



APRIL - JUNE 2025

VISION

"Bringing Continuity In Quality Services"

District-Level Sensitization Programme on Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP)



On 23rd May 2025, Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital, in collaboration with the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Cooch Behar, and support from seva.org organized a vital sensitization workshop at Maharaja Jitendra Narayan Medical College & Hospital (MJNMCH) on Retinopathy of Prematurity.

Over 60 participants from various government health institutions, including SNCUs, joined the initiative. With the presence of the CMOH, Deputy CMOH, and MSVP of MJNMCH, the session focused on strengthening awareness and action around the early screening and timely treatment of Retinopathy of Prematurity—a leading yet preventable cause of childhood blindness.

Together, we work towards a future where no child loses vision to ROP.

—Chairman's Note—

Dear Well-wishers,

This quarter at SGLEH has been marked by meaningful expansion and deeper community connection. The inauguration of three new Vision Centres in Jaigaon, Falakata, and Kalimpong takes us a step closer to our mission of accessible eye care for all.



Equally inspiring was our cataract screening initiative across five districts of Sikkim, where over 850 senior citizens were served with compassion and care. These efforts reflect not just service delivery, but our enduring commitment to restore sight, dignity, and independence, and to uphold our belief that no one should be left behind simply because they cannot come to us.

I hope you take a moment to reflect on the stories and milestones shared in this edition.

May it leave you as inspired as we feel every day at SGLEH.

Warm regards,
Lion Suresh Sinhal
Chairman, SGLEH

Celebrations at SGLEH On International Happy Yoga Day



On International Nurses Day



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SGLEH Screens 850+ Senior Citizens Across Five Districts in Sikkim — A Landmark Inter-State Initiative for Inclusive Eye Health

Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital (SGLEH), in close coordination with the State Government of Sikkim, Department of Health & Family Welfare (NPCB&VI) and the Women, Child, Senior Citizen & Divyangjan Welfare Department, successfully concluded a statewide cataract screening initiative from 16 to 23 June 2025. The programme covered five districts of Sikkim, delivering essential ophthalmic services to elderly citizens across both urban and rural regions.

Screening camps were conducted at six strategic locations: Paljor Stadium (Gangtok), One Stop Centre (Jorethang), Old Age Home (Boomtar, Namchi), Kyongsa Ground (Gyalshing), One Stop Centre (Soreng), and Mangan Nagar Panchayat Hall (Mangan). These locations were selected to ensure broad accessibility for the senior citizen population.

A total of **858** elderly individuals were screened across all sites. Of these, **255** were diagnosed with operable cataract and referred to SGLEH Unit 1 in Siliguri for surgery. In addition, **228** individuals received free prescription spectacles. The first group of referred patients arrived on 28 June 2025, and underwent successful surgeries the following day.

Lion Suresh Sinhal, Chairman, SGLEH, remarked: “This initiative goes beyond restoring sight—it restores dignity and independence. Our mission is to reach every individual in need, and we are thankful to the Government of Sikkim for enabling this vital outreach.”

SGLEH ensured a seamless, patient-centric process, offering counseling, pre-operative evaluations, surgical care, and post-operative follow-up, with special attention to those accessing institutional eye care for the first time.

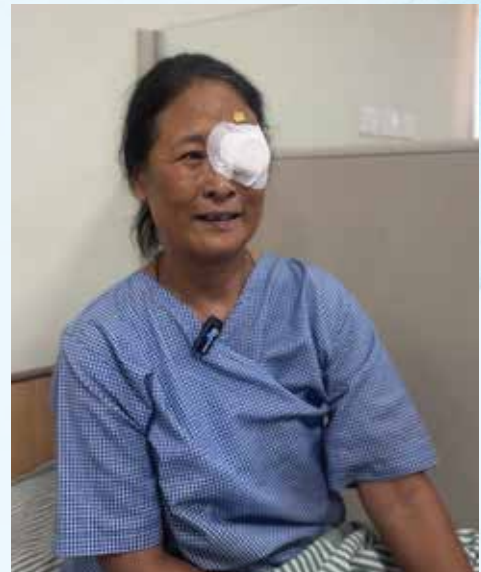
Dr. Rajesh Saini, CEO, SGLEH, noted: “Our collaboration with the Government of Sikkim began in 2021 through Project Ujjyalo, supported by CBM, with a focus on building a disability-inclusive eye health system. Since then, we have established six fully accessible Vision Centres, trained over **450** government and community health workers, and delivered doorstep services in remote areas. This initiative is a continuation of that shared commitment.”

One of the first patients to undergo surgery shared: “I didn’t know cataract was the reason my vision had faded. After the operation, I can see clearly again. I thank the Sikkim Government and SGLEH for giving me back my sight.”

As the largest and most trusted eye care provider in Sikkim and North Bengal, SGLEH performed over **33,400** eye surgeries in the financial year 2024–25. The hospital offers a comprehensive range of advanced subspecialty services, including Retina, Glaucoma, Cornea, Pediatric Ophthalmology, Oculoplasty, Low Vision Rehabilitation. Additionally, the hospital has expanded its Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) services in collaboration with the Government of West Bengal, extending care to newborns across Darjeeling, Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri, and Kalimpong districts. With a mission to safeguard vision at every stage of life from neonates to centenarians, SGLEH remains dedicated to providing world-class eye care to the community.

Beyond its services, SGLEH has established itself as a centre of excellence in education and training in eye care faculties. As the biggest ophthalmic training centre in North Bengal and Sikkim, the hospital provides a platform for young talents to grow and excel. It plays a critical role in catering to the eye care training needs of North Bengal and India’s North-East, ensuring a pipeline of skilled professionals dedicated to improving community eye health.

This initiative is more than a clinical achievement—it is a reaffirmation of SGLEH’s enduring mission: to provide inclusive, accessible, and high-quality eye care for all, regardless of geography, background, or ability.



SGLEH Inaugurates North Bengal's Only Cornea Collection Centre and Launches Mobile Health Bus

On April 13, 2025, Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital marked a significant milestone with the inauguration of the Greater Lions Eye Bank — a critical advancement in the region's efforts to combat avoidable blindness through eye donation and transplantation.

The newly established eye bank will focus primarily on corneal donation, enabling individuals to give the gift of sight to two people even after death. SGLEH is now proud to serve as North Bengal's only registered cornea collection centre, a distinction that strengthens our capacity to support timely corneal transplants and restore vision to those in need.

Complementing this achievement, the hospital also received a generous contribution — the Arogyam Mobile Health Bus, which will expand access to essential health services in remote and underserved communities. This fully-equipped mobile unit reinforces SGLEH's commitment to delivering quality care beyond hospital walls.

The dual inauguration event was graced by PID Aruna Abhay Oswal, who served as Chief Guest, along with several esteemed Lion dignitaries and supporters whose presence underscored the collective dedication to advancing inclusive healthcare.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Suresh Sinhal, Chairman of SGLEH, stated: "These developments are a reflection of our unwavering mission—to deliver the gift of sight and ensure that quality healthcare reaches even the most remote corners of our community."

With the launch of the Greater Lions Eye Bank and the Arogyam Mobile Health Bus, SGLEH continues to take purposeful strides toward a future where vision and healthcare are accessible to all.



Chowrasta Eye Camp in Partnership with Darjeeling Municipality



A Free Eye Screening Camp conducted on 28th June 2025 at Chowrasta, Darjeeling, in collaboration with Darjeeling Municipality, marked a meaningful step toward strengthening community eye health outreach.

A total of 54 individuals were screened by our team of qualified optometrists. Those found with serious or vision-threatening conditions were counseled on-site and referred to Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital for further diagnosis and treatment.

This initiative brought structured, professional eye care directly to the community, emphasizing early detection and timely medical attention.

SGLEH Expands Its Reach: Three New Vision Centres Inaugurated in June

Our commitment to quality, accessible, and inclusive eye care continues to grow stronger. With the belief that no one should be deprived of sight due to geographical or economic barriers, Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital (SGLEH) proudly inaugurated three new Vision Centres in the month of June located in Jaigaon, Falakata, and Kalimpong. These centres are a testament to our enduring mission: to take eye care closer to the communities that need it most.

In Jaigaon, the Vision Centre was inaugurated in the presence of Shri Ganga Prasad Sharma, Chairman of the Jaigaon Development Authority (JDA), Shri Kamal Pakrin, Pradhan of GP-1, and several local leaders and stakeholders. The Chief Guest moved many with a heartfelt testimony of his father's successful cataract surgery at SGLEH, reinforcing the trust the region places in our care.

Falakata too welcomed the SGLEH team with warmth and encouragement, as prominent figures including Shri Suresh Lala and Dr. Chittayaranjan Das joined in to support the vision of bringing structured, professional eye care to the town. The community's overwhelming response reflected a pressing need for dependable, local eye health services.

In Kalimpong, the inauguration was graced by Shri Rabi Pradhan, Chairman of Kalimpong Municipality, and Shri Bhim Agarwal, Vice Chairman, who emphasized the long-overdue need for accessible eye health solutions in the region.

The event brought together community leaders and well-wishers united by a shared goal—to eliminate avoidable blindness.

Speaking on the occasion, Lion Rupesh Agarwal, VC Chairman SGLEH shared: "A Vision Centre is more than just a clinic—it is a promise. A promise that no one in these regions has to travel miles to get their eyes checked, that timely intervention is not a luxury but a right. This is what we believe in."

Echoing this spirit, Mr. Rajesh Sahini, CEO of SGLEH, added: "We believe that if someone cannot come to us, we must find a way to reach them. And with every new Vision Centre, we're turning that belief into action."

These new centres are equipped to provide essential eye care services ranging from vision screenings and primary consultations to expert referrals guided by trained optometrists and supported by SGLEH's central facilities. They will serve as critical access points for early detection, timely treatment, and lifelong visual health.

At SGLEH, we firmly believe that eye care is a basic right, not a privilege. We are now gearing up to opening new Vision Centres in Assam, further expanding our footprint and reaffirming our commitment to ensure that quality eye care is truly within everyone's reach.



Monsoon Eye Care Tips



AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES

Your hands may carry bacteria



DON'T SHARE PERSONAL ITEMS

Avoid sharing towels, handkerchiefs, or eye cosmetics.



PROTECT YOUR EYES FROM RAINWATER

Use an umbrella or cap to shield your eyes



USE CLEAN WATER FOR EYE WASHING

If irritation, never use rainwater to wash your eyes



KEEP EYE MAKEUP MINIMAL

In humid conditions, heavy makeup can irritate your eyes



AVOID SELF-MEDICATING

Consult an eye specialist if needed



WEAR GLASSES INSTEAD OF CONTACT LENSES (IF POSSIBLE)

During monsoon, glasses reduce exposure to rainwater and airborne infections.



EAT EYE-FRIENDLY FOODS

Include Vitamin A-rich foods in your diet



DRY EYES

Gently pat your eyes with a clean cloth and use lubricant as suggested by your eye specialist



BE ALERT FOR EYE INFECTIONS

Watch for signs like redness or discharge

Restoring Sight, Rekindling Hope: Mrs. Doma Sherpa's Journey from Sikkim to SGLEH

At Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital (SGLEH), every smiling patient walking out of our doors is a testament to our purpose. One such moment came recently with Mrs. Doma Sherpa, a gracious 78-year-old woman from Sikkim.

Mrs. Sherpa first encountered SGLEH through one of our outreach eye screening camps held in Sikkim. Deeply moved by the professionalism, compassion, and dedication of our team, she felt an immediate sense of trust—enough to make the journey to our base hospital in Siliguri for cataract surgery.

From the moment she entered the hospital, Mrs. Sherpa was struck by the cleanliness of the facility, the warmth and attentiveness of the staff, and the overall comfort and care provided throughout her visit.

Medically, her condition required timely attention. Her pre-operative vision in the right eye was limited to 2/60. Post-surgery, her vision improved significantly to 6/60, giving her not just clarity of sight but a renewed sense of independence and joy.

"I had almost accepted a life in blur, but SGLEH gave me my vision back, along with dignity and confidence. I felt cared for like family here," says Mrs. Doma Sherpa

Her journey from uncertainty to restored vision is not just a medical success; it's a story of empathy, excellence, and impact. We are truly honored to have been a part of it.



Strengthening Eye Care at the Grassroots: Siliguri VC Workshop 2025



SGLEH successfully hosted the first-ever Siliguri Vision Center Workshop 2025—a new quarterly initiative to empower our community outreach teams through learning, sharing, and collaboration.

Held on June 15, the event brought together 100+ participants from our 60+ Vision Centers across Sikkim, North Bengal, and Bihar. The sessions focused on strengthening skills across all levels—CHWs, CHMs, optometrists, and cluster supervisors—through training in community engagement, counselling, eye screening with torchlight, lens guidance, Netram software, and common eye disease management.

Our Chairman, Lion Suresh Sinhal, shared, "CHWs are the backbone of our mission—reaching rural areas, educating families, and ensuring no one is left behind in eye care."

The presence of Lion Rupesh Agarwal, Lion P.K. Shah, Lion P.L. Kedia, and Lion Deepak Bajla added further encouragement and inspiration.

This is just the beginning. The Siliguri VC Workshop will continue to grow as a space for reflection, learning, and action, paving the way for stronger, smarter, and more connected eye care delivery.



SILIGURI GREATER LIONS EYE HOSPITALS & EYE CARE SYSTEMS



Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital

2nd Mile, Behind Vishal Cinema
Sevoke Road, Siliguri - 734 001
West Bengal, India
Helpline: 97333 00090



Siliguri Greater Lions Shri VidyaSagar Oswal Eye Hospital

Kartua, Mahanvita, N. H. 31D,
Opp. Dabur Factory, Jalpaiguri - 735 135.
West Bengal, India
Helpline: 97350 44000

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Amblyopia Therapy



ROP

- ROP Screening
- Intravitreal Injection
- ROP Laser



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- Intravitreal Injection

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