



# NAYANA JYOTHI TRUST

Why Destroy a gift? Donate...

*Happy  
New Year*  
**2014**

Your eyes can  
help two persons  
to see the world.

But your words  
can help many to  
see the reason.

CREATE AWARENESS.



Why destroy a gift? Donate!

Pledge. Make others to pledge



For online pledging: [www.nayanajyothi.org](http://www.nayanajyothi.org)

**Four years ago, on January 6<sup>th</sup>...on this same day..  
NAYANA JYOTHI TRUST was born...**

**with the Mission - ENHANCING AWARENESS TO ENABLE MORE EYE  
DONATIONS.**

**Today we are stepping into 5th Year.**

**We remember with Gratitude the overwhelming support from one and all:**

**FEW THROUGH DONATION OF MONEY.  
FEW THROUGH DONATION OF EYES OF THEIR DEAR DEPARTED.  
MANY THROUGH THEIR GUIDANCE AND SUGGESTIONS.**

***WE SINCERELY THANK YOU ALL.***

**Just looking back...We started with Three Objectives:**

- DONATE YOUR EYES LATER. BUT HELP TO GET EYES DONATED NOW.**
- A SIMPLE SMS BASED PLEDGING.**
- 108 EMERGENCY NUMBER ACCEPTING EYE DONATION CALLS AND DIRECT THE CALLS TO NEAREST EYE BANK.**

"People know me more because of my eyes. So, I decided to donate my eyes. But before that, I acquired all the information about the campaign. Within what time after death one has to donate eyes, and all other information. Only then I decided to donate my eyes. It's not that just for doing something, I donated my eyes. I found that useful so I did it. I like to do social service from my heart. Whatever is possible I do, but I don't speak of that. But I would like to give more time to it in the near future."

**- Aishwarya Rai**



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Many accepted our concept. Became SIGHT AMBASSADORS to reach an Eye donation possibility to an Eye Bank nearby.

Eye Bank Association of India appreciated our SMS Pledging and have suggested Eye Banks to use it.... Eye Banks are using it.

We are happy to state MOHAN FOUNDATION working for ORGAN DONATION is also using the SMS Pledging Method.

Three years of constant follow up with TWO State Governments...

TAMILNADU Has allowed 108 number to Accept Eye Donation Calls and Direct it to the Nearest Eye Bank.

KARNATAKA in principle agreed to allow 104 Health Help Line to accept Eye donation calls.

**WE HAVE PARTICIPATED IN MANY EYE DONATION AWARENESS EVENTS**

**WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REACH MANY EYE DONATIONS TO EYE BANKS.**

**WE HAVE MOTIVATED MANY TO DONATE THE EYES OF THEIR DEAR DEPARTED.**

**WE HAVE SUPPORTED MANY EYE CHECK UP CAMPS.**

**WE HAVE SUPPORTED 1250 CATARACT OPERATIONS...**

**GOING FORWARD: WE ARE PARTNERING IN A PROJECT TO USE TECHNOLOGY TO SCREEN RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION USING MOBILE TESTING UNIT. THIS MAY HELP US TO IDENTIFY THOSE SUFFERING FROM CORNEAL BLINDNESS.**

**WITH ALL YOUR SUPPORT, WE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE THIS YEAR MEMORABLE-- A "HIGH FIVE" YEAR...**

**A VERY HAPPY AND WONDERFUL NEW YEAR TO ALL.**

**TAKE CARE OF YOUR EYES. SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS.**

Your mobile got you your pizza.  
Your mobile got you your movie tickets.  
Your mobile got you and your family closer.  
Your mobile got you your own job.  
Your mobile got you and your friends together.

Your mobile got you many things to make your life easier.

Its time that your mobile helped over 1.5 million blind people in our country.

Your phone can help a blind to see the world

\* PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT TO DRIVE EYE DONATIONS AS A SIGHT AMBASSADOR via SMS\*

1.5 million blind Indians would appreciate your participation.

To become a Sight Ambassador  
SMS Eye <space> (Name) <space> (Place) to 9902080011.

**NAYANA JYOTHI**  
14/1, 8th Cross, 5th Main, Krishnappa Block, Gangaganagar Extension, Bangalore, Karnataka 560032 - INDIA  
+91-80-23530321, +91-9845143650, jayaraman@nayanajyothi.org  
www.nayanajyothi.org



# NAYANA JYOTHI TRUST

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## 4000 Students become Sight Ambassadors with Nayana Jyothi- Article Published in "Chennai Online"

8. September 2013



### 4000 Students and staff become Sight Ambassadors with Nayana Jyothi

The students and staff of Queen Mary's College gathered together recently, to take a pledge to become 'Sight Ambassadors' to support 'Eye Donation Movement' with the NGO- Nayanajyothi. Mr. Jayaraman, Founder, Nayanajyothi has attended as the Chief Guest and led the students into the pledge. 2014 marks the Centennial anniversary of the college and they have planned to execute 100 service programs for the society.

The NSS volunteers are initiating awareness campaigns among the public during the eye donation fortnight till 8th September 2013. Nayanajyothi is the brain child of Mr. Jayaraman, who has been actively involved in various socially relevant community projects over the last 20 years.

For over the last couple of years, his efforts have been focussed on eye donations, as he has been wondering why, in spite of several hundreds of eye-banks established across the country and millions of people dying every year, there is still an acute shortage of corneas. This motivated him to establish a trust aimed solely to promote eye donation.

Commenting on the event, Mr. Jayaraman, Founder Nayanajyothi said, "Nayanajyothi was started with a mission, which is to enhance awareness to enable more eye donations. Our key focus was to bring in a new approach to the concept of eye donations. Our motto is- Donate your eyes later, but get eyes donated now.

Technology plays the role of a catalyst in becoming sight ambassadors. Today, you can take the oath, anywhere, anytime by SMS based pledging. The Tamil Nadu government is the First one in the country to allow the 108 call centre to handle Eye Donation calls also.

To donate one's eyes, you simply have to dial 108 and the nearest eye bank would be alerted to contact you. September 8th is the National Eye Donation Day and on this occasion, we would like more people to come forward and become donors" he added.





## **REQUIRED REQUEST.**

- There are 1.5 million people suffering CORNEAL BLINDNESS.
- This is increasing at the rate of 30000 every year.
- 60% of them are Children and youth with a Long Life to look forward to.
- Last year 75 lakh people died, creating a possibility of 150 lakh corneas.
- But 500 Eye Banks all Over India collected 40000 Corneas ONLY. 20 leading Eye banks collected 50% of these.
- Out of these, only 15000 Corneas were Useful for Transplant.
- Rest were used for Research purpose.
- 70% of Non Usable Corneas Means wastage of Huge amounts of effort and money.
- HOSPITAL is a place where in spite of the Advanced Medical Facilities and Expert Medical Professionals, DEATH happens.
- Hospital Cornea Retrieval Program was created to get more Corneas from Hospital Deaths.
- Still there is Hesitation on the part of Hospitals to ask for Eye Donation.
- Required Request is a useful support to help Eye Donation Movement.
- It took many years for the Parliament to pass it and gazette it.
- In simple terms, in a hospital when a patient dies, the authority giving the Death certificate should ask the next of kin of the Deceased if he/She would like to donate the eyes of the Deceased and REGISTER it in the Death Certificate.
- Hospitals were hesitant earlier to ask for Eye Donation. Now they can ask without hesitation as the Law mandates the same.
- Most of the people say if asked at the Right Time, they will have No difficulty to support Eye Donation request.
- The process of harvesting the Eyes will happen in the hospital, before the Body leaves the premises.



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- In case of Eye Donation calls from outside the Hospitals, Eye banks cannot refuse the call even if they know that the eyes may not be usable, as they fear any refusal may discourage other Donor families.
- But in Required Request, the hospital is well aware of the Medical condition of the Deceased, and can make a decision to harvest or Not.
- If the Next of Kin agrees to Donate, Eye Hospital is Just a Call away.
- They could come and take care of harvesting the Eyes in short time.
- This REQUIRED REQUEST provision helps Hospital Cornea Retrieval program in the best possible way.
- The Medical professionals and the nurses who have tried their best to save the Patient, should take the next step of motivating the Next of Kin for Eye Donation.
- Whether a Corneal BLIND person gets the gift of Vision or whether the Eyes of the deceased gets burnt or buried without any use, depends on your Timely action.

\*\*\*\*\*

## 2012 & 2013 Supporters

Mr.K.T.Rajan  
Mr.Sivasubramaniam  
Prof.K.R.Ramakrishnan  
Rtn.Raghuram  
Mr.Paul Abraham  
Rotary Bangalore East  
Mr.R.Jagadeesan  
Rtn.Praveen Kumar A  
Mr.S.Sampathkumar  
Mr.Vijay H.Sankar  
Ms.Bilva Navathe

Rotary Bangalore Koramangala  
Chariable Trust  
Mr.Ramakrishna Potluri  
Mr.V.G.Iyer  
Mr.S.Selvamani  
Ms.Meenakshi & Mr.Keerthivasan  
Mr.Raghunath Rao  
Mr.Thomas Sandy  
Mr.Maheshwar Simha



## LIGHT OF LIFE

(By Dr.M.V.Ravikumar)

### Introduction

Apart from promoting eye donation and related activities since 2012, Nayana Jyothi Trust (NJT) in association with Rotary Bangalore Koramangala Charitable Trust (RBKCT) has been supporting eye-care initiatives in general and cataract surgeries in particular. During the last 2 years the association of these two trusts had benefited over 1500 poor patients to get back their vision.

### Need Assessment

During 2010 an eye screening equipment supplier conducted a research by randomly checking eyes of professionals, adults and children. The analysis of the screening reports highlighted the fact that 3 out of 5 persons screened (immaterial of age or gender) required referral for correction of Refractive Error. 2 out of these were wearing Glasses and seemed to require new pair of lenses. Additionally one person who was not using Glasses appeared as requiring glass to improve the quality of vision. One person had Binocularity and Phoria problem.

According to an article on 'Current Estimates of Blindness in India' published in British Journal of Ophthalmology<sup>1</sup> 8.5% of population aged above 50 years was suffering from vision related problems. Over 96% of them are preventable, out of which nearly 60% of them had cataract, 28% of them had refractive errors, 4% had diabetic retinopathy and rest had other problems like glaucoma, cornea opacity. Moreover, only 15,000 ophthalmologists practice in India and a mere 800 ophthalmologists graduate every year. Hence Ophthalmologist to patient ratio is approximately 1: 60000. This is much worse in a rural environment.<sup>2</sup>

### Light of Life – Project to address the Need

During November 2013, RBKCT approached NJT to join hands in a project – **Light of Life**, for establishing a mobile eye-screening facility that would visit corporate as well as rural areas including schools to create awareness on eye related issues including eye donation, and also function as an Out-reach mobile Eye-Care facility. This project also directly would help 1500 poor patients to get their sight restored.

### Objectives of the Project

The main objectives of this project will be:



1. To create awareness in management and employees of MNCs and Corporates regarding prevailing eye related problems and eye donation issues in the community by conducting Eye Camps for them in their offices. Short talks with presentations and free informative CDs shall be given for spreading awareness.
2. To carryout screening programs for identifying eye related problems in school children of Rural areas and economically backward Urban areas and give proper spectacles where needed to improve vision.
3. To screen elderly people (> 50 years) in the Rural areas and economically backward Urban areas to check for symptoms of Refraction, Cataract, Diabetic Retinopathy, Glaucoma or other vision related problems and support them with information / proper guidelines to prevent blindness due to diabetes/cataract. For those affected by glaucoma or cataract, provide treatment free of cost with the support of other project partners (Eye hospitals) so that they can lead normal life with self-esteem and self-sufficiency.
4. To educate people through printed literature / posters in local language about the need for regular eye checkups to prevent avoidable blindness and guide them to the facilities available at Rotary supported hospitals to undergo treatment.

## Implementation

A well equipped van with latest technology Eye Screening equipment shall visit the corporate office as well as rural and semi-urban areas with Project coordinator and a technician. The intelligent screening equipment (3netra) developed by a Bangalore based technology startup, FORUS Health Private Limited founded by well experienced technocrats in 2010 is cost effective and comprehensive. The eye-related data gathered during screening can be communicated to base eye hospitals instantaneously.<sup>3</sup> The same van with the equipment will visit semi-urban and rural areas to conduct eye camps. The patients who require surgery shall be sent to base hospital at Bangalore for required treatment.

## Conclusion

Thus, the project will not only create awareness about eye related problems in the community, but it will sensitize corporate executives and managements towards the need to support such projects for enhancing quality of life of the common man.

1. British Journal of Ophthalmology, 2005, Vol.89, Issue 3, Pages 257-260

2. Association of Indian Ophthalmologists Society

3. [www.forushealth.com](http://www.forushealth.com)

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**Malathi Krishnamurthy Holla**- An International para athlete from India(**Arjuna Award** and **Padma Shri**), SUPPORTING EYE DONATION MOVEMENT BY PLEDGING HER EYES AND ALSO AS SIGHT AMBASSADOR. →



**GURUJI SRI SRI RAVISHANKAR** BLESSED THE EFFORTS OF NAYANA JYOTHI TRUST TO SPREAD AWARENESS ABOUT EYE DONATION.



**Arjun Halappa** a professional Indian hockey player and former captain of Indian Hockey Team. SUPPORTING EYE DONATION MOVEMENT BY PLEDGING HIS EYES AND ALSO AS SIGHT AMBASSADOR ↓



Former Minister **Shri.Suresh Kumar** SUPPORTING EYE DONATION MOVEMENT BY PLEDGING HIS EYES AND ALSO AS SIGHT AMBASSADOR ↓



**BANGALORE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LIMITED** SUPPORTED NAYANA JYOTHI'S EYE DONATION FORTNIGHT INITIATIVES BY INVOLVING AIRPORT TAXI DRIVERS TO CARRY EYE DONATION LEAFLETS TO CREATE AWARENESS. →

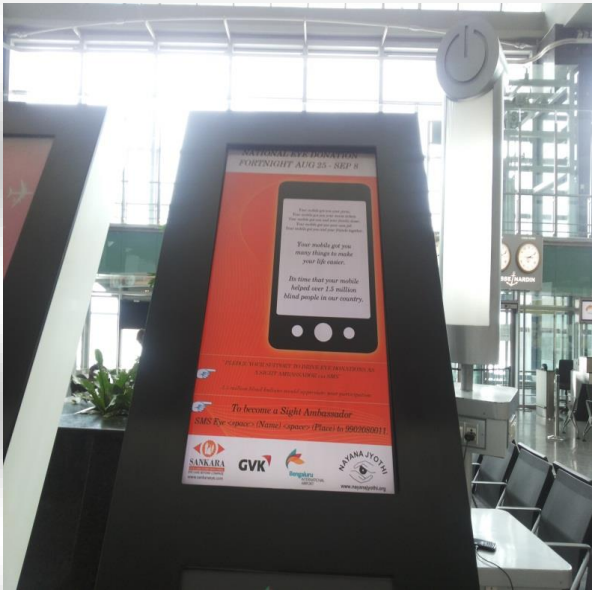






# NAYANA JYOTHI TRUST

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BANGALORE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LIMITED SUPPORTED NAYANAJYOTHI'S EYE DONATION FORTNIGHT INITIATIVES BY DISPLAYING EYE DONATION INFO INSIDE THE AIRPORT PREMISES THROUGH 20 MOVIE KIOSKS FOR 15 DAYS.



WITH MS. MADHURA- 70 PLUS YEARS OF AGE AND OVER 1500 EYE DONATIONS- AN ONE WOMEN FORCE TO KEEP EYE DONATION MOVEMENT IN MYSORE THRIVING. →



NAYANA JYOTHI TRUST SUPPORTING SCHOOL EYE CARE PROJECT IN CHENNAI



GROUP OF FOUR ROTARIANS: RAMKI, KRISHNAMOORTHY, RAVIKUMAR, JAYARAMAN- APART FROM ROTARY COMPASSION IS THE CONNECTING LINK. →





# NAYANA JYOTHI TRUST

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← KARWAR- KARNATAKA ROTARIANS IN RAPT ATTENTION TO RTN.JAYARAMAN'S TALK



JAYARAMAN ADDRESSING ROTARY VIJAYANAGAR- BANGALORE. →



IN ROTARACT CLUB OF NIE SCIENCE COLLEGE MYSORE

←

JAYARAMAN ADDRESSING KERS ENGINEERS AT



KRS RESEARCH STATION MYSORE. →



EYE DONATION FORTNIGHT CELEBRATION AT SANKARA EYE HOSPITAL

←





← RTN JAYARAMAN HONoured BY ROTARY KORAMANGALA. RTN.RAVIKUMAR- TRUSTEE OF NAYANA JYOTHI TRUST IS ALSO SEEN



TATA DOCOMO SPONSORED STANDEES →



← EYE CHECK UP CAMP AT SITTLINGI- TRIBAL VILLAGE NEAR DHARMAPURI - . PATIENTS WAITING



DR.REGI & LALITHA WHO HAVE DEVOTED THEIR LIVES TO THE WELFARE OF TRIBALS AT SITTLINGI. →





RTN.RAVIKUMAR OF NAYANA JYOTHI TRUST & Mr.BALA OF SANKARA EYE ON A PLANNING TRIP TO SITTILINGI



## PRESS COVERAGE FOR NJT:

### SMS to pledge y

Electronics engineer S. Jayaraman has made eye donation simple. LIFFY THOMAS finds out how



Have you pledged to donate your



தேசிய கண்தான தினம் - செப்டம்பர் 8:

## கண்தானத்தை ஊக்குவிக்கும் நயனஜோதி!

"நமக்குப் பார்வையைத் தந்து, வெளிச்சத்தைக் காட்டிய இறைவனுக்கு, நாம் செலுத்தும் சிறந்த நன்றிக்கடன், இருட்டில் வாழும் ஒருவருக்காக, நாம் செய்யும் கண் தானமேயாகும்." - வெறலன் கெல்லர்.

இந்தியாவில் சுமார் 15 லட்சம்பேர் கார்னியா ('cornea') என்று சொல்லப்படுகிற 'விழி வெண்படலக் குறை பாட்டினால்' பார்வை இழந்திருக்கிறார்கள். விழி வெண்படலம், கண்களின் முன்னால் காணப்படும் ஒரு விழித்திரையாகும். இதன் மூலமே

உள்ளவர்கள், ஏன் கண்புரை நீக்க (cataract) அறுவைச் சிகிச்சை செய்து கொண்டவர்கள் கூட தானம் செய்யலாம். வயது வரம்போ ஆண்பெண் வேறுபாடோ கிடையாது கண்களை ஒருவர் இறந்த பிற்போதானம் செய்யமுடியும். இறந்து முதல் 6 மணி நேரத்துக்குள் கண்கள்

விழிப்புணர்வு

அனன்யா

## கண் தானம் செய்ய எஸ்.எம்.எஸ். போதும்!

ஒரு எஸ்.எம்.எஸ். கொடுத்தால் போதும், கண் தானத்துக்கான அனைத்து முயற்சிகளையும் முன்னெடுத்துச் செய்கிறது ஓர் அமைப்பு



பேர் என்ற தகவலும் அதிர்ச்சியாகவே இருந்தது.

இலங்கை எத்தனை குட்டியான நாடு. அங்கிருந்து ஆண்டுகளுக்கு 50 ஆண்டும் கண்கள் ஏற்றுமதி செய்கிறார்கள். அனான் கண்தானம் என்ற அமைப்பின் மூலம்





# NAYANA JYOTHI TRUST

Why Destroy a gift? Donate...

Dear Rtn. Ravi Kumar, Rtn. Jayaraman,

Warm greetings from Sankara Eye Hospital !

On behalf of Sankara Eye Hospital, please accept our sincere thanks for supporting 220 Cataract Vision Restoration surgeries. With the help of this donation, you have been able to mark significant improvement in the quality of life of 220 beneficiaries, restore confidence, pride, dignity and most importantly, make them self – reliant. The list of beneficiaries' details and photos are attached.

At Sankara, we are motivated by the constant awareness that millions of visually handicapped people are seeking a lifeline. Our team is able to fill those needs, only thanks to wonderful caring institutions like Central Bank India, Rotary Club of Bangalore Koramangala, Nayanajyothi Trust who are recognizing the importance of the Gift Of Vision, happily partner us by providing financial support.

The more support we receive, the more blind people we can serve and the more lives we can transform.

Once again thank you many times over for your gracious & generous support.

Sincerely,  
Shalini S

Nanna Kannu – Project Coordinator

Sankara Eye Hospital | Varthur Main Road | Kundlahalli Gate | Bangalore 560 037

Ph. : +91 2854 2727 / 28 Extn. : 3004

Mobile : +91 9739 7777 26

Web : [www.sankaraeye.com](http://www.sankaraeye.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/nannakannu](https://www.facebook.com/nannakannu)



## **The gift of sight: The country that exports its eyes to the world**

**75 lakh people died in India last year giving the opportunity to harvest 150 lakh CORNEAS . 500 plus EYE BANKS all over India Harvested 42000 CORNEAS in which ONLY 15000 were good enough to be transplanted.**

### **READ THIS WONDERFUL ARTICLE ABOUT SRILANKA.**

At 10:25 a.m., a dark brown eye was removed from a man whose lids had closed for the last time. Five hours later, the orb was staring up at the ceiling from a stainless steel tray in an operating room with two blind patients — both waiting to give it a second life.

S.P.D. Siriwardana, 63, remained still under a white sheet as the surgeon delicately replaced the cornea that had gone bad in his right eye following a cataract surgery.

Across the room, patient A.K. Premathilake, 32, waited for the sclera, the white of the eye, to provide precious stem cells and restore some vision after acid scalded his sight away on the job.



A worker at the Sri Lanka Eye Donation Society holds three corneas in bottles with preservatives, ready to be sent abroad

The lenses are then packaged and prepared to be sent overseas. In this case the sight-saving parcel is bound to help patients in Japan

'The eye from this dead person was transplanted to my son' said A.K. Admon Singho, who guided Premathilake through the hall after the surgery.

'He's dead, but he's still alive. His eye can still see the world.'

This gift of sight is so common here, it's become an unwritten symbol of pride and culture for Sri Lanka, an island of about 20million people located off the southern coast of India.

Despite recently emerging from a quarter century of civil war, the country is among the world's largest cornea providers.

It donates about 3,000 corneas a year and has provided tissue to 57 countries over nearly a half century, with Pakistan receiving the biggest share, according to the non-profit Sri Lanka Eye Donation Society.

The organization began promoting eye donation decades ago, but has since faced allegations of mismanagement and poor quality standards.



The supply of corneas is so great in Sri Lanka that a new, state-of-the-art government eye bank opened last year, funded by Singapore donors. It has started collecting tissue from patients at one of the country's largest hospitals, hoping to add an additional 2,000 corneas to those already shipped abroad annually.

Nearly 900,000 people have also signed up to give their eyes in death through the Eye Donation Society's longstanding eye bank.





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'People ask me, "Can we donate our eyes while we are living? Because we have two eyes, can we donate one?,"' said Dr. Sisira Liyanage, director of Sri Lanka's National Eye Hospital in the capital, Colombo, where the new eye bank is based. Since 1964 the Sri Lanka Eye Donation Society has sent more than 70,000 corneas to 57 countries

'They are giving just because of the willingness to help others. They are not accepting anything.'

The desire to help transcends social and economic barriers. Prime ministers pass on their corneas here along with the poorest tea farmers. Many Sri Lankans, about 67 per cent of whom are Buddhist, believe that surrendering their eyes at death completes an act of 'dana', or giving, which helps them be reincarnated into a better life.

It's a concept that was first promoted a half century ago by the late Dr Hudson Silva, who was frustrated by the massive shortage of corneas in his native Sri Lanka.

Most eyes back then were harvested from the handful of prisoners hanged each year, leaving little hope for blind patients in need of transplants.

Silva wrote a newspaper piece in the late 1950s pledging to donate his own corneas and appealing to readers to also give 'Life to a Dead Eye': the response was overwhelming.

With no lab facilities or high-tech equipment, he and wife Irangani de Silva began harvesting eyes and storing them in their home refrigerator.

They started the Eye Donation Society, and in 1964, the first cornea sent abroad was hand-carried in an ice-packed tea

thermos aboard a flight to Singapore. Since then, 60,000 corneas have been donated.

While the Society's eye bank was a pioneer, questions about quality emerged as international eye banking standards improved over the next 20 to 30 years. Concerns have recently been raised about less advanced screening for HIV and other diseases, and the eye bank has also faced allegations of mismanagement.

Many of its corneas are harvested from the homes of the dead in rural areas across the country, making auditing and quality assurance levels harder to maintain, said Dr. Donald Tan, medical director of Singapore National Eye Center, who helped set up the new eye bank. Once, he said, a blade of grass was found packaged with tissue requested for research.

Eye Donation Society manager Janath Matara Arachchi says the organisation sends 'only the good and healthy eyes' and has not received a complaint in 20 years.

There is no waiting list for eye tissue in Sri Lanka, and its people get first access to free corneas. About 40,000 have been transplanted locally since the beginning, but that still leaves a surplus each year.

Pakistan, an Islamic country where followers are typically required to be buried with all parts intact, has received some 20,000 corneas since overseas donations began, Cassim said. Egypt and Japan are two other major recipients, receiving 8,000 and 6,000 corneas respectively to date, he said.

Courtesy: Associated Press Reporter

