



NETHRA JYOTHI

Free Eye Screening & Cataract Surgery Initiative

A Comprehensive Report

MAY 2026



**PRABHATH RURAL
DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY**
Kothacheruvu



**ANAHATA
STIFTUNG**
Germany



THE DEDICATED TECHNICAL & FIELD TEAM OF NETHRA JYOTHI

INTRODUCTION

The "Nethra Jyothi" initiative was launched to combat avoidable blindness and uncorrected refractive errors among vulnerable rural populations in the Sri Sathya Sai District of Andhra Pradesh. Supported by **Anahata Stiftung, Germany**, and implemented by **Prabhath Rural Development Society (PRDS)**, the program conducts community-level eye screening camps.

Following the formal sanction of the project for the year 2026, PRDS initiated its planned action roadmap by organizing the proposed medical camps.

Discussions with the Ophthalmologist and the technical support team were conducted to plan the feasible dates for the conduct of camps at the village level. It is worked out that two camps can be conducted one at Budili and the second at Kaganipalli. The dates were worked out.

Other logistics like transport vehicles for the movement of the team, the equipment required for the camps were also worked out. Orders were also placed for the bulk procurement of the required medicines – the eye-drops etc.



Similarly, contacts were made to finalize the suppliers of eye-glasses for the patients basing on the diagnosis.

DETAILS OF THE CAMPS CONDUCTED

Camp – 1: Budili Village Hub

Screening Date: 17.05.2026 | **Surgery Date:** 19.05.2026

Geographic Coverage: Budili and adjacent areas, covering the villages of *Nymaddla, Kalekuntapalli, Puleru, Kasireddypalli, Srinivasapuram, Gagadevipalli, Yerraballi, Talamarla, Papireddypalli, Jagarajupalli, Gollapalli, Pedaballi, Esalapuram, and Gorentla.*

Outcome Summary: A total of 147 patients were reached, yielding a significant demand for vision correction and immediate surgical relief.



Patient Turnout and Diagnostic Breakdown (Camp 1)

Village	Total Patients		Surgeries		Spectacles		Medicines	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Budili	66	81	12	19	40	42	66	81
Total	147		31		82		147	

Camp – 2: Kaganipalli Village Hub

- **Screening Date:** 26.05.2026 | **Surgery Date:** 29.05.2026
- **Geographic Coverage:** Kaganipalli and surrounding pockets, covering the villages of *Chinnarapalli, Gollapalli, Gagadevipalli, Ramanna Palli, Puleru, Kasireddypalli, Narepalli, Talamarla, Pudagundlapalli, and Kammaiahgaripalli.*
- **Outcome Summary:** A total of 94 patients were screened, ensuring deep-grid coverage of remote agricultural hamlets.



Patient Turnout and Diagnostic Breakdown (Camp 2)

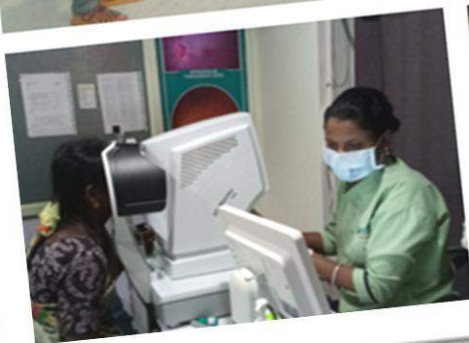
Village	Total Patients		Surgeries		Spectacles		Medicines	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Kaganipalli	60	34	13	15	33	35	26	46
Total	94		28		68		72	

METHODOLOGY & OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

The success of the "Nethra Jyothi" program relies on a meticulous, community-centric operating model designed to eliminate financial and geographic barriers to healthcare access. Patients diagnosed with minor ailments were given immediate medical treatments, while those experiencing refractive visual issues received free custom eyeglasses. The entire implementation methodology involved:

- **Community Mobilization:** PRDS field teams conducted advance village-level awareness campaigns, utilizing local community networks to ensure high turnout among the elderly and economically marginalized individuals.
- **Comprehensive Screening:** On-site medical camps were organized where professional optometrists and ophthalmic specialists conducted rigorous eye examinations.
- **On-the-Spot Treatment & Correction:**
 - **Medicines:** Anti-inflammatory, lubricating, and antibiotic eye drops were distributed immediately for minor infections and seasonal conditions.
 - **Spectacles:** Refractive errors were mapped systematically, and vision-correcting eyeglasses were provided to restore immediate functionality.

Extensive Support The Surgeries





Such of those individuals diagnosed with mature cataracts were seamlessly transported to **Manjunatha Eye Hospital in Bangalore**, where they underwent high-quality cataract surgeries. The entire continuum of care, including screening, diagnostics, medicines, custom spectacles, surgical interventions, round-trip transport, and food—was provided entirely free of cost to the beneficiaries.

The type of surgery conducted in this hospital is a very advanced “Topical phacoemulsification with foldable IOL (Intro Ocular Lens)”. This is one of the latest technologies in the field of ophthalmic surgery, which involves using of phaco equipment. The advantage of this surgery is that

- ✓ Done with less than 2.2 to 2.8 mm incision so the post-operative visual recovery and predictability is high
- ✓ It is done under topical Anaesthesia(No injuction) so there is no need of bandage and sutures and patient can be discharged early and can resume activities after 1 week
- ✓ It's the most advanced cataract Surgery procedure at present.

As soon as the surgery is completed, the patients will be asked to take rest for a period of one hour or so, to observe if there is any type of irritation or unexpected reactions are there due to the procedure followed. After that the patients will be given a short note of advice to keep their eyes safe for a period of minimum one month, and even after.

Batch Deliveries: The first batch of **31 patients** was taken to Manjunatha Eye Hospital on **19th May 2026**, followed by the second batch of **28 patients** on **29th May 2026**.

Logistical Transport: PRDS arranged specialized transport vehicles to pick up patients directly from their respective native villages and escort them safely to the hospital facility in Bangalore.

Transit Care: PRDS covered all logistical costs, including wholesome food and comfortable care during transit, before safely dropping patients back at their doorsteps post-surgery.

Rigorous Follow-Up Protocol: To safeguard patient recovery, all surgical patients were visited on-site by an ophthalmologist the very next day of the surgery to check for early complications. Furthermore, PRDS field teams conducted **three subsequent follow-up visits** for each patient post-surgery to ensure complete, hygienic recovery.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS & CONSOLIDATION

Across both camp cycles covering multiple rural habitations, the program successfully screened a total of **241 patients**.

Interventions Provided	Male	Female	Total
Total Patients Screened	126	115	241
Cataract Surgeries Conducted	25	34	59
Spectacles Distributed	73	77	150
Medicines Supplied	92	127	219

Note: Individual patients frequently received multiple lines of service (e.g., diagnostic screening followed by both medicines and eyeglasses or surgery).

MAJOR FINDINGS & PROJECT INSIGHTS

An analysis of the updated consolidated statistics reveals crucial operational trends:

- **High Surgical Conversion Rate:** Out of 241 screened individuals, **24.5%** (59 patients) required immediate cataract surgeries, pointing to a stark backlog of advanced ophthalmic issues in these remote villages.
- **Massive Vision Correction Footprint:** A staggering **62.2%** of all screened individuals (150 out of 241) were successfully supplied with prescription eyeglasses, showcasing an incredible achievement in immediate local vision correction.
- **Gender-Positive Healthcare Access:** Female beneficiaries represented **57.6%** (34 out of 59) of the total surgeries performed. Furthermore, they accounted for **51.3%** (77 out of 150) of the total spectacle distributions. This balanced distribution proves that taking the

camps directly into the village hubs effectively shattered traditional mobility barriers for rural women, empowering them to step forward and receive primary eye care.

WORDS OF GRATITUDE

The "Nethra Jyothi" program continues to be a life-changing intervention for hundreds of rural households, transforming dependent individuals back into self-reliant family members by fully restoring their eyesight.

The community extends its profound gratitude to **Anahata Stiftung, Germany**, whose noble, sustained financial patronage has made this humanitarian service possible. We also convey our deep appreciation to the clinical team at **Manjunatha Eye Hospital, Bangalore**, for their exceptional surgical care, and to the dedicated field coordinators of **Prabhath Rural Development Society (PRDS)** for ensuring flawless execution, warmth, and logistical care on the ground.

