



SRI SANKARADEVA
NETHRALAYA

ANNUAL COMMUNITY ACTIVITY REPORT 2022 - 2023



MESSAGE

The vision of our community service is to establish an integrated people centered eye care service model in our service areas where all people will have access to high quality, comprehensive eye health services with simultaneous empowerment, so that people are inspired to take care of their health and participate.

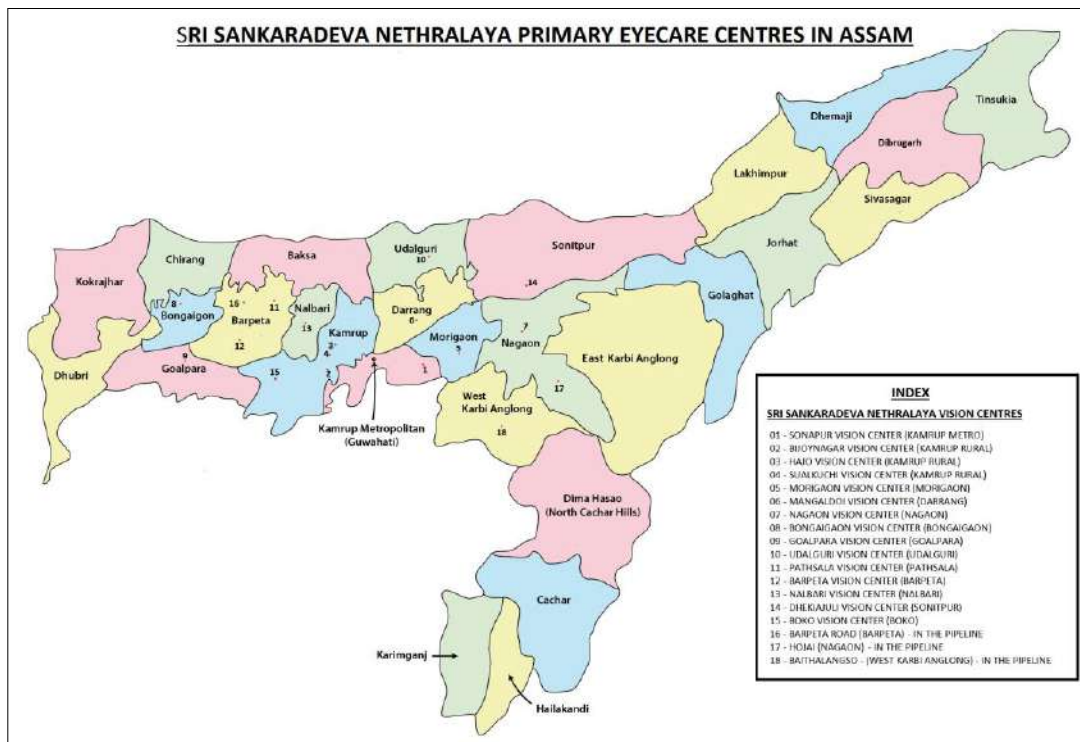
Dr. Harsha Bhattacharjee
President and Trustee
Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya



Primary Eye Care Centers under Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya

15 Centers in 12 Districts of Assam (3 more in the pipeline)

<u>Location</u>	<u>District</u>
1. Sonapur	Kamrup (M)
2. Bijohnagar	Kamrup (R)
3. Hajo	Kamrup (R)
4. Sualkuchi	Kamrup (R)
5. Morigaon	Morigaon
6. Mangaldoi	Darrang
7. Nagaon	Nagaon
8. Bongaigaon	Bongaigaon
9. Goalpara	Goalpara
10. Udalguri	Udalguri
11. Barpeta	Barpeta
12. Pathsala	Bajali
13. Nalbari	Nalbari
14. Dhekiajuli	Sonitpur
15. Boko	Kamrup (R)
16. Barpeta Road (upcoming)	Barpeta
17. Hojai (upcoming)	Nagaon
18. Baithalangso (upcoming)	West Karbi Anglong





*"We make a living with what we get,
but we make a life by what we give"*



Integrated People-centered Primary Eye Care Service through our Primary Eye Care Centres

Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya, with its unwavering commitment to providing universal eye care, has established **15 People Centric Primary Eye Care Centers** (Vision Centers) across 12 districts of Assam. Each Center is run by a team of trained professionals, which includes an Optometrist, an Optician, a Supervisor, and two Accredited Social Eye Care Activists, who work together to deliver quality eye care services to the underprivileged sections of society.

Ever since its inception, the hospital has successfully conducted 50,000+ free cataract surgeries, and the 'People Centric Primary Eye Care Centers' have played a crucial role in this endeavor. Cataract patients from the underprivileged section are transported on a regular basis from each center to the Base Hospital for cataract surgery.

Each center contributes an average of 35 free cataract surgeries per month, making a significant impact on the lives of the patients, their families, and the community they belong to. The hospital's patient-centric approach to care, coupled with its focus on community engagement, has helped transform the lives of many individuals across Assam.

1. The **Sonapur Primary Eye Care Center**, situated in Kamrup Metro district, was the pioneering project in the Community Eye Health initiative of Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya. It has made a significant contribution of over 10,000 cataract surgeries to

date. In 2018, all 178 villages which the center had adopted were declared to be *Free of Avoidable Blindness*.

2. The **Bijohnagar Primary Eye Care Center**, located in Kamrup Rural district, was the second Center established by Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya. It helped expand the reach of primary eye care services in the rural areas of Kamrup district. Till date, 10 villages that the center adopted have been declared Free of Avoidable Blindness.
3. The **Hajo Primary Eye Care Center**, also situated in Kamrup Rural district, was established following the success of the Bijohnagar center. Sri SankaradevaNethralaya inaugurated two new centers simultaneously at Hajo and Sualkuchi. The Hajo center has contributed to over 3,000 cataract surgeries, and nine adopted villages under the center have been declared Free of Avoidable Blindness.
4. The **Sualkuchi Primary Eye Care Center**, launched simultaneously with the Hajo center, has contributed to around 1,500 free cataract surgeries. The center has successfully declared 25 adopted villages as Free of Avoidable Blindness.

The success of the Community Eye Health Initiative of Sri SankaradevaNethralaya in Kamrup Metro and Rural districts has led to the hospital's further association with globally respected NGOs and Funding agencies, resulting in the launch of similar projects in other districts of Assam.

5. The **Morigaon Primary Eye Care Center** was inaugurated in 2019 and has contributed to more than 4,000 cataract surgeries since its inception.
6. The **Mangaldoi Primary Eye Care Center** was established following the Morigaon Center and has contributed to around 2,000 cataract surgeries to date.
7. The **Nagaon Primary Eye Care Center** was established in 2019 and has contributed to around 4,000 cataract surgeries since then.

Despite the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic, the Eye Care Center operations were only temporarily halted. However, due to the institution's untiring efforts and endeavor, the Community Services resumed soon after, and new projects were initiated.

8. The **Bongaigaon Primary Eye Care Center** was one of the first facilities to be inaugurated by Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya after the pandemic. It has contributed to more than 400 cataract surgeries to date.

9. The **Goalpara Primary Eye Care Center** was launched simultaneously with the Bongaigaon center in 2021 and has contributed to around 400 cataract surgeries to date.
10. The **Udalguri Primary Eye Care Center** was launched in October 2021 and has contributed to around 300 cataract surgeries till now.
11. The **Barpeta Primary Eye Care Center**, located in the bustling town of Barpeta, has contributed to around 700 cataract surgeries since its inauguration.
12. The **Pathsala Primary Eye Care Center** was launched simultaneously with the Barpeta Center and has contributed to around 1,000 cataract surgeries to date.
13. The **Nalbari Primary Eye Care Center**, located in the center of Nalbari town, caters to the population of Nalbari town and surrounding villages. Till date, the center has contributed to around 200 cataract surgeries.
14. The **Dhekiajuli Primary Eye Care Center** is one of the newest centers and mainly serves the tea tribe population in the area.
15. The **Boko Primary Eye Care Center** has contributed to around 100 cataract surgeries since its inauguration. Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya's Community Eye Health initiative continues to expand its reach and impact, providing much-needed eye care services to under-served people in Assam.

In the year 2022 – 23 the Primary Eye Care Centers of Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya contributed to a total of 5004 free cataract surgeries and around 1000 subsidized surgeries through its Last Man Connectivity Program.



Major Events and Milestones

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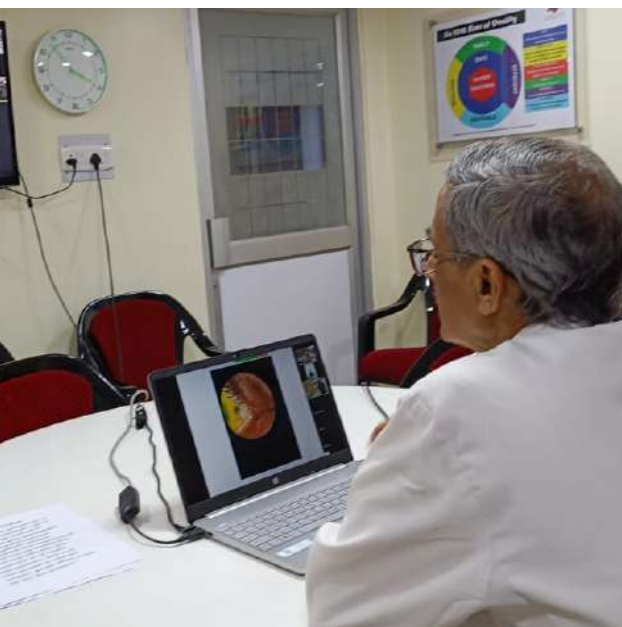


April 2022

In April, 2022, Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya Dhekiajuli Primary Eye Care Center was inaugurated and opened for the benefit of the population of Sonitpur, primarily the people of the tea tribes of the region. The event was inaugurated by the Honourable MLA of Dhekiajuli, Mr. Ashok Singhal. The event was graced by many honourable dignitaries from the Tea industry. The Center is equipped with the latest infrastructure in Eye Health for a primary eye care unit, including Slit Lamp, Perimeter, Refraction Chair Unit etc.

May 2022

In May, 2022 SSDN was visited by renowned Assamese singer Zublee Baruah and members of her NGO, Zublee Foundation. There was a discussion on their project of spreading awareness and arranging crowd funding for cases of Eye Donation and other eye surgeries across the state of Assam. The discussion between the two parties was quite fruitful and Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya pledged their technical support to Zublee Foundation in their noble initiative.



June 2022

We are committed to delivering perfect eye care and general health care services to our rural population. To achieve this, we conduct weekly online 'Capacity-Building' sessions for all our Community Health Field Workers and Vision Center Optometrists. These interactive sessions are designed to provide our staff with the latest information on various eye care and general health care topics, ranging from hygiene practices to government health schemes. Led by our Academics in-charge and overseen by Dr. Harsha Bhattacharjee himself, the sessions involve case studies and clinical discussions. These sessions played a significant role in orienting our new Community Health Worker personnel across all our centers.



July 2022

The month of July marked the half yearly assessment of our Primary Eye Care Centers. Representatives from Mission for Vision visited the Base Hospital and presented their half yearly assessment of the performance of our Primary Eye Care Centers across Assam during the year 2022 - 23. This helped us get a proper third party perspective on the quality and achievement of our services in the Community.

August 2022

13th August, 2022 marked the 8th anniversary of our Pilot Project in Sonapur. This was celebrated by the team at our Sonapur Center with a cake cutting ceremony and free eye screening for the nearby shop owners and staff. The celebrations were joined in by the Community Officer of Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya, Mr. Dipjyoti Medhi.



September 2022

The tireless field work of our Community Health Workers continued in the month of September. Braving rain, hail and floods they continued to conduct their door-to-door surveys throughout the month in order to achieve our goal of 'Last-Man Connectivity' in the Service Intervention Areas. Torch light screening and vision screening were done for each and every household member that they surveyed and the persons identified as requiring further treatment were referred to their respective Primary Eye Care Centers.



October 2022

October 2022 marked the 29th Foundation anniversary of Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya. The occasion was celebrated with much fervor as all the employees of the institution came together for a special evening at the Auditorium hall. The event was graced by renowned Assamese actor Mr. Kopil Bora and several other dignitaries. We took this opportunity to award our Best Community Health Workers of the year for their astounding work in the field. Besides this, several cultural performances were on show for the evening, all culminating in a soulful performance by noted Assamese Violin Virtuoso Mr. Manoj Baruah, followed by an electrifying musical performance by Assamese Singer/composer Dr. Sudeep Ranjan Medhi.

November 2022

Mr. Franklin Daniel, Lead - Vision Center Programme at Mission for Vision, visited the hospital in early November, 2022 to provide valuable insight on the efficient running of Vision Centers (Primary Eye Care Centers) in different scenarios and circumstances. He visited the field to give hands-on training to our Community Health Workers and concluded his stay in Guwahati with an enriching interactive session with all our Primary Eye Care Center staff at the base Hospital, where he shared his invaluable experiences with our team.



December 2022

Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya also runs a Mobile Eye Care project in collaboration with Shroff Charity Eye Hospital, New Delhi and Eicher Motors India Pvt. Ltd. Under this project, a mobile van, fully equipped with all major equipments for comprehensive eye and ear screening and spectacle fitting, provides access to affordable primary eye and ear healthcare services to truck drivers at major transport hubs along the national highway routes across the North-East to promote safe driving. It is a combination of both awareness activities and quality eye and ear healthcare services, which would help to improve eye and ear healthcare practice among the transport community. The month of December was a significant month for the Eicher Mobile Van team as they successfully conducted Eye Screening camps on the IOCL campus in Arunachal Pradesh and Silchar. This was the first time that the Van ventured out of Assam in its mission.



January 2023

A team from Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania visited Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya in January to conduct an Impact Study of our Pilot Project in Sonapur. Our Community team escorted them through the rough terrains of the hilly villages of Sonapur to give them a better understanding of the scope and nature of our Community service.

February 2023

Dr. Harsha Bhattacharjee met with representatives of the World Health Organization and AIIMS, New Delhi, to further the cause of our Community Service in February, 2023. The meeting covered key matters of technical support from both Organizations for our various Community Projects in rural Assam.

Also, a Major Cataract Screening camp was conducted at Sahpur Nalbari. A total of 307 patients were screened and around 70 patients were detected with cataract. Systematic transportation and successful cataract surgeries of these 60 patients are being conducted on a batch-wise basis (25 patients per batch). Patients without BPL cards are offered surgery at subsidized rates under the Nalbari Primary Eye Care Center.

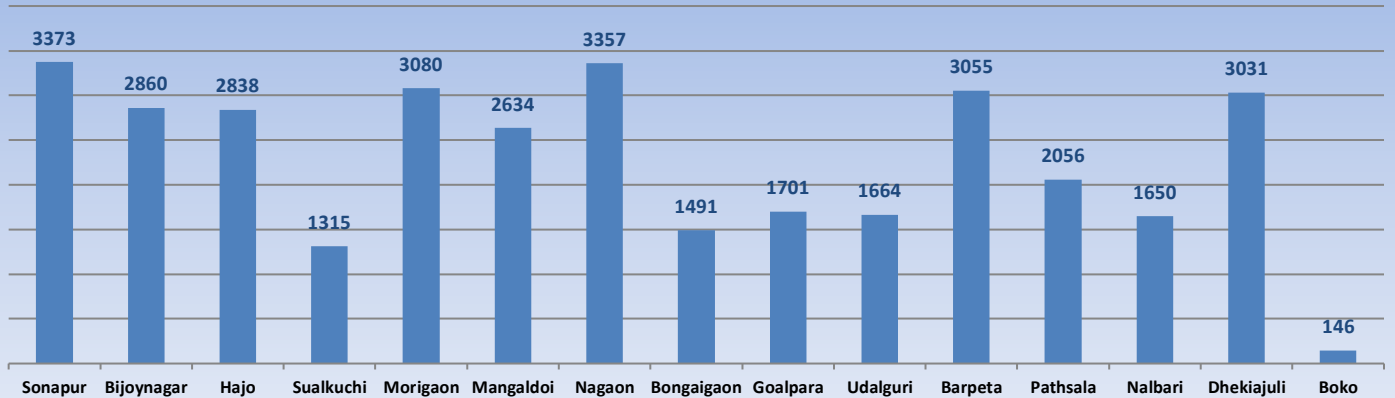


March 2023

World Glaucoma Week: 12th March to 18th March was celebrated as the World Glaucoma Week around the world. To mark this important occasion Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya conducted Glaucoma awareness campaigns in its service intervention areas adopted by its 15 Primary Eye Care Centers. Our teams of Community Health Workers carried out door to door Glaucoma Awareness campaign during their normal survey routine. At the Base Hospital, one of our esteemed doctors conducted an interactive online session with students of the University of Science & Technology Meghalaya (USTM) on Glaucoma and its effects.

KEY FIGURES – 2022-23

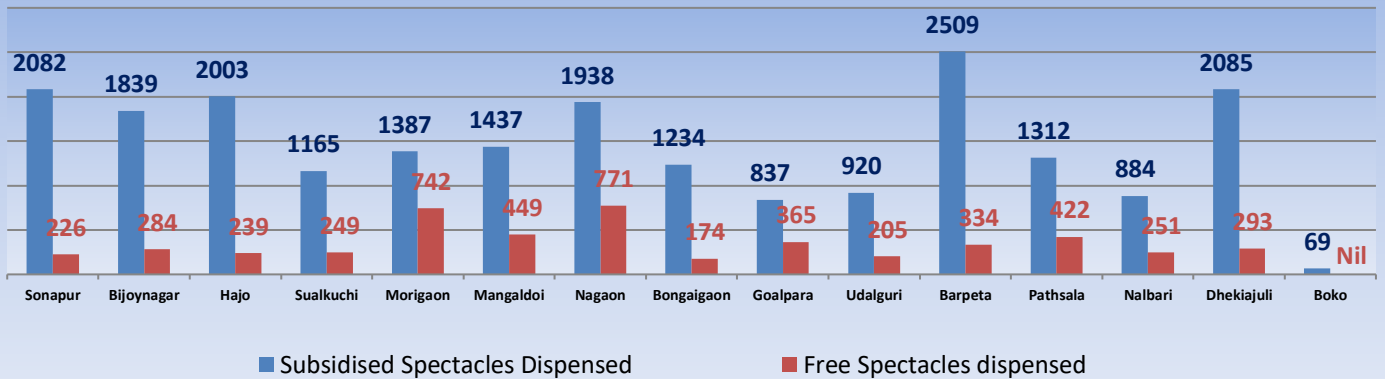
CENTRE WISE OPD - FY 2022-23



CENTRE WISE OPD - FY 2022-23

Centre	Sonapur	Bijohnagar	Hajo	Sualkuchi	Morigaon	Mangaldoi	Nagaon	Bongaigaon	Goalpara	Udalguri	Barpeta	Pathsala	Nalbari	Dhekiajuli	Boko	Total
Total OPD (Nos.)	3373	2860	2838	1315	3080	2634	3357	1491	1701	1664	3055	2056	1650	3031	146	34251

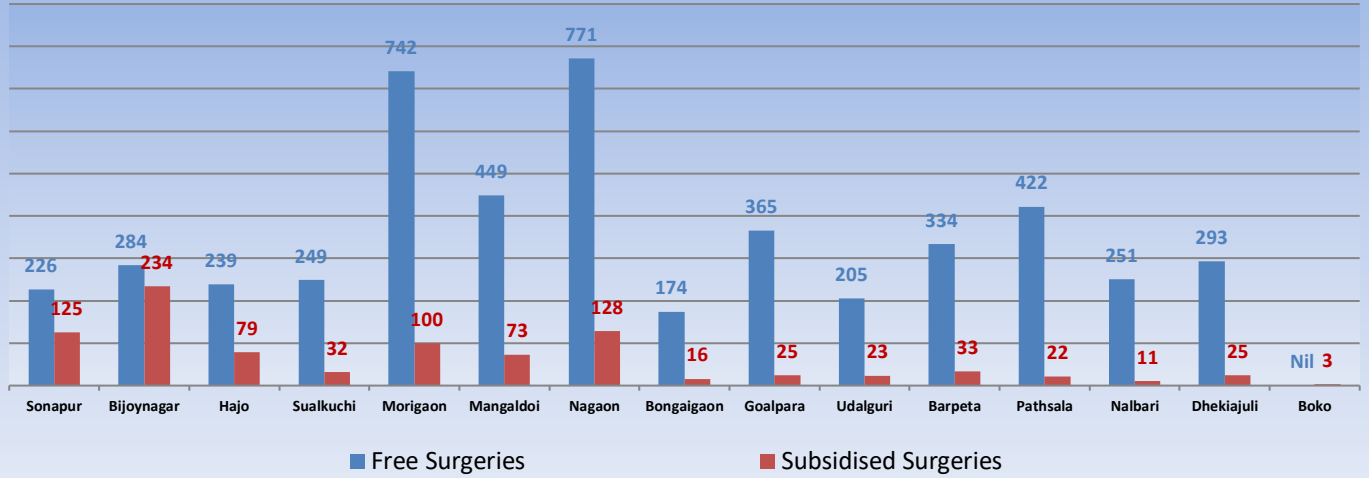
CENTRE WISE SPECTACLES DISPENSED (IN NOS.) - FY 2022-23



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Centre	Sonapur	Bijohnagar	Hajo	Sualkuchi	Morigaon	Mangaldoi	Nagaon	Bongaigaon	Goalpara	Udalguri	Barpeta	Pathsala	Nalbari	Dhekiajuli	Boko	Total
Subsidised Spectacles dispensed	2082	1839	2003	1165	1387	1437	1938	1234	837	920	2509	1312	884	2085	69	21701
Free Spectacles dispensed	226	284	239	249	742	449	771	174	365	205	334	422	251	293	Nil	5004

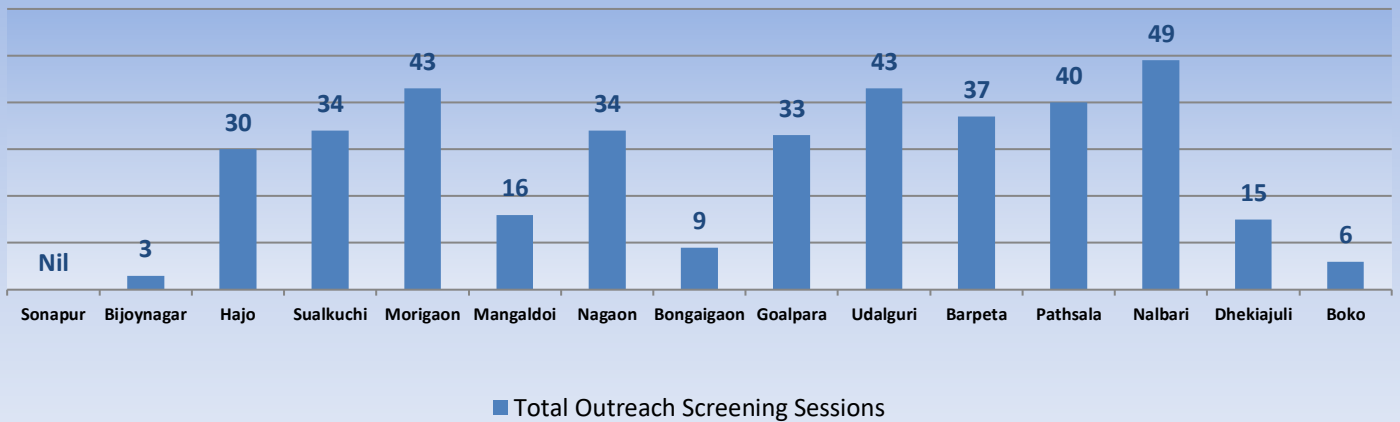
CENTRE WISE FREE AND SUBSIDISED SURGERIES - FY 2022-23



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Centre	Sonapur	Bijoynagar	Hajo	Sualkuchi	Morigaon	Mangaldoi	Nagaon	Bongaigaon	Goalpara	Udalguri	Barpeta	Pathsala	Nalbari	Dhekiajuli	Boko	Total
Free Surgeries	226	284	239	249	742	449	771	174	365	205	334	422	251	293	Nil	5004
Subsidised Surgeries	125	234	79	32	100	73	128	16	25	23	33	22	11	25	3	929

Total Outreach Screening Sessions Conducted - FY 2022 - 2023

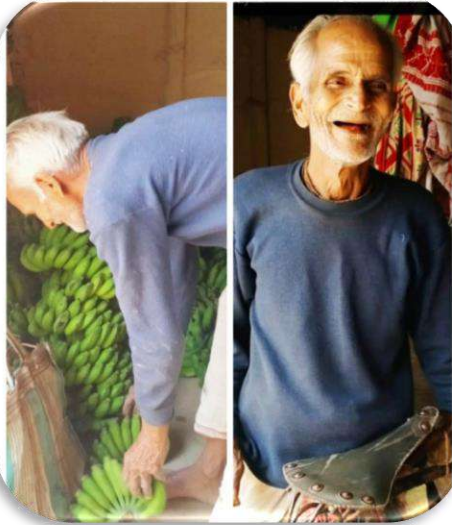


CENTRE WISE DISTRIBUTION OF OUTREACH SCREENING SESSIONS CONDUCTED IN FY 2022 - 23

Centre	Sonapur	Bijoynagar	Hajo	Sualkuchi	Morigaon	Mangaldoi	Nagaon	Bongaigaon	Goalpara	Udalguri	Barpeta	Pathsala	Nalbari	Dhekiajuli	Boko	Total
Total Outreach Screening Sessions	Nil	3	30	34	43	16	34	9	33	43	37	40	49	15	6	392

Beneficiaries of Free Surgery

There have been many heart touching incidences where, due to timely and free surgical intervention, our patients have been able to become financially independent and lead a dignified life. While earlier they may have been completely reliant on their family members or others, now, they can proudly live their lives with their heads held high. It has been a great pride for us to make a difference in their lives in one way or another and bring about positive change to the society at large.



Kukilashwar Sarkar,

Daily income:

Before surgery - None

After surgery - Rs. 200

Rakhol Doloi,

Daily income:

Before surgery - Rs. 100

After surgery - Rs. 250



Lokhon Rongchon,

Daily income:

Before surgery - None

After surgery - Rs. 300



Kumudini Das,

Daily income:

Before surgery - None

After surgery - Rs. 300



Panchami Teron

Daily income:

Before surgery - Rs. 100

After surgery - Rs. 300

Khugaru Garu

Daily income:

Before surgery - None

After surgery - Rs. 300

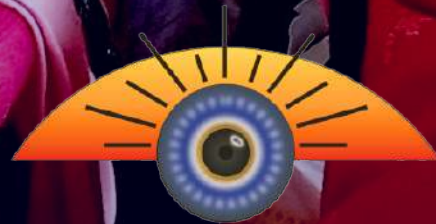


OUR BENEFACTORS AND DONORS IN 2022-23





*Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.
— Helen Keller*



SRI SANKARADEVA NETHRALAYA

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SRI KANCHI SANKARA HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
ASSISTED BY GOVT. OF INDIA. NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL & GOVT. OF ASSAM**

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