

A hand with a ring and a black wristband points at the letter 'A' on a vertical eye chart. The chart has several rows of letters: 'A', 'O X', 'H V T', 'A U', 'Y U X', and 'V X M Y H'. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

activity report

2023-24
(March- April)

Shri Aurobindo Nethralaya
(A Unit of Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre)



Message from Director

It gives me immense pleasure to present the Annual Activity Report for the year 2023-24 of Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre. This report encapsulates our relentless efforts, significant achievements, and the unwavering commitment of our team towards enhancing community eye health and beyond.

At the outset, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our well-wishers, supporters, and stakeholders. Your steadfast support and cooperation have been instrumental in propelling our community eye health initiatives forward. Through your contributions, we have been able to make eye care services not only accessible and available but also affordable for all.

This year has been particularly notable for the strides we have made in reaching underserved communities, ensuring that no one is left behind when it comes to eye health. Our outreach programs, free eye camps, and vision centre have brought quality eye care services to the doorsteps of many who otherwise would have had limited access.

Furthermore, we have expanded our horizons beyond eye care, integrating a holistic approach to health and well-being. Our comprehensive health programs have addressed various other health concerns, reinforcing our commitment to improving overall community health.

Our dedicated team of doctors, nurses, volunteers, and administrative staff have worked tirelessly to achieve these milestones. Their unwavering dedication and passion for service have been the cornerstone of our success.

As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, we also look forward to the future with renewed vigor and determination. We remain committed to our mission of eradicating preventable blindness and enhancing the quality of life for our communities.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support. Together, we will continue to illuminate lives and build healthier, happier communities.

With sincere appreciation,

Dr. Anand Saxena
Medical Director
Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre

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About Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre

Introduction

Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre, situated in Pachpedi Naka, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, is renowned as the most advanced eye care center in central Chhattisgarh, equipped with state-of-the-art technology. This institution, originally established as Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre at Raipur in 1988, has grown significantly over the decades, becoming a beacon of hope for countless individuals with vision problems.

Community-Oriented Initiatives

Despite its advancements, Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre remains deeply rooted in its mission to serve the community. The majority of its activities are community-oriented, focusing on delivering eye care services to underprivileged and rural populations. The hospital conducts regular eye camps, free screenings, and educational programs to raise awareness about eye health. These initiatives are crucial in a region where access to quality eye care is often limited.

Advanced Eye Care Services

Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre stands out not only for its community services but also for its advanced medical facilities. The hospital is equipped with cutting-edge technology, enabling it to perform complex surgeries and provide comprehensive eye care. From cataract surgeries to advanced retinal treatments, the hospital offers a wide range of services. The presence of state-of-the-art equipment ensures that patients receive the best possible care, comparable to international standards.

Achievements in 2023-24

During the 2023-24 period, Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre has continued to excel in both community outreach and advanced medical services. The hospital conducted numerous eye camps, reaching remote areas and providing essential eye care to thousands. Additionally, the hospital has enhanced its infrastructure with the latest medical technologies, further improving patient outcomes.

In summary, Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre is a shining example of how advanced medical facilities can be integrated with community service. Its journey from a small hospital to a state-of-the-art eye care center underscores its commitment to excellence and community welfare. As it moves forward, Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre remains dedicated to its mission of providing high-quality eye care to all, ensuring a brighter future for the people of Chhattisgarh.



Quality Assurance: Hospital Earns NABH Accreditation

The primary purpose of NABH accreditation is to enhance the overall quality of healthcare services provided by hospitals and healthcare providers. By implementing stringent standards and guidelines, NABH aims to promote excellence in patient care, safety, and satisfaction. Accreditation leads to high-quality care and patient safety. Patients are served by credentialed medical staff, and their rights are respected and protected. Patient satisfaction is regularly evaluated.

The National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH) is a constituent board of the Quality Council of India (QCI), which provides NABH accreditation. NABH sets benchmarks for progress through its accreditation programs, focusing on patient-centric care and quality improvement.

To provide the utmost quality to its patients, Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre applied for full-fledged NABH accreditation in 2019 and got first accreditation on 14 January 2021, which was valid for three years. This year, it applied for renewal of NABH accreditation. A two-member team from NABH visited the hospital on Jan 06th and 07th, 2024, to conduct the assessment for accreditation. They identified 42 areas requiring improvement. The hospital made the necessary improvements within the prescribed timeframe, the hospital was re-awarded for full NABH accreditation, valid for three years (till 13 Jan 2027).



Upgrade: Regular Eye OT Transformed to Modular OT

Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre, which operates two Ophthalmic Operation Theatres, has taken a significant step forward in enhancing its surgical facilities. The management decided to convert both of the operation theatres into a Modular Operation Theatre (OT), equipped with a laminar airflow system. A Modular OT features a laminar airflow unit that supplies air in a steady flow with uniform velocity, ensuring parallel flow lines. This advanced design is crucial for maintaining a sterile environment, as it minimizes the risk of airborne contamination during surgical procedures.

By introducing the Modular Operation Theatre system, Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre has become the top eye hospital in the district to adopt this cutting-edge technology. Modular OTs are designed with advanced air filtration systems, laminar flow systems, and positive pressure environments, all of which are instrumental in preventing the spread of infections. The primary objectives of a Modular OT include enhancing accuracy, efficiency, safety, and improving patient outcomes. This innovation not only underscores the hospital's commitment to utilizing the best available resources but also aims to significantly improve the quality and safety of surgical care provided to patients.



Boosting Pediatric Eye Care Services

Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre, aims to improve pediatric eye care services in the district of Raipur, Chhattisgarh state, India.

The SAMRC aims to identify and provide appropriate treatment for school-going child in the district with ophthalmic ailments in a sustainable manner. To strengthen eye health awareness among children, the project will introduce child eye health clubs in schools and conduct eye health awareness activities, including eye health wall art in schools. School teachers, who know the children well, will be involved to support and sustain the program. Additionally, members of the School Management Committee (SMC) will participate in the program.

By March 2024, 705 children were screened. The technical team, re-screened the identified children at cluster-level eye camps. A total of 18 cluster-level eye camps were conducted. Among these, 198 children were found to have refractive errors and were provided with corrective spectacles.

Some captures from the School Eye Health Activities Screening of Children and Awareness





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Prevention of blindness due to Cataract & Refractive Error

In Chhattisgarh, access to eye health is a critical but often overlooked necessity. Many people in this region, predominantly tribal and overwhelmingly rural, are deprived of basic ophthalmic services. With approximately 90% of the population living below the poverty line and 93% residing in rural areas, the challenge is immense. For many, the cost of eye care is prohibitive, and even those who are aware of where to seek help often find themselves unable to afford it. Simple necessities, like a pair of spectacles, can be transformative, yet remain out of reach. Those who manage to obtain spectacles often cannot afford repairs, resorting to makeshift fixes with threads and wires when they break.

In this challenging environment, Shri Aurobindo Medical Research Centre serves as a beacon of hope. Committed to making eye care services available, accessible, and affordable, the hospital reaches out to the unreached areas of the region. Through initiatives like setting up primary eye care centers, conducting mega eye camps, and raising awareness, they bring essential eye care to those in need. In 2023-24 alone, they conducted 22 eye camps, providing free ophthalmic consultations to 3005 people. Of these, 1200 underwent sight-restoration surgeries, 1,495 received refractive correction spectacles, and 310 were given free ophthalmic medications. These efforts highlight the profound impact that vision care can have on improving daily life and livelihoods, enabling individuals to lead more productive and fulfilling lives.

We are deeply thankful to our INGO supporters like Sight savers, and others who have extended their cooperative hand in achieving this mission. Their support has been instrumental in transforming the lives of many, ensuring that eye care reaches even the most remote and underserved communities in Chhattisgarh.





High Impact Rural Eye Health Programme in Mahasamund

As part of the Rural Eye Health Programme's High Impact strategy by Sightsavers India, Mahasamund district was chosen. This district, comprising 05 blocks, will be phased out every year with the goal of achieving Cataract Blindness Backlog Free (CBBF) status, in line with the National Programme for Control of Blindness. All prescribed steps by NPCBVI, including digital record submission, block verification, and certification, will be meticulously followed.

The process involves engaging with local Panchayat, ASHA workers, and Gram Sabha members to explain the programme's objectives and train volunteers on primary eye screening and referral. This ensures that bilateral blind cataract (BLBC) cases are prioritized and referred for surgery. Mahasamund district was chosen due to its geographic location, tribal population, limited health facilities, and the economic status of the people. In this year, 15 eye camps were conducted, providing free ophthalmic consultations to 1753 people. Among them, 82 were diagnosed with BLBC, and 645 underwent cataract surgery. Additionally, 463 people received refractive correction spectacles.

This initiative reflects our commitment to addressing the urgent eye health needs of underserved communities, ensuring that even the most remote areas receive the care they deserve. We are grateful to our partners and supporters who make this impactful work possible, transforming lives and restoring sight to those in need.

Partners in Service

1. Government of C.G.
2. Vision 2020- Right to Sight, India
3. Sightsavers- India

The Performance Report

1	Persons Screened in the Base Hospital	13500
2	Person Screened through the Vision Centre	
3	Person Screened through the Free Eye Camps	1805
4	Children Screened in Eye Camps	705
5	Spectacles Distributed to persons	623
6	Spectacles Distributed to Children	198
7	No of Adult Eye Surgery at Free of Cost	648
8	No of Child Eye Surgeries	09
9	No of Surgeries done under Paid Category	742
11	No of ASHA/ AWW Trained	
12	No of Doctors Trained	
13	No of Staff Trained	4



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