



Sightsavers

Insight

How your support is making a difference | May 2019

Making elections accessible for people with disabilities



Before the onset of the general elections 2019, Sightsavers India has been working towards the government's efforts on 'Accessible Elections'. Sightsavers India is playing a pivotal role in this initiative to ensure people with disability are not left behind to exercise their voting rights.

Through this initiative, Sightsavers India is encouraging more voters and empowering DPO members (Disabled People's Organisation) all the more. Keeping this in mind, the DPO members started finding eligible voters who are PwDs in their districts. Sightsavers and its partner organizations in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Odisha liaised with Booth Level Officers at district level which further empowered DPO members to identify PwD's above the age of 18 years and got their voting cards made, making PwDs part of the voting list.

Awards and Recognition

Sightsavers India has received many prestigious awards in recent months, increasing the not-for-profit's visibility and credibility among the government, corporates, policymakers and media. These include the **UBS NGO of the Year Award** and the prominent **ICC Social Impact Award** for the Sundarbans Eye Health Service Strengthening Project.



January - March 2019



12,80,803
Number of Eye Screenings



81,207
Sight Restoration Surgeries



1,25,138
Spectacles Distributed



5,45,903
Number of People Refracted

Government Partnerships



Inclusive Education

Sightsavers successfully renewed its MoU in Madhya Pradesh to provide technical support to the state government and thus strengthen the Inclusive Education system in the state. Sightsavers also signed the MoU with Government of Rajasthan in order to continue its work regarding inclusive education with special focus on Jhalawar and Udaipur in the state.



Eye Health

Sightsavers supported NPCB & the Visual Impairment cell in Bihar which helped in building significant resources of the government and in developing efficient functioning of the Eye OT of District Hospitals in Bihar (Saran, Siwan, Bhojpur, Jehanabad and Arwal).

A Gleaming Vision

65-year-old Shobha is a daily wage labourer and lives with her son in Alipurduar, West Bengal. Thrice a week, Shobha would walk up the hill to collect dry leaves and branches that were used as fuel.

Shobha was diagnosed with cataract in the eye screening camp organised by Sightsavers in her village under the Rural Eye Health Programme. She was referred to the base hospital and was operated for the cataract-removal surgery. "Cataract had really affected me in many ways. I could not even do my day-to-day work before the surgery. However, since I can see clearly now, I wait to go back to my normal life," says Shobha.



You to us

"Sightsavers caters to a section of society that needs our support to become independent. Sightsavers gave me the platform to connect and contribute towards the well-being of the disabled. The fear of being blindfolded for even a minute scared me and made me understand the pain. I wish Sightsavers good luck for their future endeavours."

- Sukhmeet Singh, Bangalore

In India since 1966, Sightsavers works to eliminate avoidable blindness and promote equal opportunities for disabled people.

If you need further details, please contact Sightsavers at 45, 2nd floor, Okhla Industrial Estate, Phase 3, New Delhi - 110020
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Donation cheques should be in favour of **Sightsavers** '.

All donations to Sightsavers are eligible for 50% tax exemption under Sec 80G of the Income Tax Act

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