



WELCOME TO OUR eyelights

Top news:

- **46th Foundation Day:** Sankara Nethralaya marked its 46th Foundation Day with vibrant competitions and performances at Kalaivanar Arangam.
- **Honoring Dr. SS Badrinath on His Death Anniversary:** Memorial Service was hosted in the honour of our founder, Dr. SS Badrinath, with lectures by luminaries like Dr. P. Namperumalsamy and Shri N. Ram.
- **Independence Day Awards Recognize Excellence Staff and Departments:** The 78th Independence Day at Sankara Nethralaya was celebrated by honouring the exceptional employees and departments.
- **Cutting-Edge Modular OT Complex Inaugurated:** New modular OTs were inaugurated at JKCN Campus.
- **Elite School of Optometry Expanded to Kolkata:** SNESO Kolkata was inaugurated with distinguished Guests.

From the Chairman's Desk



Dear Readers,

It brings me immense joy to recall the achievements and milestones we have reached as an institution in the last quarter. Sankara Nethralaya's 46th Foundation Day was a jubilant occasion that highlighted the unity, talent, and spirit of our family. The enthusiastic participation of our employees, their children, and students demonstrated the strength of our community.

We also honored the legacy of our founder Dr. S. S. Badrinath, on his death anniversary. The heartfelt tributes during the memorial service reminded us of his visionary leadership, which continues to guide Sankara Nethralaya's mission.

This quarter has been marked by several significant milestones. The inauguration of the new modular OT complex and the establishment of multilevel parking facility at the JKCNC campus, inauguration of the Sankara Nethralaya Elite School of Optometry in Kolkata, etc. just show commitment to advanced ophthalmic care.

Our dedication to excellence was also recognized globally, with several of our scientists being named among the top 2% of researchers worldwide by Stanford University. Congratulations to our researchers for their outstanding contributions to vision science. The recent individual and institutional awards & recognitions reaffirm Sankara Nethralaya's position as a leader in ophthalmic care, education, and research.

We also celebrated our independence day with an inspiring awards ceremony on August 15, honoring our staff. My hearty congratulations to

Community service remains at the heart of our mission. Events like the blood donation camp and the Myopia Awareness Week show how committed we are to public health and education.

As we move forward, let us draw inspiration from our achievements and continue to strive for greater heights. Sankara Nethralaya's legacy is built on the collective efforts of each member of our family. I would like to take a moment and thank our well-wishers and donors for helping us keep the flame of service and excellence burning bright.

With warm regards,

Dr. T. S. Surendran

Chairman, Sankara Nethralaya

From the President's Desk



Season's Greetings from the President's desk.

This edition of the Eyclight highlights the spirit of Sankara Nethralaya as we celebrated our 46th Foundation Day, thus celebrating the journey started by our visionary founders. Another year of upholding our values, traditions, and the spirit of excellence. Let's honor our past, celebrate the present, and look forward to a brighter future.

While we hold on dearly to our traditions, we also ensure that change is the only constant at SN. Change for the better. We have enhanced our surgical capacity by adding more state-of-the-art modular OTs with advanced Laser Cataract surgery facility.

With an aim of taking quality Optometry education across the nation, we have started the Elite School of Optometry at our Rajarhat campus in Kolkata. With the support of our well-wishers and donors, we shall welcome our 3rd batch of B.Optom in Aug 2026 at an exclusive Optometry College building.

Our faculty continue to shine with 6 of them featuring in the Top 2% scientists list published by Elsevier and Harvard. Academic, Research and Community outreach pursuits have enabled us to host international conferences –'Retina Summit 2024' and 'INOS 2024'. SN was bestowed the 'Sri Sant Hirdharam Sewa Award for Innovative Eye care Practices' at the 18th annual Vision 2020 conference, held at Christian Medical College & Hospital, Ludhiana.

'To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die'. Our Guru, Dr SS Badrinath, will forever guide us in our thoughts and deeds to remain steadfast in our commitment to the Vision, Mission and Philosophy of Sankara Nethralaya.

Advanced Happy New wishes to you and your family.

Dr Girish Rao

President

Sankara Nethralaya Marks 46th Foundation Day with Fun & Festivity

Sankara Nethralaya celebrated its 46th Foundation Day on September 8, 2024, with a day filled with joy, competition, and festivity. The event, held at Kalaivanar Arangam, saw enthusiastic participation from employees, students of the Elite School of Optometry, and The Sankara Nethralaya Academy.

A series of competitions brought out the talents of Sankara Nethralaya's teams, with each performance met with cheers from colleagues and friends. The highlight of the day was the "Juke Box" singing competition, where the SN Dare Devils hit all the right notes to secure the win, leaving the SN Knight Riders to take the runner-up spot.

The energy only amplified with the "Dance League," where captivating performances set the stage on fire. Once again, the SN Dare Devils danced their way to victory, while the SN Titans gave a strong performance to claim second place.

The "Show Stealers" ramp walk showcased creativity and style, with the SN Knight Riders strutting their way to the top, while the SN Sunrisers followed closely behind as runners-up. In a fun-filled final round of "Siricha Pochu" that had everyone in splits, the SN Dare Devils once again emerged victorious, with the SN Sunrisers taking second place.

At the end of the day, it was the SN Dare Devils who swept the overall championship trophy, leaving the SN Knight Riders to proudly take the runner-up title.

The little ones weren't left out of the excitement, as a drawing competition was organized for the children of SN employees, allowing the young artists to showcase their creativity.



The celebration was graced by several distinguished leaders of Sankara Nethralaya, including Chairman Dr. T. S. Surendran, President Dr. Girish Shiva Rao, Honorary Secretary Mr. Ramachandran, and Honorary Treasurer Mr. Kannan Narayanan, who enjoyed the performances as much as the participants did.

Another major highlight of the day was the much-anticipated launch of Sankara Nethralaya's newly redesigned website, which boasts a sleek and stylish look. The new website offers a fresh, modern experience, combining user-friendly navigation with visually appealing design.

With fun, laughter, and team spirit shining through, the Foundation Day celebration was a delightful success, reminding everyone that Sankara Nethralaya is a family that knows how to celebrate together!



Memorial Service Held for Padma Bhushan Dr. S.S. Badrinath on His Death Anniversary at Sankara Nethralaya

The death anniversary of Padma Bhushan Dr. S.S. Badrinath, the visionary founder of Sankara Nethralaya, was observed with a heartfelt memorial service at the Sankara Nethralaya's Padma Bhushan Dr. S. S. Badrinath Campus in Chennai on November 23. The event was attended by several eminent personalities, with Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, a founding member of the GOVEL Trust and the driving force behind the Aravind Eye Care System gracing the occasion as the chief guest. Shri. N Ram, Director, THG Publishing Private Limited, was the guest of honour of the event. Both speakers captivated the audience with their tributes, reminiscing about Dr. Badrinath's extraordinary journey and the indelible mark he left on the world of healthcare and social service.



Independence Day 2024 Celebrations at Sankara Nethralaya

The Dr. S. S. Badrinath Campus at Sankara Nethralaya was abuzz with excitement as the 78th Independence Day was celebrated with a special awards ceremony recognizing the outstanding contributions of its staff. The event, held at 7:45 AM, was graced by the presence of Dr. V. Thirupugazh IAS (Retd.), Former Additional Secretary NDMA and Chairman, Advisory Committee for Mitigation of Floods in Chennai, as the chief guest, who also hoisted the flag.

The following awards were presented during the celebration:

Outstanding Performances: Women

- Gold Medal: Ms. Kavitha B, Manager, Fund Raising
- Silver Medal: Dr. Rashima A, Incharge, Occupational Optometry Services

Outstanding Performances: Men

- Gold Medal: Mr. Arumugam D, Incharge, Transport Department
- Silver Medal: Mr. Hajakamal Y, Junior Executive, Civil & Electrical Services Department

Best Department Awards

- Gold Award: Civil & Electrical Services Department
- Silver Award: Department of Biomedical Engineering





Special recognition was given to Dr. Bhaskaran from Internal Medicine, who has been with Sankara Nethralaya for an extraordinary 45 years.

Long service awards were presented to several dedicated employees:

35 Years: Dr. Vijaya L (Glaucoma), Ms. Usha V (Medical Transcription), Mr. Krupanandam A (Outpatient Services)

30 Years: Dr. Lingam Gopal (Vitreoretina), Dr. Muna Bhende (Vitreoretina), Ms. Sreedevi C G (Academics), Ms. Vijayalakshmi A (General Optometry), Ms. Mahalakshmi Saravanavelu (Operation Theatre), Ms. Revathi Selvam (Operation Theatre), Ms. Sasikala S (Operation Theatre), Ms. Uma Maheswari T J (Operation Theatre), Ms. Sharmila O V (Operation Theatre)

Additionally, 37 employees were honored for 25 years of service, 6 for 20 years, 17 for 15 years, and 14 for 10 years.

The Circle of Excellence Award was presented to the Patient Services Department, a recognition instituted by Ms. Sita Mittal, a SWAN volunteer.

A total of 62 employees received rank awards, and 14 children of Sankara Nethralaya employees were presented with merit awards.



Sankara Nethralaya Opens New Modular OT Complex in JKC

Sankara Nethralaya has officially opened its new Modular OT complex, located on our JKC campus' 2nd floor, HTP block, as of August 22, 2024 with an official Pooja. This state-of-the-art facility marks a milestone in Sankara Nethralaya's commitment to delivering exceptional ophthalmic care and addressing the evolving needs of both patients and staff.

Sankara Nethralaya extends its gratitude to the donors who played a crucial role in the construction of this new OT complex. Their support has been instrumental in bringing this project to fruition.



Sankara Nethralaya Launches Sankara Nethralaya Elite School of Optometry (SNESO) in Kolkata

Sankara Nethralaya has opened its first branch of optometry school in Kolkata. Speaker of the West Bengal Assembly, Biman Banerjee, inaugurated the Sankara Nethralaya Elite School of Optometry. The grand event took place at the Novotel Kolkata Hotel and Residencies on August 24, 2024. The event was honored by the presence of Shri Dr. Partha Pratim Lahiri, Registrar, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology; and Shri Basudeb Banerjee, Former Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal.



11th Graduation Ceremony Celebrated at TSNA

The Sankara Nethralaya Academy (TSNA) celebrated its 11th graduation ceremony, honoring the academic achievements of 59 graduates from the faculties of Optometry, Management Studies, and Medical Lab Technology for the year 2023-2024.

The ceremony took place at the Shri V. D. Swami Auditorium, located within the Sankara Nethralaya Dr. S. S. Badrinath Campus in Chennai. The event was graced by the presence of the Chief Guest, Honorable Tmt. Justice V. Bhavani Subbaroyan, sitting Judge of the Madras High Court.

Blood Donation Camp in Collaboration with VHS

On November 16, Sankara Nethralaya hosted a blood donation camp with VHS, Madras Mylapore Round Table 3, and Ladies Circle 4. Employees and consultants enthusiastically participated, contributing to this lifesaving initiative. The camp successfully collected 41 units of blood to support patients in critical need.



Sankara Nethralaya Celebrates Children's Day; Marks Myopia Awareness Week

Children's Day and World Myopia Week were jointly celebrated on November 14 at Sankara Nethralaya. A festive cake-cutting ceremony on the pediatric floor delighted young patients and their families. A photo booth promoted myopia awareness, encouraging social media sharing for outreach.

Kanmanigalin Kungal: Observing World Prematurity Day at Sankara Nethralaya

World Prematurity Day was observed with a special program on November 20 at Shri. VD Swami Auditorium. Dr. Rema Chandra Mohan's guest lecture highlighted early interventions for premature infants' eye health. A video contest engaged staff and students, aiming to create awareness about eye diseases among premature babies.



CONFERENCES

Sankara Nethralaya Hosts 5th Dr. Rajeswari Mahadevan Memorial Scientific Session

The 5th Dr. Rajeswari Mahadevan Memorial Scientific Session was held on August 17th and 18th, 2024. The scientific session featured 12 oral presentations from different optometry colleges, which were evaluated by Ms. Lakshmi Shinde and Dr. Rashima Asokan, Head of Occupational Optometry Services at Sankara Nethralaya.



6th INOS Annual Conference Held at Sankara Nethralaya

The 6th Annual Conference of the Indian Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (INOS) was held at the Shri VD Swami Auditorium, Dr. S. S. Badrinath Campus, Sankara Nethralaya, on September 21-22, 2024 following a pre-conference on September 20, 2024. The two-day event, conducted by Sankara Nethralaya and INOS, featured insightful sessions and discussions on the latest advancements in neuro-ophthalmology.

DMEK Wet Lab Conducted by Cornea Department at Sankara Nethralaya

The Cornea Department of Sankara Nethralaya conducted a DMEK Wet Lab on September 29, 2024, at the Sky Lounge of the Padma Bhushan Dr. S. S. Badrinath Campus in Chennai. The event commenced at 8 a.m. with a welcome address by Dr. Niveditha Narayanan. A series of informative sessions followed, beginning with Dr. Rama Rajagopal's presentation on "Donor Eye Selection" and Dr. Meena Lakshmipathy's talk on "Patient Selection." Dr. Niveditha Narayanan further explained "DMEK Decoded," while Dr. Prateek Gujar discussed "DMEK Graft Unfolding." Insights were shared by Dr. Prema Padmanabhan following which Dr. Sudhir RR spoke about his experience with DMEK. The day concluded with a hands-on Wet Lab session, followed by a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Shruti Muralidharan.



AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Sankara Nethralaya Scientists Ranked in Top 2% of World's Leading Researchers by Stanford University

Stanford University has named several scientists from Sankara Nethralaya in its list of top 2% of researchers worldwide, highlighting their contributions in research. Out of the 2,23,252 scientists recognized globally, Sankara Nethralaya's consultants Dr. Jyotirmay Biswas, Dr. L. Vijaya, Dr. Ronnie Jacob George, Dr. Rajiv Raman, and Dr. Parthapratim Dutta Majumder have earned their places for their groundbreaking work in vision science. Dr. Baskaran M also made the list for work done while practicing in Singapore.



The Sankara Nethralaya Academy Wins Best Academic Institution Award

The Sankara Nethralaya Academy (TSNA) was awarded the "Best Academic Institution for Allied Health Sciences (P.G.) degree courses" in a grand event attended by 2500 delegates in the TN MGR Medical University Silver Jubilee Auditorium. Hon. State Minister of Health and Family Welfare Ma Subramanian was the Chief Guest. The event was presided by the Vice Chancellor of the TN MGR Medical University Dr Narayanaswamy.

Fleet of awards by optometry department

The Second National Optometry Conference, OPTINT, organized by the Optometric Association of Tamil Nanbargal (OATN), was successfully held at Sri Ramachandra Medical College on August 31 and September 1, 2024. This event brought together professionals and students from the field of optometry to share their research and advancements.

The Department of Optometry received the following awards and recognitions during OPTINT Conference:

Best Oral Presentation (Regular Category) - Ms. Tharakeswari T.

Best Poster Winner (Case Report Category) - Ms. Diksha Rathi.

Best Poster Runner-Up (Case Report Category) - Ms. Anindita Choudhury

Sankara Nethralaya congratulates Dr. VV Jaichandran

on being awarded the Hall of Fame Award at the upcoming Ganga Annual Research Conference (GARC) 2025, to be held from January 30 to February 2, 2025, at Ganga Hospital in Coimbatore. Dr. Jaichandran will receive this honor on the evening of February 1, 2025, in recognition of his exemplary achievements and impactful contributions to the field.

Individual Awards

Dr. Rashima Asokan received the Golden Jubilee Award from the Indian Association of Occupational Health, Tamil Nadu Chapter, during their CME event on September 29.



Dr. Jyotirmay Biswas received the Achievement Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology, awarded by the Board of Trustees in recognition of his many years of distinguished service.



We are immensely proud to announce that Dr. Suganeswari Ganesan has been awarded the WOS (Women Ophthalmologists Society) Leadership Award 2024.

Dr. Jaichandran V. V., our Deputy Director in the Department of Anaesthesia, was honored on World Anaesthesia Day 2024 at a celebration hosted by the Department of Anaesthesiology at Government Stanley Medical College. At the 4th National AIOA Conference at PGIMER Chandigarh, his article, co-authored with Dr. Dhanashree Ratra, was selected as one of the best articles published in the Indian Journal of Ophthalmic Anaesthesia for 2023-24. At the Indonesian Anaesthesiology and Intensive Therapy (INSAIT) Conference in Medan, he delivered a keynote lecture and was honored by Pol. Dr. Asep Hendradiana, Head of the Health Centre of the Indonesian National Police and President of the Indonesian Society of Anaesthesiologists and Intensive Therapy.





Ms. S. Madhumathi Honored as IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year for Asia Pacific

Ms. S. Madhumathi, Deputy Manager of our Contact Lens Department, has been awarded the "IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year" for the Asia Pacific region in 2024 by the International Association of Contact Lens Educators (IACLE). The award was presented at the American Academy of Optometry (AAO) annual meeting during the International Reception held on November 8th in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA. We congratulate Ms. Madhumathi on this remarkable achievement.

Sankara Nethralaya Kolkata Team Shines at OSWB Conference 2024

The Kolkata team brought pride to Sankara Nethralaya at the OSWB Conference from November 15 to 17. Dr. Pragati Paul, Dr. Ankeeta Baliarsingh, Dr. Md Shahid Alam, and Dr. Kalpita Das won prestigious awards. Their achievements reflect the institution's excellence in ophthalmology and academic contributions.

OTHER EVENTS

Ayudha Pooja Celebrated at Sankara Nethralaya

On October 10, 2024, Sankara Nethralaya celebrated Ayudha Pooja. During the festive occasion, a traditional pooja ceremony was performed, honoring the tools and instruments essential to the organization. In addition, employees were delighted to receive gifts of their choice from three different categories. This celebration marked a day of worship and gratitude and strengthened the bonds among employees.



Sudharshana Homam in Sankara Nethralaya

The Sankara Nethralaya family performed the 'Sudarsana Homam,' a sacred Vedic ritual aimed at appeasing the Gods and invoking their blessings, on the 16th of September, 2024, at its main campus. This ritual is performed every year to seek the Almighty's blessings for the institution and for the all-round well-being of its employees, their family members, and humanity at large.



Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Baba Jayanthi Celebrated with Devotion at Sankara Nethralaya

Sankara Nethralaya celebrated Sai Baba's 99th birthday on November 23 with devotion and fervor. Sai Kirtans, Bhajans, and the Mangala Aarti filled the campus with spiritual joy and reverence. The celebrations concluded with prasadam distribution, spreading love and unity among attendees.

The pediatric optical showroom on the 5th floor of the Mahyco Block was renovated and inaugurated on October 26.



PROJECT AGASTYA

We are happy to announce that we are in the process of setting up a new eye care facility in Tondiarpet: **Agastya TNK Sankara Nethralaya**.

This has been made possible by the land donation from The Agastya Charitable Trust. The foundation stone for this project has been laid, and we expect to kick-start the construction work soon.



His Holiness Jagadguru Pujyashri Shankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamikal performing Bhoomi Pooja of the upcoming facility



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Shri M. K. Stalin virtually laying the foundation stone of the hospital building

HIGHLIGHTS

- Phase 1: A 60,000 sq ft facility with comprehensive eye care services and a fully equipped diagnostic wing.
- Phase 2: Research and academic wing.

DETAILS

Capacity: The hospital will cater to 75,000 outpatients and perform over 7,500 surgeries annually.

Cost of the project is estimated at Rs. 54 crore (Construction - Rs. 34 crore, Equipment - Rs. 20 crore).

We seek your support and collaboration to transform this vision into reality

For more details

Contact: B. Kavitha, Manager - Resource Mobilization

Email: kavitha@snmail.org, donation@snmail.org

Phone No: 91-44-28202448

Join our Mission for Vision



DONATION SCHEME



Sankara Nethralaya USA

Support Towards

Minimum Amount in Rs.

One cataract surgery	Rs.5,000
One major surgery like Glaucoma, Vitreoretinal, etc	Rs.17,500
Mobile rural teleophthalmology camp (Per Day)	Rs.25,000
Cost free eye screening of needy children in a rural school	Rs.45,000
One cataract surgery, which will be performed annually on an indigent patient on a date specified by the donor. The surgery will be performed for 12 years	Rs.50,000
One major surgery, like Glaucoma, Vitreoretinal, which will be performed annually on an indigent patient on a date specified by the donor. The surgery will be performed for 12 years	Rs.1,50,000
Free cataract surgeries for one day (approximately 40 surgeries per day)	Rs.2,00,000
Urban/Rural Comprehensive Eye Screening Camp	Rs.3,00,000
MESU - Mobile Eye Surgical Unit. Hospital on wheels	
MESU Adopt a village (Distance upto 200 km radius from Chennai)	Rs. 10,00,000
MESU Adopt a village (Distance upto 300 km radius from Chennai)	Rs. 12,50,000
MESU Adopt a village (Distance upto 500 km radius from Chennai)	Rs. 15,00,000
Other donation schemes @ Sankara Nethralaya	
Naming a work-up (optometry) Room	Rs.10,00,000
Naming Consultant Room	Rs. 15,00,000
Paediatric Treatment	Any Amount
Corpus fund for community outreach programme	Rs. 2,00,000

*Note: We have suggested the lowest amount for each procedure/programme though the operational costs are much higher.

Kindly draw your cheques in favour of "Medical Research Foundation"

Donations are exempt under Section 80G

For more details, contact

Ms. Kavitha B,

Manager, Resource Mobilization

Sankara Nethralaya

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Websites : www.sankaranethralaya.org | www.supportsankaranethralaya.org |

www.omlog.org, www.sankaranethralayausa.org