

ANNUAL REPORT

EYE CARE PROGRAM

Manabik Shahajya Sangstha

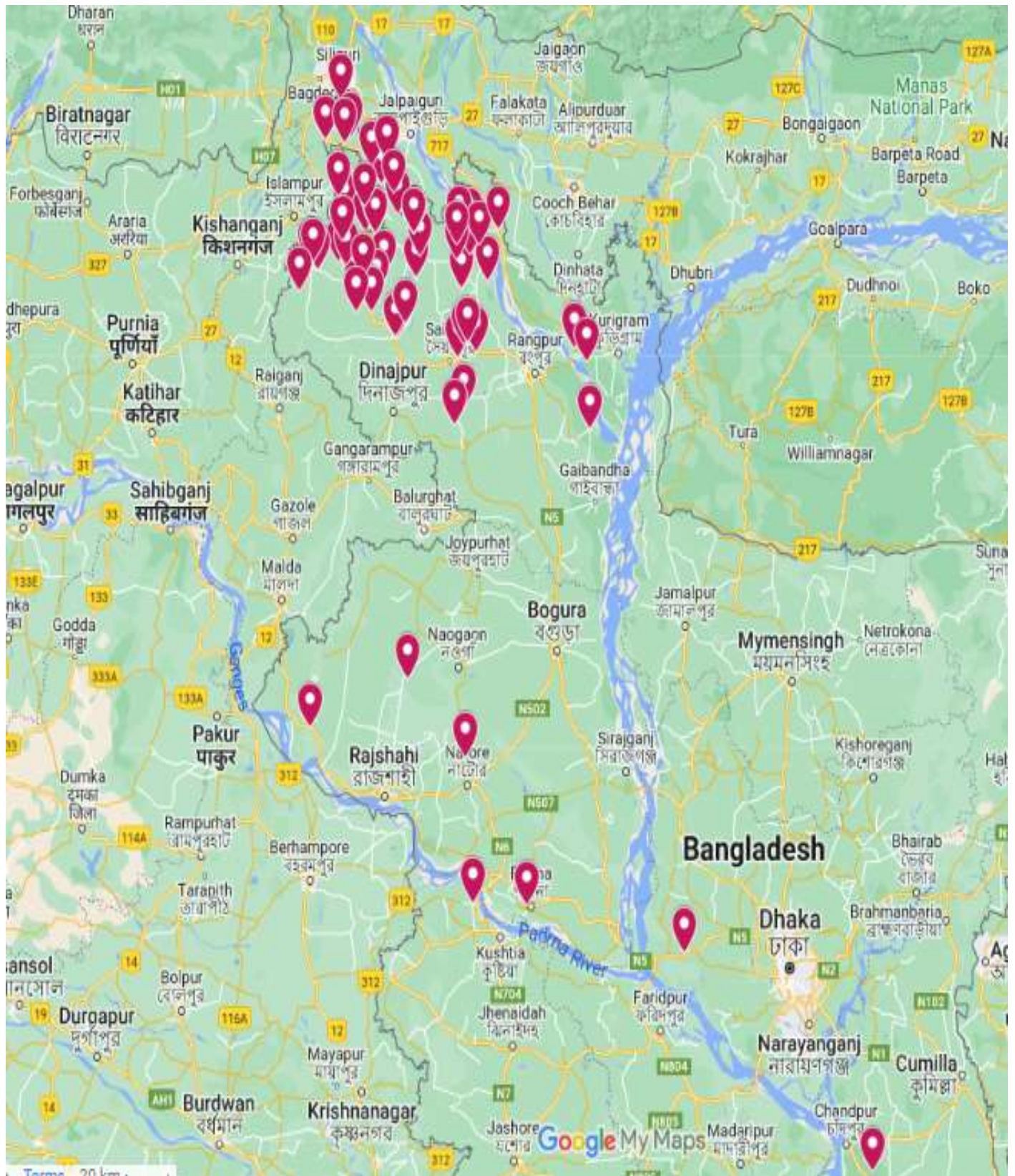
2021-2022



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EYE CAMP LOCATIONS: 2022 - 2023



WHERE WE WORKED: 2014 – June 2022			
SL#	Division	District	Upazila
1	Dhaka	Narayanganj	Sadar
		Gazipur	Sadar
		Manikganj	Ghior
		Tangail	Kalihati
		Dhaka	Metropolitan
2	Rangpur	Panchagarh	Sadar, Debiganj, Boda, Tetulia
		Dinajpur	Birganj, Parbotipur
		Lalmonirhat	Sadar, Hatibandha
		Nilphamari	Saidpur, Domar, Dimla, Joldhaka, Kishorganj
		Gaibandha	Sundorganj
		Thakurgaon	Sadar, Pirganj, Ranisonkol, Horipur, Baliadangi
		Rangpur	Taraganj,
		Kurigram	Sadar, Rajarhat,
3	Rajshahi	Sirajganj	Tarash, Ullapara
		Pabna	Ishwardi, Vangura, Sadar, Bera, Atghoria, Chatmohor, Shathia, Foridpur
		Bogura	Bogura Sadar, Kahalu, Dhunot, Sherpur
		Rajshahi	Bagha, Sadar
		Nator	Sadar, Shingra, Boraigram, Lalpur, Noldanga
		Joypurhat	Kalai
		Chapai	Sadar, Gomosthapur, Shibganj
		Noagoan	Mohadebpur, Manda
4	Chittagong	Chandpur	Sadar, Foridganj
5	Khulna	Kushtia	Bheramara

Message from the president



As the pandemic weakened during the past year, the Eye Care Program is gradually returning to its normal pre-pandemic programming levels. Although COVID 19 pandemic has significantly reduced, it left behind a huge backlog of underserved eye patients requiring treatment and surgery.

To catch up with the backlog, more public eye camps were conducted this year. Although the number of patients screened came down due to redesigned public eye camps catering to a smaller number of patients, the number of surgery patients increased significantly. The School Sight Testing Program has not gathered pace yet though we continue to operate in rural areas. We maintained our focus on the rural sites where most of the underprivileged people live.

We offer our deep appreciation to our esteemed donors for their kind persistent support in providing eye care services to underserved people and restoring their vision through performing surgeries at our partner hospitals.

Also, thanks to the ECP team and its partner hospitals, who worked relentlessly to conduct eye camps, provide technical assistance, and conduct surgeries at concessional rates.

Stay safe and blessed.

Feroz M Hassan
President - MSS

Executive Summery

This annual report narrates the achievements of the Eye Care Program carried out during 2021-2022

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a huge blow to Bangladesh. ECP activities were shut down and the gradually restarted its outreach programming on a limited scale complying with pandemic protection protocols. The disruption in eye care services led to a huge backlog of eye patients around the country. The main sufferers were the underserved and underprivileged communities in remote, rural areas. ECP was able to rise up to the challenges in a fading pandemic environment and geared up its eye care services to address the enormous pandemic-driven backlog; thus, although the number of patients decreased, the number of surgeries increased significantly.

The ECP-MSS in collaboration with its twenty-four partner hospitals organized 72 free public eye camps at various locations where 17,737 patients' eyes were screened and performed 3200 cataract surgeries. Besides, 4,321 eyeglasses and 288 medicines were distributed.

Of these 72 public eye camps the mobile eye clinic - Noyon Tori - implemented forty-five (45) eye camps where 9,115 underserved people were screened and received free eye care services. A total of 1865 spectacles were given out. From these eye camps, 1572 surgeries were performed – MSS sponsored these surgeries.

Under the School Sight Testing Program (SSTP), a total of 2910 underserved students (1507 boys and 1403 girls) eyes were examined by screening 22 schools at Thakurgaon and Panchagarh. Twenty of these SSTPs were conducted by NT. During the year, ECP distributed eye drops and custom-made eyeglasses.

To promote community awareness on eye care, ECP-MSS conducts awareness campaigns at the eye camps and other program activities. For awareness raising among children, 3000 flyers and 110 posters were distributed, with 67 interactive presentations made by the ECP community educator in the classrooms.

Introduction

Manabik Shahajya Sangstha (MSS), armed with its experience in providing eye care services in Bangladesh established its Eye Care Program (ECP-MSS) in June 2014 with the aim to identify and treat preventable blindness among the underprivileged; to promote community awareness and education on eye health; and to increase capacity and access to eye care services, among others.

The focus of ECP is on marginalized people targeting women and children with emphasis on rural areas, improving access to quality eye care at affordable cost through vigorous community outreach activities. ECP-MSS is currently implementing outreach activities such as organizing public eye camps and School Sight Testing Program (SSTP) to provide basic eye care services, identify patients requiring cataract and other eye surgeries, perform surgeries through partner hospitals, give eyeglasses, medicines and referral services as needed. Through ECP's Industrial Sight Testing Program (ISTP) and the Healthy Eyes for Road Safety (HERS), the eye-related problems of industrial and transport workers are addressed.

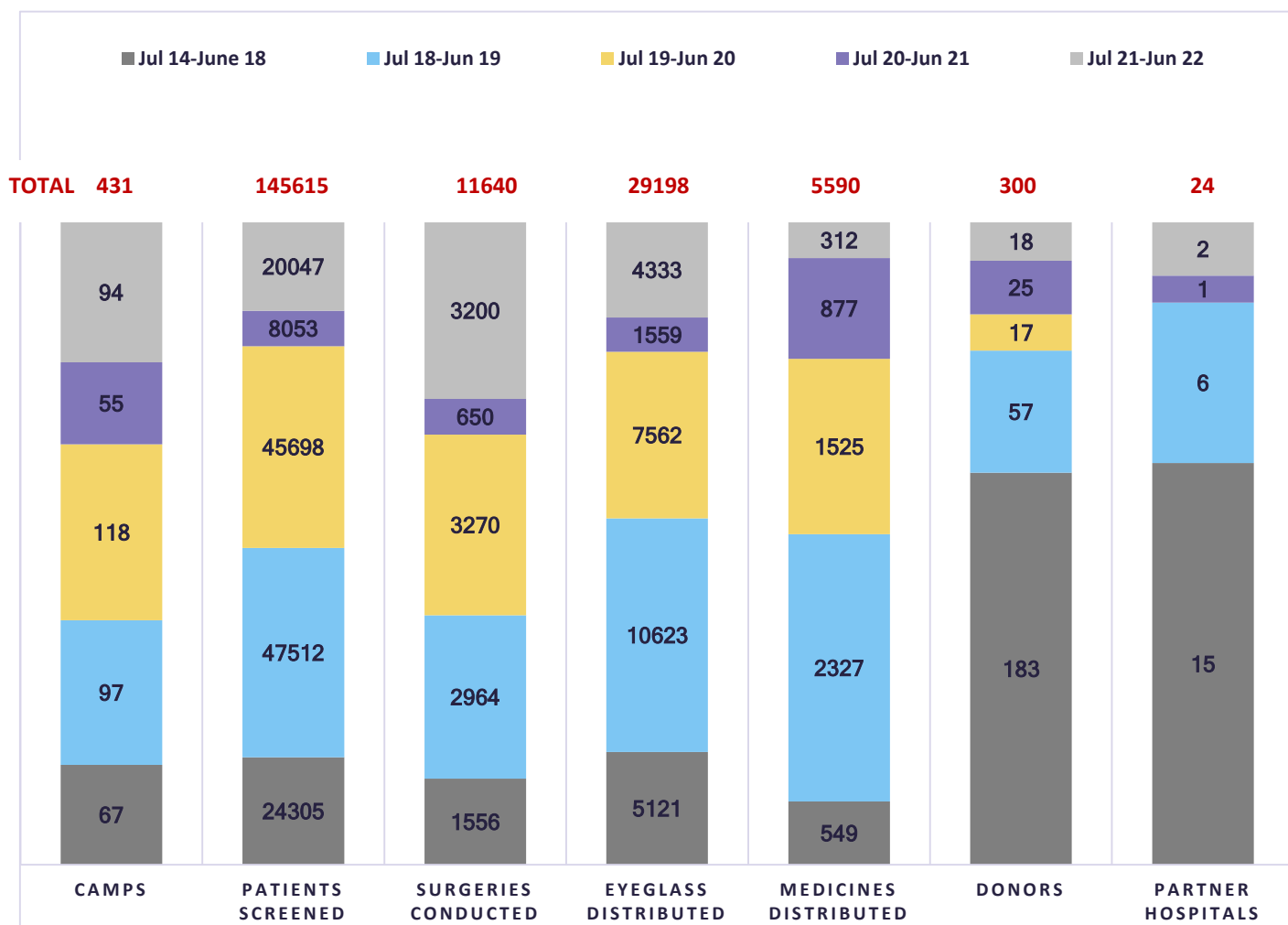


Post-pandemic challenges and ECP Growth

With the support of our distinguished donors and in collaboration with 24 partner hospitals spread around the country, ECP resumed its regular outreach eye care services with changes in the eye camp design as COVID-19 weakened. ECP continued to follow the COVID-19 protection protocols in its outreach activities. ECP rose up to address the challenges in a fading pandemic environment.

ECP had to deal with the challenges stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic and the post-pandemic situation. The absence of outreach eye care services during the pandemic led to a huge accumulation of patients requiring urgent eye care services in the post-pandemic period. The main sufferers were the underserved and underprivileged communities in remote, rural areas. Happily, ECP was able to rise up to the challenges and geared up its eye care services to address the enormous pandemic-driven backlog; thus, although the number of patients decreased, the number of surgeries increased significantly.

ECP Growth



Eye Camp

To provide eye care services to a large number of people in a short time is possible through an eye camp as many underserved patients come to the eye camps. The patients requiring eyeglasses and medicines can get the services at the camp. Through the eye camps cataracts and other surgery patients can be identified, initial examinations for surgery eligibility are done. The surgery eligible patients are taken to our partner hospitals for surgery. All these services are completely free for the underprivileged patients. Eye camps are conducted with the cooperation of local union parishad or local educational institutions. Partner hospitals of ECP-MSS provide the necessary technical support for conducting eye camps by providing medical teams and eye screening instruments. The qualified surgery patients are taken to the hospital, and after surgery the patients are dropped at the eye camp location.

72

Public Eye Camps organised
in 07 districts and 16
Upazilas



17,737

Patients got free eye care
services among them 8201
were female, and 9536
were male



10,538

Provided additional health
services like measuring Blood
Pressure (5269) and Random
Blood Sugar (5269) of patients

4,321

Eyeglasses
provided to
correct
refractive
errors



288

Medecines
given to
treat allergy
and other
problems

Noyon Tori



In 2021 - 22, Noyon Tori far exceeded its cumulative performance since its inauguration in 2019 and reached new height in terms of eye camps implemented, patients examined, and surgeries performed, among others.

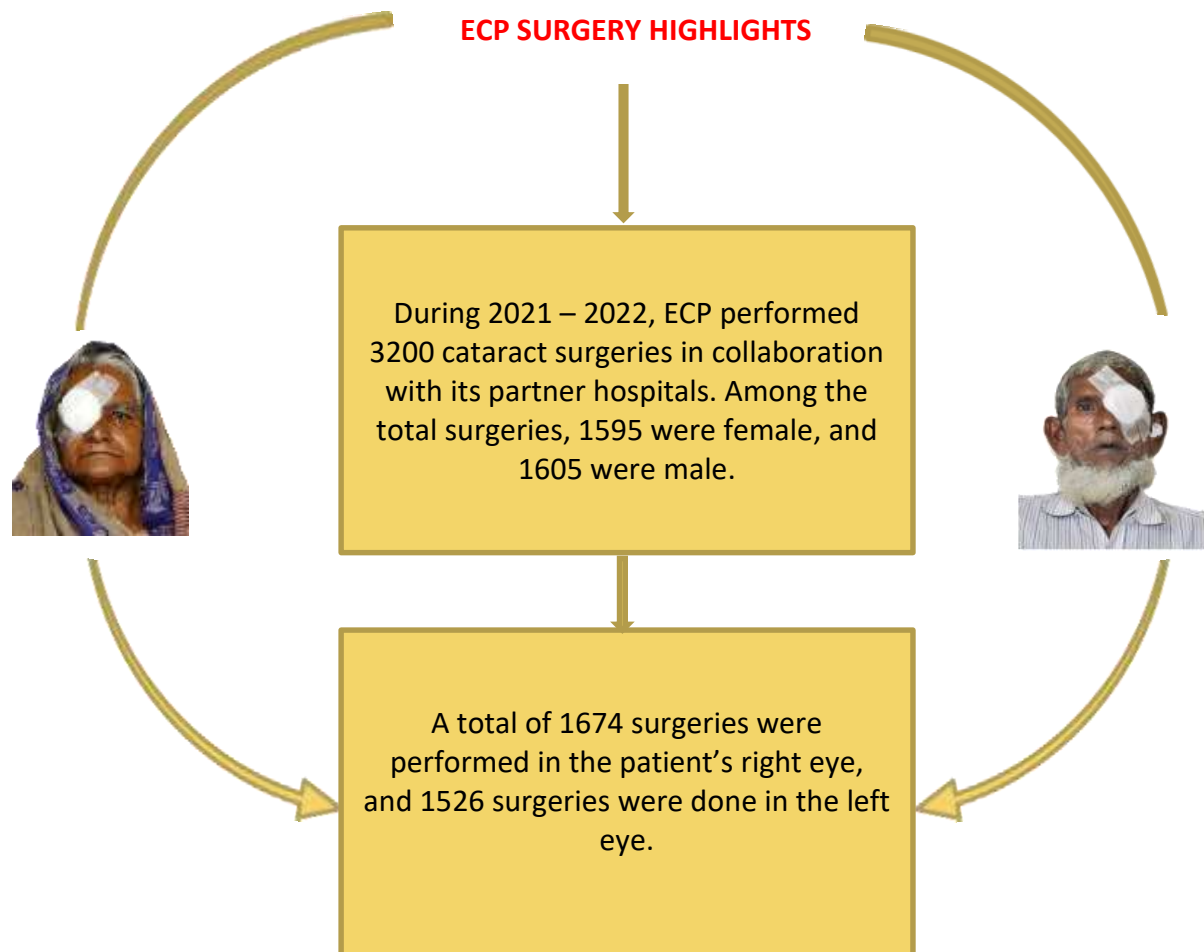
NT Eye Camp & SSTP Activities	Eye Camp & SSTP	Patients Screened	Glasses Given	Medicines Given	Cataract Surgery
2019-2020	40	8715	620	538	203
2020-2021	54	6908	1498	811	650
2021-2022	65	11596	1883	29	1572

Total Noyon Tori eye camps and SSTP information

Noyon Tori (NT), a fully equipped mobile eye clinic, was donated by Epyllion Group – a garment conglomerate, and Shafiuddin Ahmed Foundation – a charitable foundation, to the Eye Care Program (ECP) of Manabik Shahajya Sangstha (MSS). NT is operated by the ECP, while MSS funds the operation and maintenance costs of NT. It enabled ECP to reach out to far-flung areas fully equipped with eye screening instruments and a medical team.

Throughout 2021 - 22 with Noyon Tori forty-five (45) eye camps were conducted where 9,115 underserved people were screened and received free eye care services. A total of 1865 spectacles were given out. From these eye camps, 1572 surgeries were performed – these surgeries were sponsored by MSS. In addition, NT team screened a total of 2,481 children from 20 schools. These SSTPs were conducted in schools located in Thakurgaon and Panchagarh districts.

Surgeries



Case Stories



Bolejan, age 80, is an elderly woman who lives in Durlovpur Noldanga, Natore. Her husband died 10 years ago. She has one son who works as a day laborer. Blindness restricted her from doing any work to earn money, so she became totally dependent on his son. She had been suffering from eye problems for a long time, she could not get treatment due to her financial insolvency. ECP-MSS organized a free eye camp at Natore in collaboration with Professor M.A Matin Eye Hospital, Sirajganj. In that camp, she was diagnosed with a cataract in her right eye. That day she was taken to the Eye Hospital by the hospital's transport with other cataract patients. She was operated on to remove her cataract free of cost. After opening her bandage, she could see the light again, and on seeing everything clearly, she felt very happy. She expressed gratitude saying, "May Allah give long life and prosperity to those who supported the restoration of my vision."

Keramot Ali 65 years old, lives in Lalmonirhat. He worked as a day laborer to earn a living for his family. However, his sight was deteriorating over the years, becoming cloudy and making his life difficult. Keramot Ali delayed going to an eye hospital due to his financial insolvency. His all children are married and struggling to sustain their own households, so he becomes more dependent on others. All this was about to change for the better, when Majid's neighbor, handed him a leaflet about, ECP's "Free Eye Camp". The camp was held on 20th August 2022 by the Eye Care Program's team of experienced ophthalmologists, technical team, and nurses. ECP's specialist doctor identified cataracts in Keramot Ali's right eye and facilitated his cataract surgery in ECP's partner hospital. After his surgery, he became filled with joy when the bandage was removed and he can see his children and the world clearer again.





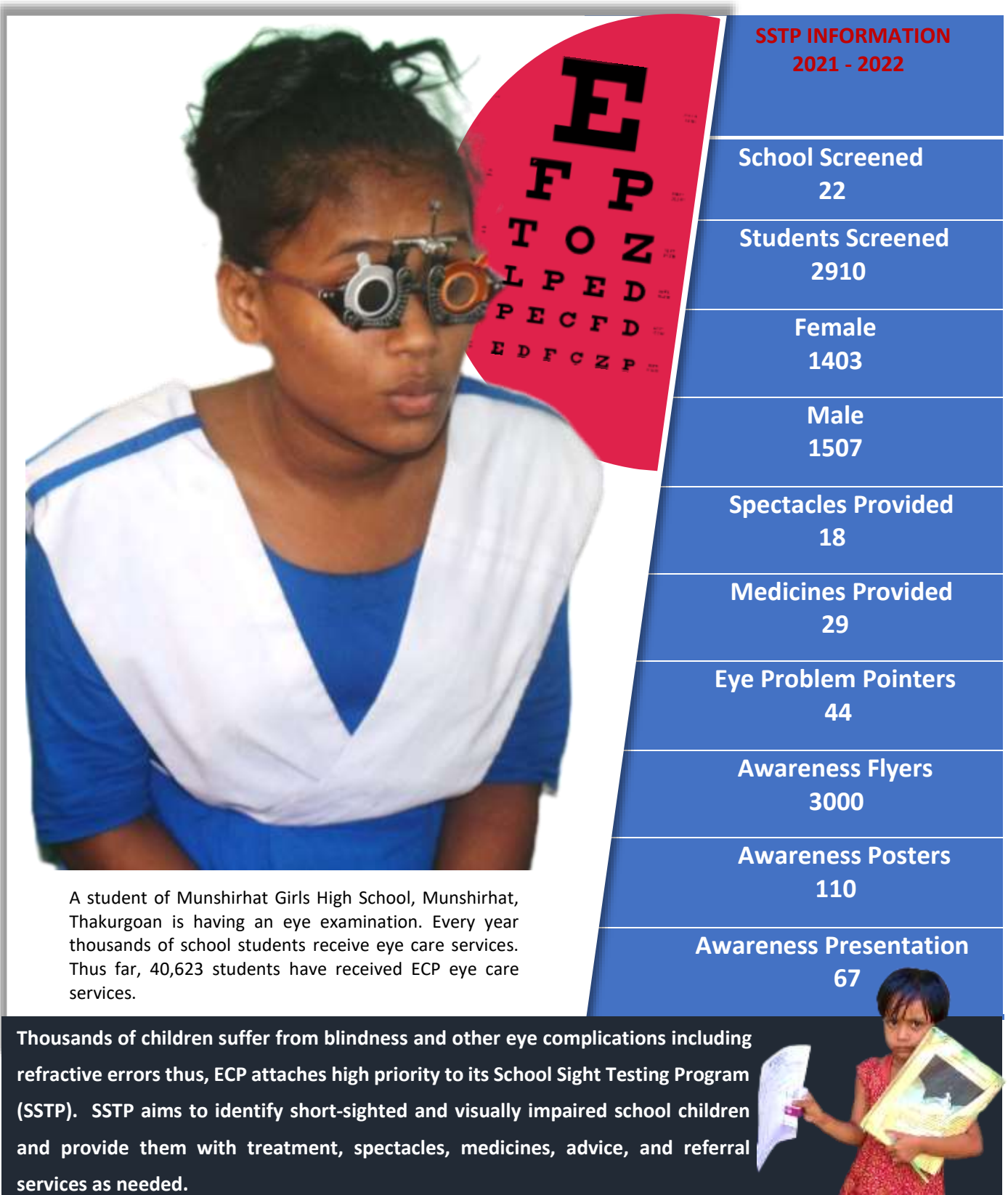
Yasin, reportedly 110 years old, is a poor older man. He is the father of two sons. Yasin has a small piece of land, and his children grow and sell vegetables to earn their living. He used to be a farmer, but he can no longer work as hard as he used to. His children supplement their income by working on other people's land.

Meanwhile, Yasin has had trouble with his right eye for the past two years. His poverty prevented him from visiting a doctor or performing his eye surgery. Luckily, a free eye camp was organized by the ECP-MSS in collaboration with Shafiuddin Ahmed Foundation (SAF) Eye Hospital through its Noyon Tori (NT) mobile eye clinic. Yasin could have his eyes examined. The doctor found cataract in his right eye. Camp organizers took him to the hospital, where the operation was performed entirely for free in his (right) eye with the help of Shafiuddin Ahmed Foundation Hospital. With the operated eye, he can see again. "I am grateful to all those who help me financially," he said, "and I will pray for them in my prayers."

Sufia Khatun, 70, is a poor rural woman who lives in Kakeya, Mogholhat of Rangpur division. She was suffering from eye problems for many years. She heard about the ECP's eye camp which was held at Mogolhat. In that camp, Sufia Khatun attended along with other patients. The medical team examined her and found cataracts in her right eye. Hearing this Sufia broke into tears as she would never be able to go for surgery due to her financial inability and decided to search for other fixes besides surgery to get her vision back. The medical team of ECP made her understand that without cataract surgery, there is no other way to restore her sight and assured her that her surgery would be done free of cost. After the cataract operation, when the nurse removed the bandage from Sufia's eye, she was so excited with joy and planning what will be her next job after returning home. She was confident enough to get a job, and she will be able to bear the expenses of her family and grandson's schooling as well. She was relieved of her miserable life. After seven days, Sufia came to Rangpur Eye Hospital for 1st follow-up and was found fit. She was happy and confident and had a radiant face.



School Sight Testing Program (SSTP)



Awareness Raising

Distributed 44 Awareness Placards

Provided 110
Awareness Posters



Distributed 14500
Awareness Placards



To promote community awareness on eye care, ECP-MSS conducts awareness campaigns at the eye camps and other program activities. Interactive presentations, posters, flyers and placards highlighting basic eye care tips are used. Eye camp venues were decorated with awareness posters and flyers. Illustrated Flyers were distributed to the eye patients. ECP team members make interactive presentations in each classroom on basic eye care with the help of posters and flyers. The pictorial, informative Flyers are distributed to the students for dissemination among their family, friends, and neighbors. The students evince interest in the presentation and often ask questions.

Partnership

The eye care activities are carried out in collaboration with our partner hospitals located in thirteen districts of Bangladesh. Partner hospitals make a substantial contribution by providing end-to-end service to underprivileged surgery patients by identifying them, transporting them to the hospital, and dropping them back to the pick-up point after surgery. The concessional surgery rates offered to us include costs of transportation, hospitalization, pre-surgery tests, lens, surgery, and post-surgery follow-up care and medicines. Thus, partner hospitals, in reality, bear part of the cost of each surgery they perform.

Our partner hospitals are located in following districts - Thakurgaon, Sirajganj, Pabna, Natore, Rajshahi, Naogaon, Tangail, Manikganj, Narayanganj, Rajbari, Chandpur, Rangpur, and Dhaka. The hospitals are spread over in 24 Upazilas.

Partner Hospitals

1	Safiuddin Ahmed Foundation, Thakurgaon	13	Katrasin Eye Hospital, Shibaloy, Manikganj
2	SohitunNesa Eye Hospital, Narayanganj	14	Bhuapur Eye Hospital, Tangail
3	Prof. M. A Matin Memorial BNSB Base Eye Hospital, Kalibari, Sirajganj	15	Pangsha Eye Hospital, Pangsha, Rajbari
4	Prof. M. A Matin Memorial CSF Eye Hospital, 116 Shantinagar Dhaka	16	Prime Bank Eye Hospital, House-82, Road-8A, Satmosjid road, Lalmatia, Dhaka-1209
5	Shahajadpur Eye Hospital, Shahajadpur, Sirajganj	17	Majharul Houque BNSB Eye Hospital, Cumilla Road, Chandpur
6	Tarash Eye Hospital, Tarash, Sirajganj	18	Al-Noor Eye Hospital, Lalmatia, Dhaka
7	Bera Eye Hospital, Bera, Pabna	19	Makka Eye Hospital, Uttara, Dhaka
8	Ishwardi Eye Hospital, Ishwardi, Pabna	20	Makka Eye Hospital, Dewla, Tangail
9	Talim Nagar Eye Hospital, Pabna	21	Makka Eye Hospital, Boalia, Rajshahi
10	Gurudaspur Eye Hospital, Natore	22	Makka Eye Hospital, Kakoli lane, Rangpur
11	Rajshahi Eye Hospital, Malopara, Rajshahi	23	Marium Eye Hospital, Saidpur
12	Nougaon Eye Hospital, Nougaon	24	Rangpur Eye Hospital, Rangpur

Our Donors & Fundraising

ECP donors are at the heart of its programming. They provide sustenance to ECP programs. They routinely donate to ECP During 2021 - 2022, the number of donors increased to 300 from 282 in the previous year. Of these 300 donors, 292 are individual donors (male – 155; female – 137) and eight (8) corporate donors. Two hundred sixty-three (263) donors are based in Bangladesh while 37 are from abroad (USA, Canada, Australia, and UK). Among the donors 157 are repeat donors who donate routinely. Notably, nine donors have not disclosed their names and/or contact addresses.

Through NAGAD Mobile Financial Service ECP continues to receive donations. ECP is enlisted in the donation portal of NAGAD. This year 1,668 small donors donated an amount of Tk. 1,78,940, each ranging from taka Two to Tk. 10,000. Sixteen hundred sixty-one (1661) donors donated Tk.2 to Tk.3000 (total – Tk.28,940) while 25 donors donated Tk. 3001 to Tk.10,000 each (total – Tk.150,000).

ECP's Past Activities

Industrial Sight Testing Program (ISTP)

The purpose of ISTP is to provide comprehensive eye care services at an affordable price to the workers, correct refractive errors, and address other eye conditions, so they have healthy eyes leading to quality production. ECP has been conducting its ISTP since 2018 and has, so far, provided eye care services to eight (8) factories, examined 6696 workers/staff, and distributed 1687 custom made eyeglasses and 2125 medicines. Among them, 50 cataract surgery patients were identified, whereas 24 surgeries were performed. The factory owners subsidized part of the cost and the workers partly paid for themselves.

Healthy Eye for Road Safety (HERS)

Being concerned with the dismal state of road safety, ECP in 2019, conducted a survey on public road transport drivers and found that an alarming 70% of the drivers had vision problems. ECP decided to take affordable, quality eye care services to the transport workers at their terminals. In partnership with the Al-Noor Eye Hospital, Dhaka ECP conducted a sight screening program for the public transport drivers at the Tejgaon truck stand and at the Syedabad bus terminal on February 24 – 25 and March 11 – 12, 2019. A total of 545 public transport workers were screened; 155 were prescribed spectacles, and 291 were dispensed medicines. One hundred forty-eight (148) drivers were screened of which 101 had refractive errors and prescribed spectacles. Twenty-four cataract patients were identified, of which 11 were drivers. ECP subsidized eye examination, the cost of spectacles and medicines, and surgery.

Eye Care Helpline (ECH)

The Eye Care Helpline was launched on 7 June 2020, aiming to make eye care services available to people to avoid hospital or clinic visits and stay safe from COVID-19 exposure. This program was commenced in conjunction with our partner hospitals located around the country. To inform the people about the Helpline providing eye care through phone or video calls were disseminated through our Facebook page, website, TV scroll, and news releases. Most importantly, the program was publicized through the Women's Credit Program – MSS, which involves over a million underserved people, mainly from rural areas. ECH provided services to a total of 800 patients (male – 403; female- 397). They were Housewife 341, Jobholder 167, Farmer 24, Student 84, Business 113, Child 25, Teacher 7, Driver 4, and Retired 35. These patients came from 39 districts of the country, with the highest from Dhaka (374). In contrast, the lowest number of patients – only one each – came from the districts of Sirajganj, Netrokona, Rajbari, Rangamati, and Feni. Three hundred fifty-one medicines were prescribed, and 177 patients were referred to our partner hospitals for further examination and treatment.

Appendix – 1

	EYE CAMPS - 431 Public Camps – 277 Schools – 144 Factory – 8 Drivers/Staff – 2	SCREENED – 145615 Public Camps – 96951 Schools – 40623 Factory – 6696 Terminals – 545 Helpline – 800	
OTHER SERVICES Eyeglasses – 29198 Medicines – 5590 BP Measurement – 10,293 RBS Test – 10,293 Mask Distribution – 3,288	<div data-bbox="578 863 1073 1081"> <h3>SUMMARY OF EYE CARE PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS 2014 TO 2021 JUNE</h3> </div>		EYE SURGERIES - 11640 Female – 6086 Male – 5554 Right Eye – 5972 Left Eye – 5445 Both Eyes - 223
	EYE CARE AWARENESS Flyers – 145600 Posters – 2100 Placards – 166 Presentations – 67 Audio visual - 5		
	TOTAL DONORS – 300 (+1686) Female – 137 Male – 155 Corporate – 8 Bangladesh – 265 Abroad – 35 Donation from Nagad Donors– 1,686		

Annex 2: ECP in Pictures



Patient's registration at Thakurgaon



Prayer before starting the camp with the presence of MTB representative



Using hand sanitizer before starting the registration



Measuring the patient's body temperature



Distributing face mask at the camp



Patients maintain distance for covid safety



Distributing awareness flyers



Audio-visual awareness presentation



Eye examination with auto refractometer



Refraction of a patient underway



Doctors examining patients at different eye camps





Measuring Blood pressure at the camp



Distributing mask at the camp



Patients with refractive errors got eyeglasses.



Distributing medicine at the camp



Pre surgery investigation at eye camp



Patients After surgery



Interactive awareness presentation at a school



After presentation on basic eye care awareness



Refractionist examine a student by using auto-refractometer



Doctors examine eyes and conduct refraction



Medicine distribution at a school in Thakurgaon



MSS President with students after a SSTP

Appendix - 3

Eye Care Program – MSS

FACT SHEET – (JULY 2014 – JUNE 2022)

SL #	DESCRIPTION	<u>Jul 14- Jun 18</u>	<u>Jul 18- Jun 19</u>	<u>Jul 19- Jun 20</u>	<u>Jul 20- Jun 21</u>	<u>Jul 21- Jun 22</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1	CAMPS CONDUCTED						
a)	Eye Camp (public)	52	52	47	54	72	277
b)	School	15	38	69	0	22	144
c)	Factory		5	2	1		8
d)	Transport Terminal		2				2
e)	TOTAL	67	97	118	55	94	431
2	PATIENTS SCREENED						
a)	Eye Camps	21486	27988	22369	6908	17737	96488
b)	Students	2819	13442	22052	0	2310	40623
c)	Workers	0	5104	1099	493		6696
d)	Driver & Staff	0	545	0	0		545
e)	Eye Vision Center	0	433	30	0		463
f)	Eye Care Helpline	0	0	148	652		800
g)	TOTAL	24305	47512	45698	8053	20047	145615
3	SURGERY PERFORMED	1556	2964	3270	650	3200	11640
4	EYEGLASSES DISTRIBUTED	5121	10623	7562	1559	4333	29198
5	MEDICINES DISTRIBUTED	549	2327	1525	877	312	5590
6	DONORS	183	57	17	25	18	300
7	PARTNER HOSPITALS	15	6	0	1	2	24

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Manabik Shahajya Sangstha's Eye Care Program continues to provide eye care services through a variety of eye camps catering to the underserved and underprivileged people of remote, rural areas and urban areas. ECP is providing access to quality and affordable eye care services.

As of June 2022, ECP in conjunction with its 24 partner hospitals examined 1,45,615 underprivileged people at 277 public eye camps; 144 schools children got free services under its School Sight Testing Program; eight (8) factories under the Industrial Sight Testing Program; and two (2) truck/bus terminals under Healthy Eyes for the Road Safety and Eye Care Helpline services. ECP provided 29,198 eyeglasses; 5590 medicines and performed 11,640 cataract surgeries.

For further information, please contact:

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Facebook: Eye Care Program – MSS

YouTube: Eye Care Program - MSS

