



ONE
JULY - SEPTEMBER 2025

VISION

"Bringing Continuity In Quality Services"

—Chairman's Note—

Dear Readers,

This quarter has been an inspiring journey for all of us at SGLEH. From celebrating Doctor's Day with gratitude to expanding our reach through the inauguration of the Kalimpong Vision Centre, we have continued strengthening our mission of delivering quality and accessible eye care. The visit of Dr. Deepak Vohra and the successful hosting of regional workshops and CMEs further reaffirmed SGLEH's standing as a trusted centre of excellence in North Bengal and Sikkim.

Equally encouraging has been the progress of our community initiatives. Under the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan, our teams reached hundreds of women and children, while our ASHA sensitization programmes boosted grassroots awareness. This quarter also marked the launch of Mission Saksham, a transformative initiative aimed at empowering 100 individuals through skill development and livelihood opportunities. As we move forward with the SightFirst Conclave 2025 and continued service expansion, our commitment to a blindness-free future remains stronger than ever.

Warm regards,
Lion Suresh Sinhal
Chairman, SGLEH



SGLEH Participated in the nationwide campaign Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan

At Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital (SGLEH), we take pride in contributing towards building a healthier and stronger nation. Under our flagship initiative Project Ujjyalo, we actively participated in the nationwide campaign 'Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan', in collaboration with the Department of Health & Family Welfare and NPCB&VI, Govt. of Sikkim.

From 17th September to 2nd October 2025, we organized a Comprehensive Free Eye Screening Camp exclusively for women and children at the Gangtok Urban Primary Health Centre, with services extending further across District Hospitals, CHCs, PHCs, PHSCs, and Vision Centres.

Through our mobile eye care services, we ensured that quality eye health reached those who need it most, reinforcing our commitment to inclusive, accessible, and community-centric healthcare. This initiative not only supported the larger vision of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare but also echoed SGLEH's mission of preventing avoidable blindness and empowering communities through sight.



What is inside the newsletter

- Doctor's Day Felicitation Ceremony held to honour our dedicated doctors.
- SGLEH had the privilege of hosting Dr. Deepak Vohra.
- Hosted North Bengal's first Regional Workshop on Corneal Retrieval & Viral Keratitis under VISION 2020 in collaboration with Dr. Shroff's Eye Hospital.
- Hosted Participated in the Govt's nationwide campaign Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan.
- North Bengal's first-ever CME on Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP).
- SightFirst Conclave 2025 at SGLEH.
- SGLEH, in coordination with HWC-PHC Rangpo, conducted ASHA Sensitization on School Eye Health & Disability Inclusion.
- SGLEH Empower 100 Futures On Independence Day

On the occasion of Doctor's Day, we hosted a warm felicitation ceremony to honour the unwavering dedication of our doctors.

From healing to hope — their service to the community truly shapes lives.



North Bengal's first-ever CME on Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP), hosted by SGLEH

It was a housefull at North Bengal's first-ever CME on Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP), hosted by Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital (SGLEH) on 15th September 2025.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from neonatologists, pediatricians, gynecologists, and ophthalmologists – all coming together with one shared vision: to fight against preventable childhood blindness.

Our heartfelt gratitude to the distinguished speakers who made the CME truly insightful and impactful:

Dr. Sucheta Kulkarni – Medical Director, Retina & ROP, PBMA's H.V. Desai Eye Hospital, **Dr. Dipankar Sarkar** – Director, Tender Care Women's & Children's Hospital, Bhopal, **Dr. Kuldeep Dole** – Medical Director, PBMA's H.V. Desai Eye Hospital, Pune & Technical Advisor, Lions Clubs International Foundation – SightFirst Program, **Dr. Debarati Dasgupta** – Consultant, Vitreo-Retina & ROP, SGLEH

This initiative, led by Seva Foundation and SGLEH in collaboration with the Government of West Bengal, is already making a difference with 1000+ premature babies screened, 65+ cases identified and referred for treatment, 8+ outreach screening locations across Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Siliguri & Cooch Behar.

With a dedicated ROP setup and strengthened medical collaboration, SGLEH is proud to take this bold step towards safeguarding the sight of our tiniest and most vulnerable newborns. Together, we are not just raising awareness – we are building a future free from avoidable childhood blindness.



SightFirst Conclave 2025 at SGLEH



Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital (SGLEH) was proud to host the SightFirst Conclave 2025, which brought together over 200 national and international attendees, including leading ophthalmologists, public health experts, global partners, and Lions leadership. SightFirst Conclave 2025 was more than just an event; it served as a reaffirmation of our united commitment to a blindness-free future. The conclave acted as a dynamic platform for spreading awareness, capacity building, knowledge sharing, and uniting efforts towards the common goal — the eradication of avoidable blindness.

The day-long conclave opened with an inaugural session led by representatives from the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), featuring impactful presentations on the SightFirst to Vision Grant Program and the success of the Sight for Kids Programme. Throughout the day, sessions brought together diverse perspectives on some of the most pressing challenges in eye care — from strategies to strengthen cataract and refractive error coverage to discussions on the future of cornea and eye banking in India. Expert speakers also highlighted the transformative role of technology and artificial intelligence in addressing emerging diseases such as glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, and retinopathy of prematurity, underscoring the importance of innovation in expanding access to care.

The conclave also provided a platform for Lions Eye Hospitals to share their success stories, showcasing how community-focused initiatives were reaching underserved populations and building sustainable models of care. The day concluded with a powerful session on Vision 2030 for Lions Eye Hospitals, which outlined the roadmap for the next decade of growth, collaboration, and impact in the fight against avoidable blindness. Speaking on the occasion, PID Lion G.S. Hora said, “SightFirst Conclave 2025 demonstrated the true power of collaboration. When experts, institutions, and Lions came together, we not only shared knowledge but also inspired collective action towards a blindness-free world.”

Adding to this, Hospital Chairman Unit 2, Lion Deepak Bajla, emphasized, “Hosting this conclave was an honor for SGLEH and a reflection of our continued commitment to excellence in eye care. Through such platforms, we were able to learn, share, and align our vision with the global mission to eliminate avoidable blindness.” The conclave concluded with renewed motivation and a collective pledge by all participants to work together towards ensuring accessible, equitable, and quality eye care for all.

SGLEH leads North Bengal’s first Regional Workshop on Corneal Retrieval & Viral Keratitis with Dr. Shroff’s Eye Hospital under VISION 2020.

Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital (SGLEH), the leading eye care provider in North Bengal and Sikkim, in collaboration with Dr. Shroff’s Charity Eye Hospital under the VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – India initiative, hosted a landmark two-day workshop on **Quality Cornea Retrieval and Viral Keratitis Management** on August 1–2, 2025. This made SGLEH the first institution in North Bengal to organize a training of this scale and specialization under the theme “Bridging Gaps in Corneal Care.”

Day 1 focused on skill-based training for eye care technicians and eye bank counsellors on quality and timely cornea retrieval. **Day 2** trained ophthalmologists in diagnosing and managing Viral Keratitis, a major cause of corneal blindness in India. Participants from North and South Bengal and nearby regions engaged actively, making the workshop a resounding success.



“Only 25,000–30,000 corneas are used annually out of 50,000–60,000 collected, far short of the estimated need of 100,000,” said Dr. Rajesh Saini, CEO, SGLEH. “This workshop empowers professionals to improve cornea retrieval quality and bridge this critical gap in corneal care. SGLEH, with the region’s only functional eye bank, is uniquely positioned to lead such initiatives.”

Corneal blindness affects an estimated 1.2 million people in India. In North Bengal, occupational hazards and limited eye banks make training and expertise in keratoplasty essential. SGLEH’s Chairman, Lion Suresh Sinhal, highlighted the hospital’s broader impact: in FY 2024–25, SGLEH performed over 33,400 surgeries and served 400,000+ patients, with specialized services in Retina, Glaucoma, Cornea, Pediatric Ophthalmology, Oculoplasty, and Low Vision Rehabilitation, including a neonatal ROP program in partnership with the West Bengal government.

As a recognized training institution, SGLEH also offers diploma programs in Optometry and Ophthalmic Technology and fellowships in cataract, phacoemulsification, retina, and glaucoma. This workshop marks the beginning of a strengthened, skill-driven approach to tackling corneal blindness in North Bengal, reinforcing SGLEH’s commitment to inclusive, high-quality eye care through clinical excellence, outreach, and professional training.



SGLEH had the privilege of hosting Dr. Deepak Vohra.



On July 5, 2025 we had the privilege of host Dr. Vohra, a veteran Indian diplomat with an illustrious career in international relations, currently serves as the Special Advisor to the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi.

During his visit, Dr. Vohra was given a comprehensive tour of our hospital, where he interacted with our teams, visited key departments, and witnessed firsthand the impact of our community-focused eye care services. He also underwent an eye checkup conducted by our ophthalmologist, an experience he appreciated deeply.



Impressed by the scale, cleanliness, and patient-centric approach of SGLEH, Dr. Vohra remarked: “What I’ve seen here today is not just a hospital, but a beacon of hope and vision. SGLEH is setting a new benchmark in accessible and high-quality eye care.”

His kind words and encouragement were a source of great pride for the entire SGLEH team. Hosting such an eminent personality further strengthens our commitment to delivering inclusive and impactful eye care across the region.

Inauguration of the Kalimpong Vision Centre

We are proud to announce the inauguration of our Kalimpong Vision Centre, a meaningful addition to our expanding network, dedicated to bringing quality eye care closer to the people of Kalimpong and nearby regions.

The inauguration was graced by Shri Rabi Pradhan, Chairman of Kalimpong Municipality, and Shri Bhim Agarwal, Vice Chairman, along with respected community members and local leaders who came together in support of this initiative.

The centre will offer essential eye health services including vision screenings, consultations, and guidance from trained professionals enabling timely care and early intervention where it’s needed most.

With each new Vision Centre, we deepen our commitment to “Vision for All” — reaching more communities and strengthening access to quality eye health services. A heartfelt thank you to the people of Kalimpong for the warm welcome and continued trust in our journey.



SGLEH Empower 100 Futures On Independence Day



Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital (SGLEH), the largest and most trusted eye care provider in North Bengal and Sikkim, marked the 79th Independence Day with the launch of 'Mission Saksham', in collaboration with Mission for Vision. This Skill Development and Capacity Building programme aims to empower 100 individuals, with a strong focus on women's upliftment, by offering free training in ophthalmic assistance. The initiative creates meaningful career pathways while supporting the socio-economic advancement of underserved communities.

Mission Saksham blends livelihood generation with gender empowerment. By eliminating financial barriers, it enables participants—especially women, to access professional healthcare training, attain financial independence, and contribute to strengthening the region's eye care ecosystem. The programme aims to foster greater female representation in the sector, driving long-term social and economic progress across North Bengal, Sikkim, and the North-East.

The Independence Day observance also included a flag-hoisting ceremony, distribution of wheelchairs, and the inauguration of a new Optical Store, reinforcing SGLEH's commitment to inclusive and accessible vision care.

Lion Suresh Sinhal, Chairman of SGLEH mentioned "This Initiative is more than a training programme it is an investment in people, livelihoods, and the future of healthcare in our region. By empowering individuals, especially women, we are creating a skilled workforce that will carry forward our mission of 'Sight for All'."

Lion Ashis Ch. Paul, President of Lions Club of Siliguri Greater, "This Independence Day, we have also proudly donated wheelchairs and inaugurated our new Optical Store. These initiatives reflect our commitment to mobility, accessibility, and quality eye care. It's a celebration of freedom- the freedom to move, to see, and to live with dignity."

Dr. Rajesh Saini, CEO of SGLEH, "As the largest ophthalmic training centre in North Bengal and Sikkim, we play a crucial role in strengthening the eye care workforce of the region and the North-East, ensuring a sustainable pipeline of trained professionals dedicated to community eye health."



SGLEH, in coordination with HWC-PHC Rangpo, conducted ASHA Sensitization on School Eye Health & Disability Inclusion.

The ASHAs sensitization and awareness programme on Basic Eye Diseases, School Eye Health, and Disability Inclusion was conducted at the BPHU Hall of the HWC- PHC Rangpo by Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital, in coordination with HWC-PHC Rangpo, Pakyong District.

The training aimed to equip ASHA workers with knowledge on basic eye health, early disease identification, and community-based referral mechanisms. Focus was given to vision screening for school children, eye care for elderly and high-risk groups, and inclusive practices for individuals with visual disabilities.

After the programme, all ASHA participants also visited the Greater Lions Primary Eye care Centre, Rangpo, where they observed the facilities and learned about the eye screening and referral services available for the community.

Officials highlighted that this initiative will help strengthen preventive and inclusive eye care at the grassroots level. ASHA workers actively participated and expressed that the training and exposure visit will support them in serving the community more effectively.





SILIGURI GREATER LIONS EYE HOSPITALS & EYE CARE SYSTEMS



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SQUINT & PEDIATRIC

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- Vision Therapy
- Squint Evaluation
- Hess Chart
- Diplopia Chart
- Software for
Amblyopia Therapy



ROP

- ROP Screening
- Intravitreal Injection
- ROP Laser



RETINA

- OCT Angiography
- FFA
- Fundus Photo
- USG
- Green Laser
- Intravitreal Injection

Comprehensive Eye Care Facilities

Latest Procedure Cataract Surgeries, Modular Ophthalmic Operation Theater,
Fully Air-Conditioned OPD area, Comfortable Day Care, Branded Intraocular Lenses,
Low Vision Clinic, Contact Lenses & Branded Eyewear, Inhouse Pharmacy, World Class Diagnostics.

The only Grade A service provider under Swasthya Sathi and Class 1 service provider WBHS