : Chowpatty

MICR : 400211070

(After transferring the Amount please send us the Name, Address, Contact no, Email ID and PAN number for issuing Receipt)

Legal Status

- Public Charitable Trust : Registration No. E-14737 (Mumbai)
- Income Tax 80G Certificate No. URN : AAATB3093LE20093, dated 23-09-2021
- Income Tax 12A Certificate No. URN : AAATB3093LE20210, dated 23-09-2021
- Empanelled Partner of the National CSR Hub at Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) vide code no. B/I/14/12/602 dated 28th October 2015

CSR COMPLIANCE

- Donations can be made under the provisions of Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 under Schedule VII (i) as "promoting health care including preventive health care".
- CSR Registration No. : CSR00002065



Know more about us



Community Eye Clinic, Film Centre Building, Ground Floor, 68, Tardeo Road, Opp. Foam Home, Tardeo, Mumbai-400034



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