

JANUARY 2025

HOW YOUR CONTRIBUTION IS EMPOWERING LIVES

## RAAHI HITS 1MILLION EYE SCREENINGS!




Sightsavers India is proud to announce the monumental achievement of its flagship RAAHI National Truckers Eye Health Programme, which has successfully conducted 1 million eye screenings.

### IMPACT OF THE SCHOOL EYE HEALTH PROGRAMME IN BANKURA, WEST BENGAL

**41,236**

Students Screened in Bankura!



During Oct-Dec'2024, the School Eye Health Programme in Bankura achieved remarkable results by screening **41,236 students** across **116 schools**, conducting refractive assessments for **8,121 students**, and dispensing **972 pairs of spectacles**.

Additionally, **144 students** were referred for further care, and **695 teachers** were trained in primary eye screening, enabling them to identify vision issues early. This initiative highlights a holistic approach to improving eye health & enhancing the academic potential of children in the region.

### Eye Health for Rangers & Tribals in MP

#### Aranya Jyoti National Park Project: Ensuring Eye Health for All

Under the Aranya Jyoti National Park Project in Bandhavgarh, Madhya Pradesh, guards, drivers, and rangers underwent comprehensive eye check-ups. Spectacles were provided to those in need, and individuals diagnosed with cataracts were identified for further treatment.


**Teleconsultation services with ophthalmologists** were also extended to patients from remote tribal areas, ensuring access to quality eye care in underserved communities.

### Inclusive Job Fair for PwDs in Madhya Pradesh

On International Day of Persons with Disabilities, December 3, 2024, Smt. Sampatiya Uikey inaugurated a **Mega Job Fair** in Mandla, Madhya Pradesh, organised by Sightsavers India in partnership with key partners.

The event connected **218 PwDs** with **22 employers**, resulting in **24 on-the-spot** job offers and numerous shortlistings, promoting inclusive employment opportunities.

### Empowering Entrepreneurs: Development Programme for PwDs



The Entrepreneurial Development Programme, held on October 26, 2024, in Odisha, brought together **45 participants** with disabilities (aged 18–59) from **18 villages** across the Junagarh and Lanjigarh blocks of the Kalahandi district.

The initiative aimed to inspire attendees to explore self-employment and livelihood opportunities while equipping them with the tools and knowledge to build resilient households and foster economic independence.



## Driving Inclusion: Gaya Meetings Open Employment Doors for PwDs

Two district-level interface meetings in Gaya, supported by the District Labour and Employment Exchange, connected persons with disabilities (PwDs) with potential employers.

The first meeting witnessed the participation of **149 PwDs** and renowned companies such as Godrej, Tata Motors, and Hindustan Unilever, leading to **34 PwDs being shortlisted for interviews**.

The second meeting, held on December 17, 2024, brought together **53 PwDs**, with **21 participants** interviewed for job opportunities. These initiatives play a crucial role in fostering inclusion and enhancing employment prospects for PwDs.



## School Eye Screening at Vizianagaram

In Andhra Pradesh, under the ambit of the School Eye Health Programme, supported by Alcon, eye screenings were conducted for **1276 students** across six schools in Vizianagaram. Out of these, **39 students** were provided with corrective spectacles, ensuring children's access to quality education without visual barriers.



## A VISION BEYOND SIGHT

Born with a visual impairment, Ranjit's dreams knew no bounds. With the support of Sightsavers India, he embarked on an inspiring journey of education and success.

Ranjit's parents, who worked as agricultural labourers, were determined to give him a bright future but lacked the resources and knowledge to do so. Ranjit's life changed when Md Gulam, an IE Facilitator from Sightsavers India, visited their village in Deoghar, Jharkhand. Recognising Ranjit's potential, the team introduced him to Braille, unlocking a world of opportunities.

He was also provided with a laptop with screen-reading software, enabling him to study independently. Now in Class X at a government school, Ranjit is excelling academically.

Ranjit's brother, Nand, was trained to assist Ranjit in his education, helping him with Braille, mobility, and daily living skills. His family's effort, combined with Ranjit's determination, has broken down barriers, proving that blindness does not limit one's vision or dreams.

Ranjit aspires to become a teacher, inspiring others in his community and demonstrating that with the right support, every dream is within reach.



Sightsavers India has been working to eliminate avoidable blindness and promote equal opportunities for people with disabilities since 1966. If you need further details, please contact Sightsavers India at 45, 2nd floor, Okhla Industrial Estate, Phase 3, New Delhi - 110020 Phone: +91 9871955533; Email: supportusindia@sightsaversindia.org, Visit: [www.sightsaversindia.org](http://www.sightsaversindia.org) | Toll Free at 1800 419 6250 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 Approval Number: AAATR0444HF20214