



Report on

# SCHOOL SIGHT TESTING PROGRAM & EYE CAMP

Amnura Adorsho Girls High School, Amnura, Chapainawabganj



Published by: Eye Care Program-MSS

Published on: 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024

Sponsored by: Rotary Club of Dhaka Karwanbazaar, Children of Bangladesh, UK  
& Children & Grandchildren of Late Professor M. Safiullah and Nurjahan Begum

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## Eye Care Program Manabik Shahajya Sangstha (ECP-MSS)

### PROGRAM REPORT ON: SCHOOL SIGHT TESTING PROGRAM & EYE CAMP

AT AMNURA ADORSHO GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL & TOFIKRUDDIN SRITI GOVT. PRIMARY SCHOOL, AMNURA,  
CHAPAINAWABGANJ

SPONSOR: Rotary Club of Dhaka Karwanbazaar, Children of Bangladesh, UK & Children,  
Grandchildren of the late M. Safiullah, & Nurjahan Begum

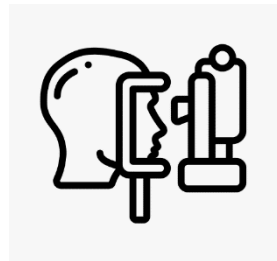
Date: 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

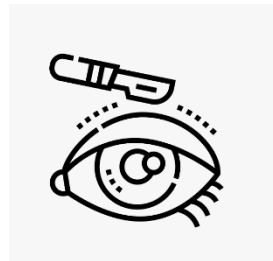
On November 16, 2024, the Eye Care Program of Manabik Shahajya Sangstha (ECP-MSS) successfully implemented a **School Sight Testing Program (SSTP)** at Amnura Adorsho Girls High School and Tofiruddin Sriti Govt. Primary School in Amnura, Chapainawabganj. The initiative aimed to deliver vital eye care services to underserved students, including students from the Santal community, and raise awareness about the importance of eye health. An eye camp was also held on the same day, offering counseling, pre-operative examinations, and free cataracts and Pterygium surgeries.

The program featured a comprehensive awareness campaign that distributed educational materials such as posters, flyers, and placards to educate students on basic eye care practices. Additionally, the ECP-MSS team conducted three classroom interactive presentations, equipping students with practical knowledge on maintaining healthy vision. The custom-made spectacles were distributed to the students on December 4, 2024.

This impactful initiative was made possible through the generous funding of the **Rotary Club of Dhaka Karwanbazaar, Children of Bangladesh, UK, and the children and grandchildren of the late M. Safiullah and Nurjahan Begum.** ECP-MSS provided the technical expertise and trained staff to ensure smooth execution. This collaboration addressed immediate eye care needs and empowered the participating students with lifelong awareness of eye health.



**EYE SCREENING**  
262 students



**SURGERIES**  
12 Cataracts, 3 Pterygium

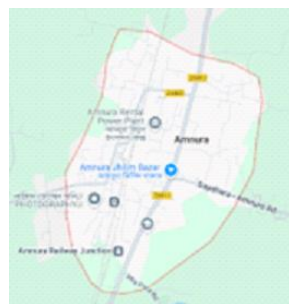


**SPECTACLES**  
33 Pairs



**EYE DROPS**  
83

#### **Eye Care for Amnura's Santal Community**



The Santal community in the Rajshahi - Amnura area of Bangladesh is an underserved indigenous group facing numerous socioeconomic hardships. Predominantly dependent on agriculture and daily labor, they experience widespread poverty and have limited access to healthcare services. Cultural and language barriers further limit their ability to utilize mainstream resources, including eye care. Many adults and children suffer from treatable eye conditions like cataracts and refractive errors, yet these often go untreated. The absence of local facilities, financial hardships, and lack of awareness contribute to preventable vision loss and a diminished quality of life. Children are particularly affected, as unaddressed vision problems disrupt their education.

**SCHOOL SIGHT TESTING PROGRAM:** The ECP MSS conducted the School Sight Testing Program (SSTP) at **Amnura Adorsho Girls High School** and **Tofiruddin Sriti Government Primary School** in Amnura, Rajshahi. A total of 262 students, including 34 boys and 228 girls, from pre-primary to grade 10 were screened using modern equipment and expert eye doctors. The students showed great enthusiasm and actively participated in the program. Following the screenings, the doctor recommended eye drops and prescribed custom-made spectacles to correct refractive errors.



**Amnura Adarsho Girls' High School**, established on July 1, 1994, in the rural plains of Amnura, Chapainawabganj, serves as a vital center for girls' education. Affiliated with the Rajshahi Board, the school offers a comprehensive curriculum in Science, Business Studies, and Humanities, catering to diverse student interests. Operated as a single-gender, day-shift institution, it is dedicated to empowering young women in the community. Managed by a committed governing body, the school stands as a beacon of opportunity and progress in this rural area.

**Tofiruddin Sriti Government Primary School** is a well-established educational institution located in Amnura, Chapainawabganj, Bangladesh. The school serves as a vital center for primary education in the area, providing a foundation for students' academic growth and development. With a focus on fostering learning and discipline, the school caters to young learners, emphasizing both curricular and extracurricular activities to ensure holistic development. It is a part of the government education network, ensuring accessibility and quality education for children in the local community.



**Implementation and Coordination:** The SSTP and eye camp was a collaborative effort to improve the community eye health of the underserved population. The ECP-MSS implemented the programs in conjunction with other organizations. The Amnura Lutheran Mission Hospital and the National Agency for Green Revolution handled local logistics and the pre-screenings of students and surgery patients, identifying cataract cases and vision impairments. The Rajshahi Eye Hospital, a partner hospital of the ECP-MSS, performed the eye screening of the students, the final selection of surgery patients and performed surgeries. The school authority and students fully cooperated and extended hospitality to the medical team. This coordinated initiative addresses immediate eye care needs and promotes long-term awareness and access to services.

**GRATITUDE:** ECP extends a heartfelt gratitude to the Rotary Club of Dhaka Karwanbazaar, and the children and grandchildren of the late M. Safiullah and Nurjahan Begum for their generous funding, which made this initiative possible. This collaboration has met the immediate eye care needs and empowered students with lasting knowledge of eye health. ECP is truly grateful for their commitment and support.

**Services Provided:**



Conduct eye screening tests with modern equipment and skilled eye doctors



Provide custom-made eyeglasses for correcting refractive errors



Provide eye drops to address allergies and other eye conditions as needed









Free cataract and pterygium surgeries were provided to the pre-identified patients



Build awareness among students to prevent avoidable eye diseases

**Technical Team:** ECP-MSS provided technical assistance through its partner hospital, Rajshahi Eye Hospital, to conduct the SSTP for the school's students. The technical team comprised one doctor, refractionist, and support staff member. ECP-MSS staff provided support services.

**Eye Testing Equipment:** Eye testing equipment used for eye screening included a vision chart, vision box, auto refractometer, lens meter, trial box, and ophthalmoscope.

					
Autorefractometer	Vision Box	Vision Chart	Torch	Trial Box	Ophthalmoscope

**EYE CAMP:** On November 16, 2024, an eye camp was successfully organized at the Amnura Lutheran Missionary Hospital to screen and pre-identify patients for surgical intervention. Despite the challenge of low attendance due to the ongoing paddy harvesting season, approximately 30 patients were initially identified, with the final selection made by the Eye Care Program (ECP) technical team. The pre-screened surgery patients underwent initial examinations to determine their fitness for surgery. Following the camp, 12 cataract surgeries and 3 pterygium surgeries were successfully performed at Rajshahi Eye Hospital. These surgeries were conducted under the expert guidance of the ECP team, which ensured seamless logistical and technical support. This initiative represents a significant advancement in providing vision care and enhancing accessibility for underserved communities in the region.



Patients successfully recovered their vision after undergoing cataract and pterygium surgeries at Rajshahi Eye Hospital.

### **AWARENESS RAISING ACTIVITIES:**

Awareness of eye care was pitifully low despite the critical importance of the eyes as one of the most essential human organs. To address this, ECP disseminated basic eye care information aimed at reducing the prevalence of eye diseases among its target groups. As part of this initiative, ECP conducted comprehensive awareness campaigns through either audiovisual presentations or interactive lectures.

The ECP team conducted two presentations to engage students and raise awareness about essential eye care practices. Additionally, 262 flyers containing practical eye care tips were distributed among the students. These resources educated the students and helped spread awareness to their families and friends. The interactive sessions encouraged curiosity, leading to thoughtful questions from the students and enhancing their understanding of eye health.



Awareness-raising presentation on basic eye care in one of the classrooms by ECP-MSS team

## Flyers:

The illustrative flyers distributed by ECP provide the following essential eye care tips:

- ❖ **Eye Care:** Pay attention to your eye health and visit an eye doctor for any issues or injuries. Avoid superstitions and unqualified treatments.
- ❖ **Regular Check-ups:** Eye exams every two years for children, and annually for adults.
- ❖ **Use Spectacles:** Wear prescribed glasses.
- ❖ **Hydration & Diet:** Drink 7-8 glasses of water daily and eat nutritious foods like vegetables, fruits, eggs, fish, and dairy.
- ❖ **Safe TV Viewing:** Keep a safe distance
- ❖ **No Smoking:** Quit smoking to protect your vision.
- ❖ **Cataracts:** Surgery is the only effective treatment.
- ❖ **Sun & Object Safety:** Don't look at the sun, run with sharp objects, or throw them.
- ❖ **Hygiene:** Wash eyes 4-5 times daily, avoid touching them with dirty hands, and blink often to keep them healthy.



## THE POINTERS ARE –

1. Cannot see the text clearly written on the blackboard
2. Holding books close to the eyes when reading
3. Skipping lines or repeating the same lines while reading
4. Make eyes smaller while seeing something
5. To keep one eye closed while reading the book
6. Sometimes suffer from headaches
7. Lean the head on one side
8. Complain eye irritation, watering and pain
9. Frequently blink the eyelids
10. Frequently rub the eyes with hands.

## Eye Problem Pointers Placard

Eye Problem Pointers (EPP) placards, designed to highlight signs of potential eye issues in students, are distributed to schools. These placards help identify when a student may need to visit an eye specialist. Teachers are trained to understand the indicators, and the placards are prominently displayed in schools where both teachers and students can easily see them. Two (2) placards were provided to schools.

### এই লক্ষণগুলো দেখলে ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের চোখ পরীক্ষা করাতে হবে :

ব্ল্যাকবোর্ডের লেখা স্পষ্টভাবে দেখতে না পারা		মাঝে মাঝে মাথা ব্যথা হওয়া
পড়ার সময় চোখের কাছে বই ধরা		মাথা একপাশে কাত করে রাখা
পড়ার সময় লাইন বাদ দেওয়া বা একই লাইনের পুনরাবৃত্তি করা		চোখে জ্বালাপোড়া, চুলকানো, পানিপড়া বা ব্যথা হওয়া
কিছু দেখার সময় চোখ ছোট করা		ঘন ঘন চোখের গলক ফেলা
বই পড়ার সময় এক চোখ বন্ধ রাখা		হাত দিয়ে অনবরত চোখ রগড়ানো



প্রচারে : আই কেয়ার প্রোগ্রাম- এমএসএস  
ওয়েবসাইট : <https://mssbd.org/our-program/eye-care-program>

ইমেইল : [eyecare@mssbd.org](mailto:eyecare@mssbd.org)  
ওয়েবসাইট : [www.fb.com/eyecareprogrammss](http://www.fb.com/eyecareprogrammss)  
হ্যাটটিক : Eye Care Program MSS



Eye Problem Pointers Placards handed over to the school headmaster by our honorable donors.

Banner proudly displayed at the school, acknowledging the generous donation of our esteemed donor.

**FEEDBACK AND COMMENTS FROM SCHOOL:**

The headteacher of the school, students, and patients give their valuable comments about our SSTP & Eye Camp in the Program Acknowledgement form which we bring from the school. Their comments are below:



**The head teacher of Amnura Adorsho Girls High School Md. Kudrot E Khuda said** “The program is very useful for the students. We are satisfied with the program's quality. The healthcare facilitators are skilled and cooperative. This program should be conducted annually at our school. We are satisfied with ECP doctor and team members’ behavior”



**Fayez Uddin, 67, Amnura Gusirapukur, Chapainawabganj said** “For two years, cataracts took away my vision and made life unbearable. Living in poverty, I couldn’t afford treatment. Then, the Eye Care Program brought surgery to my village. Despite my initial fears, their kindness and support filled me with hope. This program restored not only my sight but also my dignity and optimism. I am deeply grateful and pray for the amazing people who made this possible.



"We learned so much from this eye care awareness program! Many of us didn't realize how important it is to take care of our eyes. The sessions were fun and easy to understand, and we now know how to protect our vision and spot signs of eye problems early. The team was kind and answered all our questions. We feel more confident about keeping our eyes healthy. We will share the flyers and eye care information with our friends and families. Thank you for teaching us!" **said students of Amnura Adarsha High School.**



**CHALLENGES:**

- A fire at Sundarban Courier Service destroyed various essential items, including medicines, spectacles, flyers, posters, and instruments that were crucial for the Eye Care Program (ECP). Despite this setback, ECP promptly managed to rearrange and replace the burnt items, ensuring the continuity of their services without any disruption.
- The number of patients seeking surgery decreased during the paddy harvesting season, as many individuals were occupied with agricultural work, making it challenging for them to prioritize medical visits.

**SCHOOL SIGHT TESTING PROGRAM & EYE CAMP ACTIVITY PICTURES**



Formal Inauguration of School Sight Testing Program - Students of Amnura Adorsho Girls High School praying for our esteemed Donors.



Doctor at work! Students being examined at the SSTP.

The Eye Doctor testing with auto-refractometer to assess optical power of students



Awareness-raising presentation on basic eye care in one of the classrooms.



ECP Refractionist assessing the optical power of students during the eye screening session.



ECP-MSS distributed free eye medicines to students of Adarsha Girls High School and Tofiruddin Smriti Priimary School.



Joyful faces at Amnura Adorsho Govt. Girls High School students express gratitude for their custom-made spectacles.



Custom-made spectacles distributed among the students Amnura Adarsha Girls High School



Post-surgery counseling session for patients at Rajshahi Eye Hospital.



Our honorable donor visited the hospital to check on patients following their cataract surgery