



Sankara Nethralaya - Kolkata





## Sankara Nethralaya - Kolkata at Mukundapur



*Sankara Nethralaya Chairman Emeritus Dr. SS Badrinath with West Bengal Chief Minister Shri. Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee; Dr. Surjya Kant Mishra, Health Minister of West Bengal; Shri. Kanti Ganguly, Minister- In Charge, Sundarban Affairs; Shri. Swapan Roy, Chairman, Bourogh XII, KMC; Dr. Vasanthi Badrinath and Sankara Nethralaya - Kolkata Medical Director, Dr. Sujatha Guha at Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata after inaugurating the ophthalmic hospital's facilities at Mukundapur on January 21, 2009.*



*West Bengal Governor Shri. Gopalkrishna Gandhi inaugurating the hospital's teleophthalmology facility on January 23, 2009 in Kolkata.*

# Sankara Nethralaya in the city of joy

Since its inception in 1978, Sankara Nethralaya, a unit of Medical Research Foundation, Chennai, has been receiving patients from the Eastern and North Eastern Region of India, seeking treatment and management for Ophthalmic conditions. While the hospital in Chennai received over 300 patients from this region every day, there were many more who could not travel the distance and avail the treatment facilities in Chennai. To serve more people from Eastern and North Eastern India, Sankara Nethralaya began offering its services, through collaboration, in Kolkata in December 2002, serving about 200 patients a day. In July 2007, with the idea of expanding and offering more comprehensive care, it moved to an independent interim location at Raja Subodh Mullick Square. While at the interim location, Sankara Nethralaya with the support of the Paschim Banga Rajya Pratibandhi Sammilini, constructed its own eye hospital, built on a 0.55 acre of land at Mukundapur. The new hospital was commissioned on January 21, 2009 by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal Shri. Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee.

Lead by Dr. Sujata Guha, a dedicated team of 11 consultants caters to the needs of at least 500-600 patients a day in all sub-specialities of ophthalmology. The hospital is equipped with state-of-the-art investigational facilities. The centre is a dedicated superspeciality eye hospital and peripheral referral centre for the entire eastern region of the country and neighbouring countries such as Bangladesh and Nepal.

Keeping with the Sankara Nethralaya philosophy of Community Service, the new hospital in Kolkata has an entire floor dedicated to Community Service. Two state-of-the-art operation theatres and 24 beds have been specifically earmarked for indigent patients who receive treatment free-of-cost. The hospital also has a Teleophthalmology and Mobile Refraction Van that takes quality eye care to the doorsteps of people living in rural and semi-urban West Bengal.

From January 2009-October 2009, Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata has

- Examined **38,054** patients
- Performed **4119** surgeries
- Conducted **48** rural eye camps which have benefitted **6,888** people
- Trained its **second batch** of Optometry students





# Specialities & Facilities



Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata, a multi-speciality ophthalmic unit, offers expert medical opinion in:

- **Cataract**
- **Glaucoma**
- **Pediatric Ophthalmology**
- **Oculoplasty**
- **Medical Retinal**
- **Uvea**
- **Vitreoretina**
- **Strabismus**
- **Cornea**
- **Community ophthalmology**



The state-of-the-art facilities at Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata include six operation theatres. Four out of these are paying operation theatres and two are exclusively meant for performing surgeries on indigent patients. One of the community operation theatres is named after (late) Dr. Samir Biswas, renowned ophthalmologist from Kolkata.

Hospital Management System and Electronic Medical Records for anywhere-anytime-availability of patients' records, pioneered at the main hospital in Chennai, has been made available to Sankara Nethralaya Kolkata.

## **Additional facilities:**

- **OCT** - Optical Coherence Tomography
- **UBM** - Ultrasound Bio Microscopy
- **HVF** - Humphrey Visual Fields
- **TTT** - Transpupillary thermotherapy
- **PDT** - Photo Dynamic Therapy
- **FFA** - Fundus flurocein Angiogram
- **Laser Photocoagulation**
- **Ultrasound**
- **Yag PI** (Peripheral Iridotomy)
- **Yag Capsulotomy**





*Childhood blindness remains a significant problem in India, where one out of every 1000 children is blind. Medical Director, Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata, Dr. Sujatha Guha is seen here examining a young boy. Pediatric Ophthalmology is one among the many speciality services offered at Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata.*



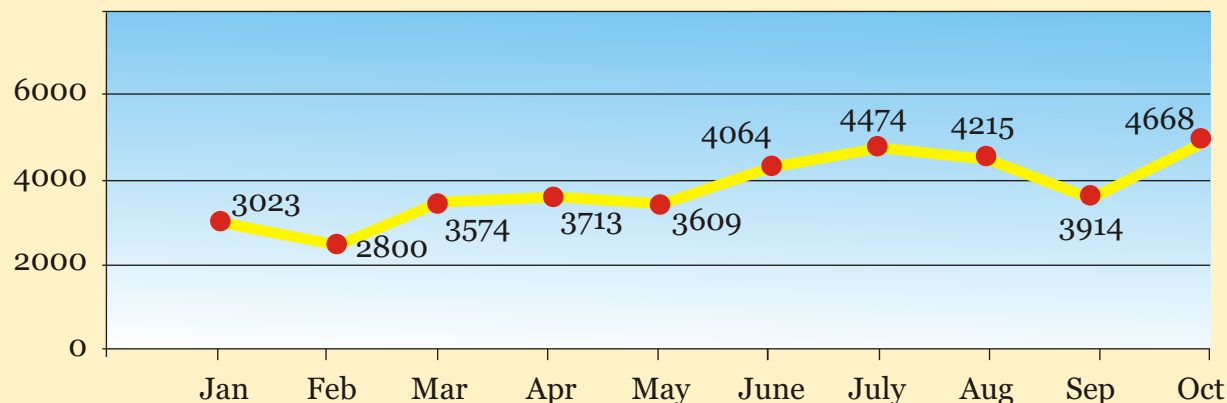


# Services

There has been a promising increase in the number of patients that Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata examines every month. In its first month, SANKARA NETHRALAYA-KOLKATA examined 3023 patients. Although there was a slight drop in the number of patients examined in February, we have managed to examine a little over 17000 patients in the last four months alone.



 **Total number of patients examined**



## Patients Examined

January	2944
February	2748
March	3376
April	3546
May	3546
June	3862
July	4293
August	3968
September	3678
October	4328

## Special procedures

DBR (Digital Biometric Reader)	1,829
FFA (Fundus fluorocein Angiogram)	824
OOE (Orthoptics)	167
HVF (Humphrey Visual Fields)	2,455
LVA (Low Vision Aids)	238
US (Ultrasound)	1,415
Optical Coherence Tomography (VR)	646
LPC (Laser Photocoagulation)	1,690
YAGC	356
YAGI	440

## Surgeries Performed

January	265
February	241
March	324
April	324
May	247
June	304
July	357
August	333
September	250
October	367

*\* The table indicates the number of paying patients who were examined at Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata*

*\* The table above indicates the number of paying patients who were operated upon at Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata*



*Quality and affordability go hand-in-hand at Sankara Nethralaya.  
Dr. Suchetana Mukherjee, Associate Consultant, Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata, examines a patient's eye using a slit-lamp.  
The equipment helps assess the front part of the eye.*





# Community Services

Sankara Nethralaya spares no effort in offering quality and affordable eye care treatment to all sections of society. Indigent patients who cannot afford the medical expenses are examined free-of-cost.

## Patients Examined

January	79
February	52
March	198
April	167
May	63
June	202
July	181
August	247
September	236
October	340

*\* The table indicates the number of patients who were treated free- of- cost at Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata*

## Surgeries Performed

January	35
February	24
March	72
April	118
May	27
June	138
July	115
August	158
September	206
October	214

*\* The table indicates the number of patients who were operated upon free- of- cost at Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata*





# Eye care on Wheels

Teleophthalmology holds great potential in improving the quality, accessibility and affordability in health care for rural patients. It can reduce the need for travel and provide access to a super-specialist at their doorstep. Sankara Nethralaya is the pioneer in mobile teleophthalmology practice in rural India.

Eye camps by Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata include conducting a free comprehensive eye examination, screening patients for cataract and providing spectacles at the campsite. A team of four-five optometrists, along with a fellow consultant and a mobile refraction van which provides spectacles, visit nearby villages on weekends for the benefit of the rural poor.

*Bellary Iron Ores Pvt. Ltd. Managing Director Shri. S.K. Modi, a well-wisher of Sankara Nethralaya, has very magnanimously committed to sponsor 1,000 cataract surgeries. This was announced during the inauguration of the rural teleophthalmology services in the State in January 2009 and the said surgeries will be completed in a year's time.*

## Support Circle

SANKARA NETHRALAYA-KOLKATA, since March 2009, has also been conducting a series of eye camps in the State. We express our sincere appreciation to the following individuals and organisations for their support in organizing the eye camps.

Prerona Purba, Jadavpur	Anrinya
South Calcutta Sevanandam, Sevakdal	Saptorsi Samaj Kalyan Samiti
Sri Ramkrishna Sarada Math & Mission	51 Rajiv Gandhi Birthday Cell Committee
Naba Jyoti Society	Agradut Polly Unnayan Samity
Mr. Shroeff, Mr. Jha	Maa Sharada Eye Hosp, Medinipur
Birnagar SC & ST Committee	Kanchrapara Social Welfare Org
Kautala Pioneer Club	Bishapriya Society Welfare Org
Dhakuria Club	Ekabinsha Social Welfare Org
Begampur Science Society	Jara Parivar Jan Kalyan Society





# Camp Statistics

Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata has been conducting eye camps in the State since March 2009. The following table depicts some of the details.

Month	Number of camps	Patients screened	Spectacles Dispensed	Patients referred to SN-K	Total Number of community surgeries
March	8	962	-	337	64 (cataract-61, others- 3)
April	2	389	-	146	111 (cataract-111)
May	4	157	-	40	23 (cataract-23)
June	4	896	-	268	139 (cataract-138, others-1)
July	5	423	78	165	103 (cataract-57)
August	10	1257	296	204	164 (cataract-164)
September	6	1094	201	239	187 (cataract- 181, others-6)
October	9	1710	178	309	245 (cataract- 242, others- 3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>6888</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>1708</b>	<b>1036</b>



Diamond Harbour to Sunderban, Sankara Nethralaya - Kolkata has held eye camps @

- Diamond Harbour
- Chandernagore
- Dum Dum
- Nadia
- Midinipore
- Howrah
- Sunderban





# Academics

## Internship for Optometry students

Training optometrists forms a key aspect of our academic-oriented activities. Sankara Nethralaya began providing a one-year training programme for optometry students in Kolkata in 2007. We have so far trained two batches and the third batch, consisting of six students, is presently being trained at SANKARA NETHRALAYA-KOLKATA, Mukundapur. While we started out with just two students in our first batch, the second batch saw 11 students being trained. Following the successful completion of the training, five out of the 11 optometrists have joined SANKARA NETHRALAYA-KOLKATA, taking the total strength of optometrists at the hospital to 20. Apart from the weekly classes and monthly assessment all optometry students participate in the rural eye camps held by SANKARA NETHRALAYA-KOLKATA to get a hands-on experience in providing rural eye care and treatment. At least two to three eye camps are held every month. Our internship students have also attended the Dr. EV Memorial Scientific Session at Sankara Nethralaya - Chennai and a few of them have also made presentations in various optometry conferences in West Bengal.

Ten of our staff optometrists are also currently undergoing a special training programme on contact lenses called “MASTERMIND”. The programme, which is being conducted by Bausch & Lomb, is for six months and candidates are required to undertake an online examination every month through the Bausch & Lomb Virtual University. So far two modules have been completed and all our candidates have successfully cleared the modules.

Currently two Ophthalmology Fellows are also pursuing their training at SANKARA NETHRALAYA-KOLKATA.

## Library

A well-resourced library, with the latest journals in ophthalmology, is also part of the institution. The library is named after (late) Prof. Dr. Murali Sengupta.





# Events at a Glance

## Inauguration

Events for Sankara Nethralaya held in Kolkata can be traced back to 1983 when a function was held in the city where the legendary MS Subbulakshmi performed to raise funds for Sankara Nethralaya Chennai.

Decades later a tripartite joint venture between Eastern India Rotary Trust, Sankara Nethralaya (Chennai) and the Asia Heart Foundation led to the establishment of the Rotary Narayana Sankara Nethralaya in 2003. The facility was inaugurated by His Holiness Jayendra Saraswati Swamigal of Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt.

The new facility at Mukundapur was inaugurated on January 21, 2009 by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal, Shri. Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee. Also, on January 23, 2009, West Bengal Governor Shri. Gopalkrishan Gandhi inaugurated the hospital's teleophthalmology project. Ms. Amita Mookerjee, wife of SANKARA NETHRALAYA-KOLKATA Advisory Committee Member Shri. Amitava Mookerjee and a trained Kathak dancer, performed on the occasion along with her troupe.



## Fusion 2009

Fusion 2009, an ophthalmic panorama by Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata, was organised from August 15 to August 16, 2009 at Kolkata where symposiums on cataract, glaucoma, paediatric ophthalmology, vitreoretinal diseases and cornea were held. Nearly 200 ophthalmologists from the eastern region, including ophthalmologist from Sankara Nethralaya Chennai and Kolkata participated in the two-day event.

Optimizing results of cataract surgery, Neovasular Glaucoma, Vision assessment and prescribing glasses in children and challenges in ocular surface disease were some of the topics discussed.





# Sankara Ratna 2008 bestowed on Shri. Hanuman Prasad Agarwala

For his outstanding support and distinguished services to Sankara Nethralaya, Shri. Hanuman Prasad Agarwala was conferred with the 2008 Sankara Ratna Award at a function held in Kolkata on August 16, 2009. He was presented with the honour by Chief Guest Swami, Prabhananda Ji, General Secretary Ramakrishna Math and Mission, Belur.

Among those present on the occasion were Sankara Nethralaya Chairman Emeritus Dr. S.S. Badrinath; Chairman, Shri V. Vaidhyanathan; Managing Director, Dr. K.S. Vasani; Director of Research, Vision Research Foundation, Dr. Lingam Gopal; Sankara Nethralaya - Kolkata Medical Director, Dr. Sujata Guha, Shri. Agarwala's family as well as Shri. Todi and his family were also present.

An outstanding visionary, Shri. Hanuman Prasad Agarwala, through his diligence and commendable business acumen, has successfully established several businesses over the years. A dedicated philanthropist, Shri. Hanuman Prasad Agarwala has worked untiringly to establish a tuberculosis sanatorium, to which he has donated his personal and family wealth, in his native town, Sikar, Rajasthan. As part of the Chinmaya Mission family, he has contributed his time and money for the welfare of the children of the Chinmaya Mission.

Associated with Sankara Nethralaya since its inception in 1978, Shri. Hanuman Prasad Agarwala has been an ardent supporter of Nethralaya's cause. He has offered unwavering support to Sankara Nethralaya by helping organise events and raise funds. Sankara Nethralaya is indebted to Shri. Hanuman Prasad Agarwala for very magnanimously offering his property at Raja Subodh Mullick Square, rent-free, and thus enabling the ophthalmic hospital to continue to offer its services to the people of West Bengal. He has supported, with his heart, the establishment, development and growth of Sankara Dev Nethralaya, Guwahati, an institution with which Sankara Nethralaya is collaborating. Shri Hanuman Prasad Agarwala continues to remain a pillar of strength and inspiration to the Nethralaya family.



*Swami Prabhananda Ji presents the Sankara Ratna Award 2008 to Shri. Hanuman Prasad Agarwala at Kolkata*

## In their own words...

The staff was very polite, helpful and sincere. The service was very prompt. The condition of the patient was explained very well by the consultant.

**Mr. Wang Xiaoyu**

The Doctors were very good at explaining my condition to me.

**Ms. Mira Banerjee**

All were very helpful. Service was very satisfying.

**Mr. Dilip Dasgupta**

“A very pleasant experience of good culture.”

**Ms. Purnima Das**

The service was pretty prompt and the staff was very helpful.

**Mr. K.K. Poddar**

All are very caring and sincere.

**Mr. Satya Narayan Mishra**

## In fond remembrance...

Sankara Nethralaya will always remember fondly its association with (late) Dr. Samir Biswas and (late) Dr. Murali Sengupta - two outstanding personalities from Kolkata - and their pivotal contribution in bringing Sankara Nethralaya's services to the people of West Bengal.



A renowned ophthalmologist, Dr. Samir Biswas was a contemporary of Dr. SS Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus Sankara Nethralaya, at the Massachusetts Eye & Ear infirmary, Boston, USA. A large number of retina detachment cases from West Bengal were referred, by Dr. Biswas, to Dr. Badrinath in Chennai; likewise, Dr. Badrinath referred corneal cases to Dr. Biswas in Kolkata. This is how Dr. Badrinath and Sankara Nethralaya were introduced to the people of West Bengal. In gratitude to his belief in Nethralaya's services, Medical Research Foundation/Sankara Nethralaya dedicated a Community Ophthalmology Operation Theatre at Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata in the ever lasting memory of Dr. Samir Biswas.

Dr. Murali Sengupta, former president of the All-India Ophthalmological Society, Professor of Ophthalmology, Kolkata Medical College and teacher of most of the ophthalmic luminaries of West Bengal was the mentor of (late) Dr. Samir Biswas. Dr. Sengupta came to know of Dr. Badrinath and Sankara Nethralaya from Dr. Biswas, who was his student. After the passing away of his beloved student, Dr. Sengupta started referring patients with retina detachment to Dr. Badrinath in Chennai. Thus, the bond between Sankara Nethralaya and West Bengal was further strengthened.



As Dr. Sengupta was an academician, Medical Research Foundation/Sankara Nethralaya dedicated the MEDICAL LIBRARY at Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata in memory of beloved Prof. Dr. Murali Sengupta.





# Advisory Committee

Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata is administered by Medical Research Foundation/Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai. A local Advisory Committee has been formed to advise Medical Research Foundation, Chennai, on important local Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata issues from time to time.

The Advisory Committee will work both with the administration team at Kolkata and Chennai in planning and carrying out ideas for the development of Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata. The Advisory Committee will advise on specific areas of development of Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata. This will include upgrading the facility, marketing of the hospital, introducing new procedures, and free treatment to indigent patients. The Advisory Committee will also assist the hospital in getting funds, government approvals/licenses and contacts with potential donors.



## Advisory Committee Members

Shri. Mahabir Prasad Todi

Shri. P. R. Agarwal

Shri. R. S. Agarwal

Shri. R. S. Goenka

Shri. S. K. Todi

Shri. Hanuman Ji Todi

Dr. Alok Roy

Shri. Amitava Mookerjee

Shri. Gaurav Swarup

Shri. Santosh Rungta

Shri. Dipankar Chatterjee

Shri. S. Mahalingam

Shri. Bhagwati Prasad Jalan

Shri. N. L. Rungta

Shri. S. K. Modi

Shri. Ramesh Saraogi

Shri. Sajjan Bansal

## Medical Team

Name	Designation	Speciality
Dr. Sujata Guha MBBS, DO, DNB, FRCS Edinburgh	Medical Director	Cataract, Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus
Dr. Lav Kochgaway MBBS, MS, SN Orbis Pediatric Ophthalmology Fellowship	Assistant Medical Director	Cataract, Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus
Dr. Sagar Bhargava MBBS, MS, FMRF, FRCS Glasgow	Associate Consultant	Cataract and Glaucoma
Dr. Rupak Kanti Biswas MBBS, DO, FMRF	Associate Consultant	Vitreo-Retina and Medical Retina
Dr. Suchetana Mukherjee MBBS, MS, SRTE, FMRF	Associate Consultant	Cataract and Medical Retina
Dr. Mona Bhargava MBBS, MS, FMRF	Associate Consultant	Cornea and Cataract
Dr. Amitabh Kumar MBBS, DO, FMRF	Associate Consultant	Uvea and Cataract
Dr. Maneesh Singh MBBS, MS, FMRF	Associate Consultant	Glaucoma and Cataract
Dr. Radha R Das MBBS, MS, FMRF	Associate Consultant	Vitreo-Retina and Medical Retina
Dr. Rajesh Majumdar Chaudhuri, MBBS, DO, MS, FRCS Oculoplastic Fellow, Corneo Plastic Unit, Queen Victoria Hospital, UK	Senior Consultant	Oculoplasty and Cataract
Dr. Sujay Sarkar, MBBS, MD	Associate Consultant	Cataract and Community Ophthalmology
Dr. Krishnendu Nandi, MBBS, MS, FMRS	Associate Consultant	Vitreo-Retina and Medical Retina
Dr. Saptrishi Dasgupta MBBS, DA, MD Anesthesia	Anesthetist	
Dr. Manjula Khosala, MBBS, DA Anesthesia	Anesthetist	





*One mission, one vision  
A blind-free India*

*Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata has a dedicated team of ophthalmologists, optometrists and administrative staff who are trained to offer the best services at all times.*

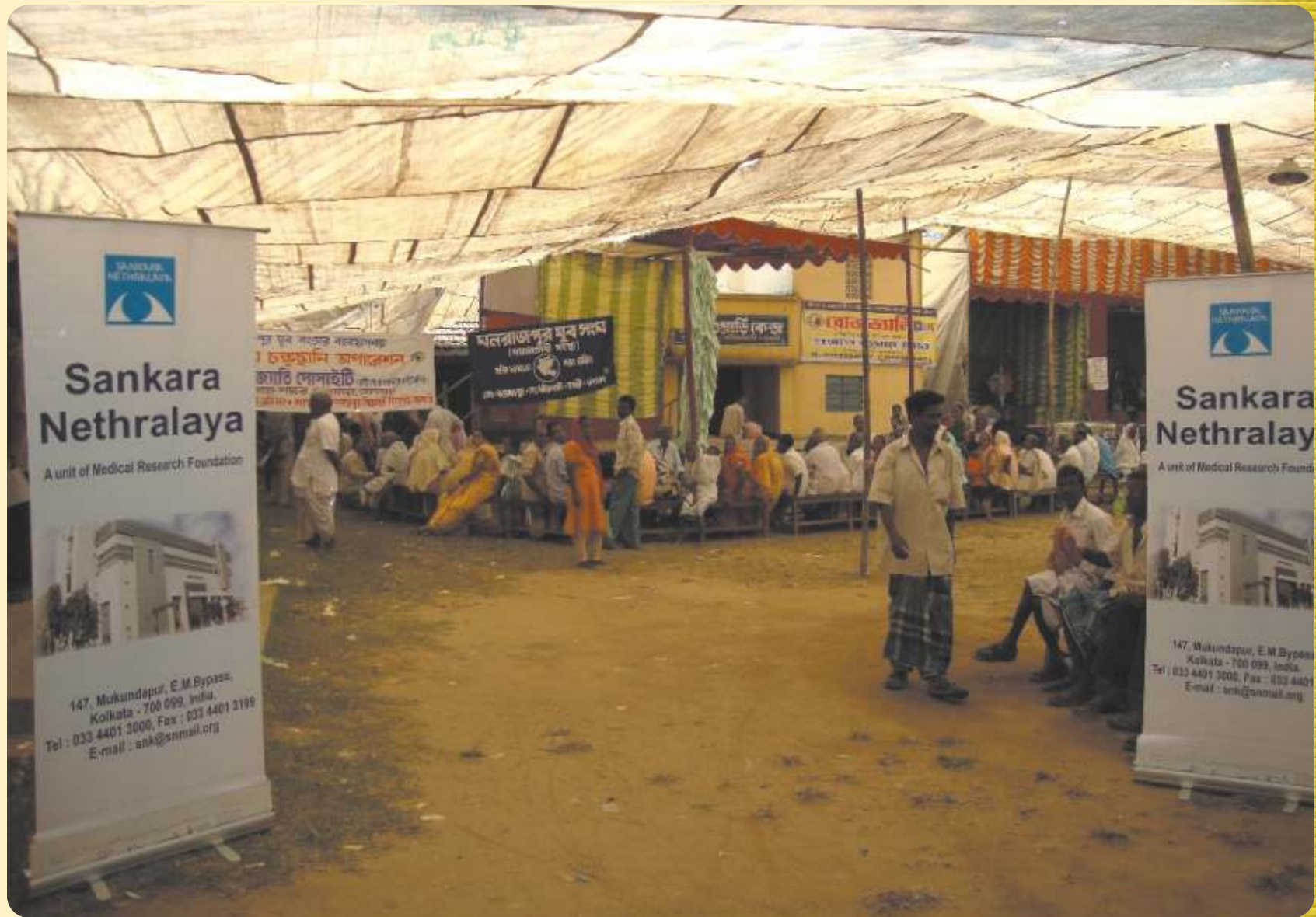


## Administration Team

Name	Department
Mr. Komal Dashora	Administration
Ms. Jayeeta Ghosh	Administration
Ms. Gargi Sengupta	Finance
Mr. Ashwini Kumar	Human Resource
Mr. K. Raghavan	Commercial
Ms. Sunita Sarkar	Optometry- Administrative
Mr. R. Venkatraman	Optometry- Academic
Ms. Shikha Chatterjee	Nursing
Ms. Srimanti Nandi	Patient Services
Mr. Apon Sen	Information Technology
Mr. Dibyendu Mukhopadhyay	Security & Maintenance
Mr. Palash Roy	Corporate
Mr. Samrat Deb	Community Services & Teleophthalmology
Ms. Mousumi Shaw	Housekeeping
Ms. Rama Ghosh	Library







*People await their turn to be examined at the Sankara Nethralaya-Kolkata eye camp, organized by Shri. Bhagwati Prasad Jalan, held from November 7-8, 2009, at Dhaniakhali in West Bengal's Hooghly district. 450 patients were examined at the two-day camp.*



## *The Nethralaya Philosophy*

*Let the word "Sankara" of Sankara Nethralaya  
ever remind me and my associates of His Holiness' command that  
there be a missionary spirit in the project.*

*Let the word "Nethralaya" constantly remind me and my colleagues  
that the place of our work is an alaya. Work will be our worship which  
we shall do with sincerity, dedication and utmost love.*

## *Sankara Nethralaya - Kolkata*

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