



# Sightsavers India Fellowship Program Incubating the Future Ophthalmologists

Scan to know more:

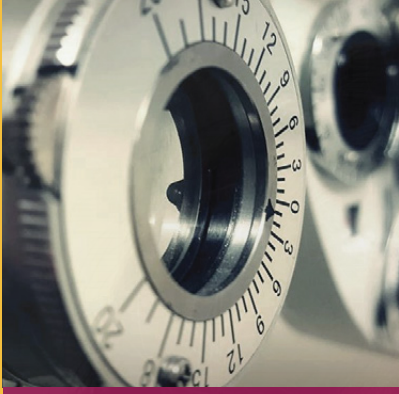


2026

India  
Fellowship  
Program



Sightsavers  
India



## ABOUT THE ORGANISATION

Sightsavers India also known as Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, is a development organisation working with partners to reduce avoidable blindness and promote equality of opportunity for people with disabilities.

Sightsavers India collaborates with various departments of the respective state governments to scale up operations for Social Inclusion, Eye Health and Inclusive Education— our three core areas of work.

We work in a sustainable way to promote lasting change by strengthening existing health systems, seeking to engage with the governments, and demonstrating best practices.

## MISSION

We are a development organisation working with partners in underserved areas of India to eliminate avoidable blindness and promote equal opportunities for people with disabilities.

## VISION

Sightsavers India's vision is of a world where no one is blind from avoidable causes and where people with disability participate equally in society.

**Since 1970.  
Across India.**

**Working in 10  
states with  
government  
and local partners.**

**Over 100 million  
People screened for  
eye healthy**



**RN Mohanty**

CEO

Sightsavers India

# Message from the CEO

## **To the ophthalmologists ready to take the next step,**

As you move from postgraduate training into becoming a practitioner, you are entering an important phase of your career. It is a time of opportunity, responsibility, and growth. The experience and guidance you receive now can shape not only your professional journey but also the difference you make in the lives of patients.

Sightsavers India's Fellowship Program has been designed to support this transition. It offers 18 months of practical surgical training, mentorship from experienced professionals, and exposure to both hospital-based and community eye care settings. Along with strengthening clinical and surgical skills, the Fellowship also focuses on building confidence, leadership, and a deeper understanding of delivering quality care in diverse settings.

If you are committed to learning, excellence, and making quality eye care accessible to, I encourage you to apply for the Sightsavers India Fellowship Program.

Step forward with purpose. Build your expertise, expand your impact, and become the ophthalmologist patients trust, communities value, and the future of eye care needs. We look forward to supporting you, at every step!

Take this next step. Apply. Learn. Lead.

# The Sightsavers India Fellowship

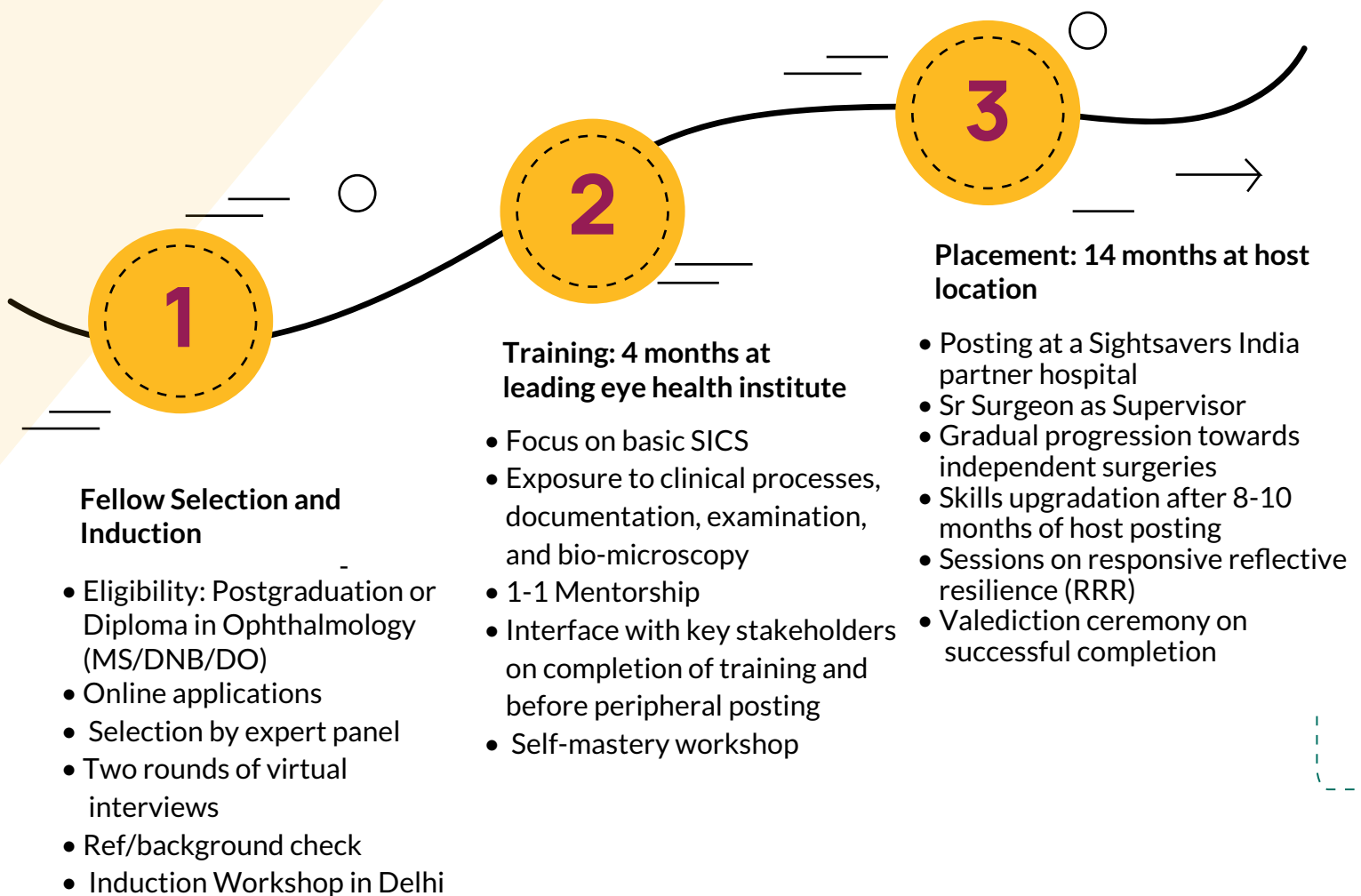
The Sightsavers India Fellowship equips early-career ophthalmologists with the clinical, surgical, and leadership skills needed for confident, independent practice—especially in high-need settings. This 18-month structured fellowship offers a rigorous, immersive experience across hospital systems, community outreach, close mentorship, and progressively increased clinical and surgical responsibility.

Fellows are mentored by leading experts and trained at some of the country's top eye health institutions. Beyond clinical exposure, the Fellowship focuses on leadership development, management skills, and community engagement—ensuring that fellows are prepared not just to treat patients but to drive meaningful change in the eye health ecosystem.

Through this fellowship, Sightsavers India is creating a cadre of skilled, compassionate professionals ready to strengthen India's eye health landscape.

## Operating Model

**Total Duration: 18 months | Training: 4 months | Posting at Host Location: 14 months**





## Training Institutions

**Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital**  
Caring for the community since 1914...

**Delhi**

**SUSRUT**  
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN EYE CARE  
EYE FOUNDATION & RESEARCH CENTRE



**Kolkata**

**ICARE**

**Noida**

## Strategic Partner

Enrollment in Alcon Phaco Development (PD) Program for getting trained in latest techniques on advanced cataract procedure.

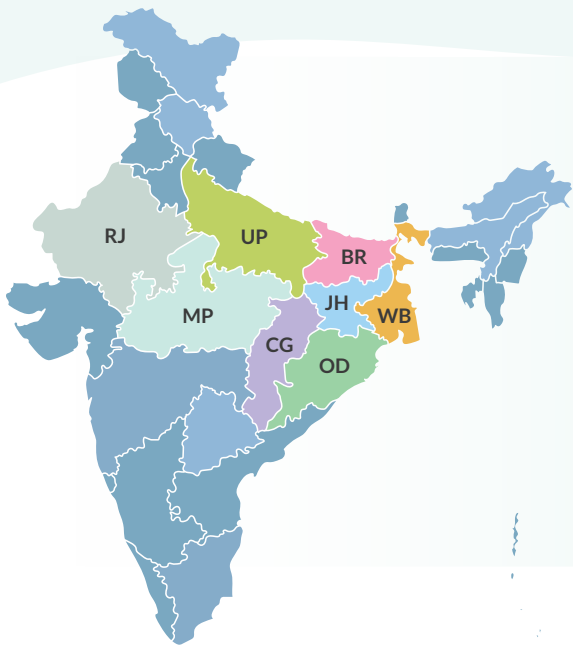



**Self-Transformation Mentoring Partner**



**Mantra**  
management training  
research associates

Attitude is Everything!



## Host Institutions for Peripheral District Posting

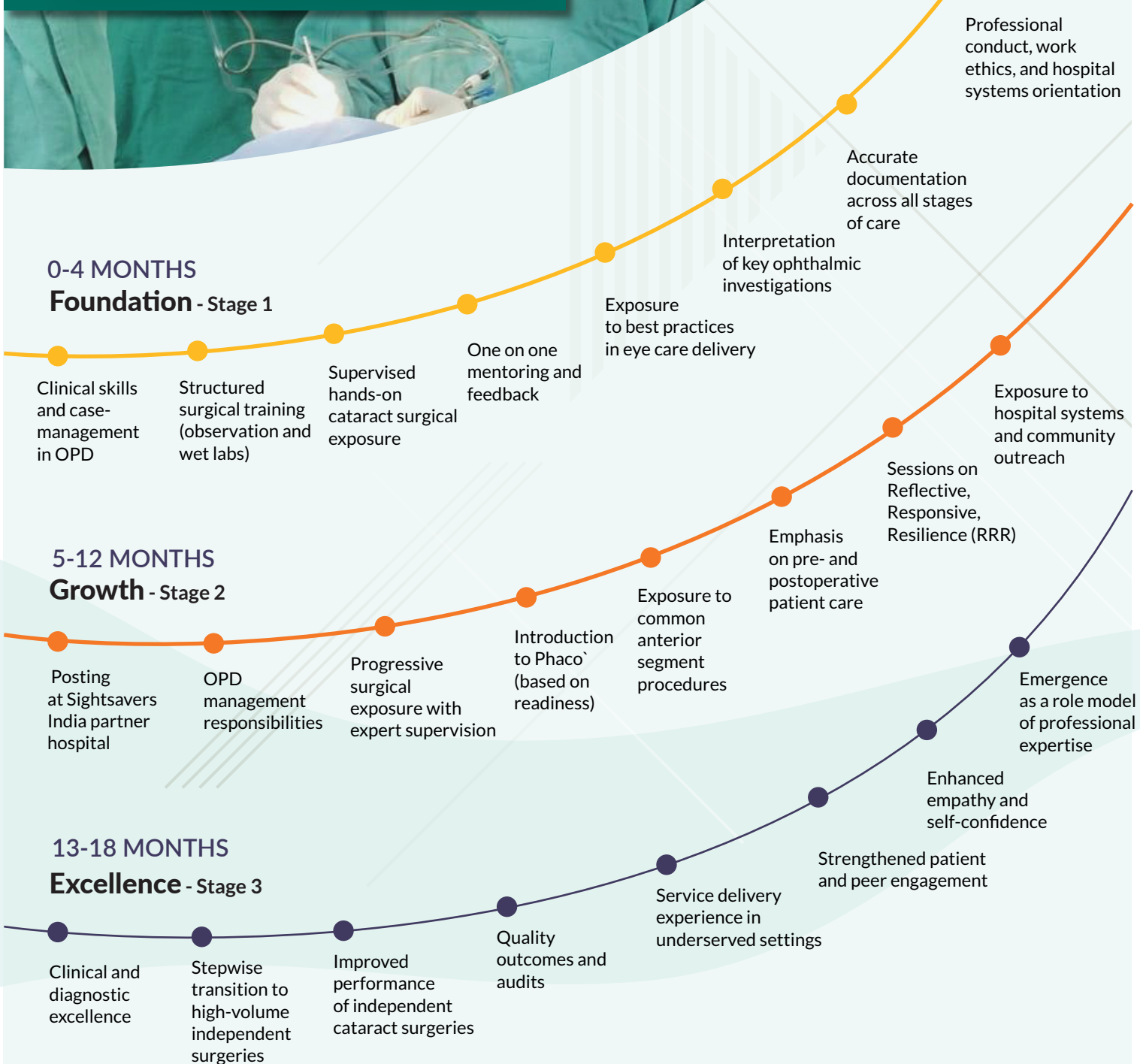
Available Across Eight Sightsavers India Intervention States





# 18 Months Journey

Mentoring on clinical/surgical and life-skills enhancement



# Eligibility

- Applicants must hold an MS, DNB, or DO degree in Ophthalmology.
- The fellowship is exclusively available to Indian nationals.
- Candidates should demonstrate a strong commitment to serving in high-need and underserved communities.
- Desired attributes include- Strong learning orientation; Adaptability to diverse environments; Upholding professional ethics; Emotional resilience



## Stipend Structure

₹35,000 per month  
Training Phase

₹65,000 per month  
First-Year Field  
Posting

₹75,000 per month  
Final Phase of  
Fellowship

**Additional Benefits: Completion incentive, Mediclaim, accident insurance, and professional indemnity insurance.**



## Selection Process

### Preliminary Screening

- Submission of application
- Initial shortlisting based on eligibility and merit
- Invitation to attend a panel interview

### Final Selection

- Committee endorsement of shortlisted candidates
- Reference and background verification
- Formal induction and orientation into the fellowship

**Note: The decision of Sightsavers India management will be final.**

**To apply visit: <https://indiafellowshipprogram.sightsaversindia.org/> or scan QR code:**

**For more information call: +91 9818157997**

**Email ID: [indiafellowship@sightsaversindia.org](mailto:indiafellowship@sightsaversindia.org)**



# A Glimpse Into the Fellowship Experience



# Fellows Speak



“ The Sightsavers India Fellowship was more than just surgical training—it was about understanding the realities of eye care in underserved communities. In Satna, performing 50–100 surgeries a day meant restoring vision for those with limited access. The Bandhavgarh pilot project, despite its remote challenges, reinforced the true impact of accessible healthcare. This journey has shaped me into a more skilled, compassionate doctor, and I’m deeply grateful for the experience. ”

**Dr Saamragye Srivastava,**  
Sightsavers India Fellow

“ Each day started in the OPD, assessing patient outcomes and witnessing lives transformed by restored vision. The gratitude in their eyes was unforgettable. Performing up to 40 surgeries a day, I truly understood the power of accessible eye care. To future fellows—stay determined. The journey is demanding, but the impact makes every challenge worthwhile. I’m incredibly grateful to have been part of the Sightsavers India Fellowship. ”

**Dr Aniza Nagpal,**  
Sightsavers India Fellow



“ The Sightsavers India Fellowship helped me become a better clinician and a surgeon by providing hands-on experience in a rural setting. Treating patients in low-resource areas strengthened my clinical adaptability and deepened my understanding of their healthcare challenges. The Fellowship’s unique structure offers invaluable exposure to rural healthcare while providing training at esteemed institutes. To future fellows, the diverse cases you will encounter will be an unparalleled learning experience. I am grateful to Sightsavers India for this transformative opportunity. ”

**Dr Reshma Sonowal,**  
Sightsavers India Fellow



“ The past two years have been a journey of immense professional and personal growth. From MSIC surgery training to field postings and the RAAB survey, each phase pushed me towards greater independence in my practice. Working at the host hospital in Chhattisgarh exposed me to diverse cases, languages, and cultures, while performing phacoemulsification further refined my surgical skills. More than anything, this fellowship taught me adaptability—navigating new challenges with confidence. I am truly grateful for this transformative experience. ”

**Dr Mohd Saif,**  
Sightsavers India Fellow

“ Over the past two years, I have performed both small incision cataract surgery and phacoemulsification while also participating in the RAAB survey in Samastipur, Bihar. This fellowship has shaped me into a confident and independent cataract surgeon. For young ophthalmologists, this Fellowship offers a comprehensive and holistic learning experience, equipping them with the skills to excel both professionally and personally. ”

**Dr Faizah Shahreer Ahmad,**  
Sightsavers India Fellow



“ Training at Dr. Shroff’s Charity Eye Hospital gave me a strong foundation in cataract surgery and phacoemulsification, but my true learning began during my posting in Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh. Adapting to a new culture and overcoming language barriers was just as crucial as honing surgical skills. With the guidance of my mentor, I grew both professionally and personally. Restoring sight in communities with limited healthcare access has been deeply fulfilling. I am truly grateful to the Sightsavers India Fellowship for this incredible opportunity. ”

**Dr M. Srinivasan Gounder,**  
Sightsavers India Fellow

# Guiding Voices

**Dr Manoj V. Parulekar,**  
Consultant Ophthalmologist,  
NHS UK

“Sightsavers India Fellowship Program is a unique initiative to develop a cadre of young ophthalmologists who would work within wide network of ophthalmologists across the world.”

## Unique Initiative

**Dr Umang Mathur,**  
Executive Director & HOD  
Ophthalmology, Dr Shroff's Charity  
Eye Hospital, Delhi

“The Program is well designed to nurture and give supervised surgical skills to handle any kind of cataract surgery and manage the practice properly.”

## Nurtures Best Ophthalmology Talent

**Dr Asim Sil,**  
Medical Director Chandi Campus,  
Vivekananda Mission Asram (VMA)  
Netra Niramay Niket

“This fellowship has included one-to-one mentorship. It is going to be very much helpful for the candidates.”

## One-to-one Mentorship

**Thulasiraj RD,**  
Executive Director,  
LAICO – Aravind Eye Hospital

“Sightsavers India Fellowship Program in some ways could be beginning of building eye care leadership in India.”

## Builds Eye Care Leadership



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#### Registered office

A-3, Shivdham, New Link Road,  
Kanchpada, Malad (west)  
Mumbai – 400 064  
Phone: +91 22 28820808/ 1919

#### Country office

45, Second Floor,  
Okhla Industrial Estate, Phase III  
New Delhi – 110 020  
Phone: +91 11 42267202 / +91 11 42384572  
Email: [indiaweb@sightsaversindia.org](mailto:indiaweb@sightsaversindia.org)

#### Other offices

No. 86, II Floor, Platinum Project  
Coles Road, Frazer Town,  
Bangalore – 560005

GC 104, Sector III, Salt Lake  
Kolkata – 700 106  
Phone: +91 33 40086225

G-1/63, Gulmohar Colony,  
Near Kuber Dairy, Trilanga,  
Bhopal (M.P.) – 462039  
Phone: +91 755 4292807

[www.sightsaversindia.org](http://www.sightsaversindia.org)

Sightsavers India is registered as “Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind”  
under Bombay Public Trust Act 1950 vide registration number E4330.

