



Sightsavers
India

Insight

How your contribution is building lives | January 2024

Eyes on the Road: Chhattisgarh's First Woman Truck Driver Sheds Light on Eye Health

Meet Kajal, a 24-year-old from Durg, Chhattisgarh. She is breaking stereotypes as the first lady truck driver in the state. Beyond driving a heavy vehicle through rough landscapes, Kajal's journey is a powerful example showing that gender should never limit one's dreams.



She started driving trucks at the age of 21, choosing a career that goes against societal expectations. During a visit to Sightsavers India's Mobile Eye Health Unit as part of its **RAAHI Programme**, Kajal took the opportunity for an eye check-up, even though her eyesight was good. This caught the attention of the medical staff and sparked curiosity and admiration.

Kajal shared her story with locals, highlighting the importance of pursuing one's passion and getting regular health check-ups. As she continues navigating Chhattisgarh's roads, Kajal's story inspires everyone to challenge labels and prioritise their well-being.



Advancing Women's Eye Health: Vision Camps in Nagaur, Rajasthan

In Nagaur, Rajasthan, six camps held in December 2023 prioritised women's health in priority blocks. This pioneering initiative marked the first of its kind in the districts where Sightsavers India operates. Out of 1160 patients screened, 60% were women, showcasing a dedicated focus on female healthcare. Additionally, 716 individuals, 62% of economically weaker sections, received free optical aids.

Sightsavers India enters ASSAM with its First Vision Centre

In collaboration with Jorhat Lions Eye Hospital, Sightsavers India marked a significant milestone by launching its inaugural Vision Centre in Golaghat, Assam. Assam is one of the two new states along with Maharashtra, where Sightsavers India has decided to start operations in 2024.



As the year turns, we extend a heartfelt appreciation for your generosity. Sightsavers India wishes you a happy and prosperous New Year!

KPI January–December 2023



78,70,423
Number of Eye Screenings



30,26,793
Number of People Refracted



8,00,498
Spectacles Distributed



3,59,748
Sight Restoration Surgeries



1,056
Visually impaired children who received education materials



1,618
Visually impaired children who received assistive devices



58,414
Number of persons with disability trained on Rights and Entitlements



13,643
Number of persons with disability who received livelihood training



16,797
OPD - Organisation of Persons with Disabilities Members Supported



303
Number of Self Help Groups engaged in livelihood activities

Zero Project Award 2024 for Inclusive Education Programme



Sightsavers India received the Zero Project Award 2024 for its Eight–State Inclusive Education Programme. This initiative, recognised among 523 nominations from 97 countries, stood out for its innovative use of accessible Information and Communication Technology (ICT) devices, emphasising the organisation’s dedication to inclusive education practices.

Sightsavers India Empowers Persons with Disabilities in Madhya Pradesh Through Employment Opportunities

In a commendable initiative in **Madhya Pradesh**, Sightsavers India facilitated interviews for 19 Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) across three companies. The outcome was significant, with five successful placements contributing to greater inclusivity in the workforce. Additionally, the organisation extended its support by mentoring 26 PwDs to explore and pursue self-employment opportunities, fostering independence and empowerment.



Empowering Education: Sightsavers India Influences Inclusive Teachers Training Module in Lucknow

In Lucknow, the Samagra Shiksha State Project Office convened a vital meeting to finalise a 90-day teacher training module for Uttar Pradesh.

Sightsavers India played a pivotal role in shaping the inclusive curriculum, offering practical recommendations to the module dedicated to visual impairment.

Sightsavers India has been working to eliminate avoidable blindness and promote equal opportunities for people with disabilities since 1966.

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Donation cheques should be in favour of **SIGHTSAVERS**.

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

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