

Lilavati Hospital, Mumbai launched “Roshni Cataract Services” an initiative to provide free eye check-ups and cataract surgeries

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Mumbai, India - Lilavati Hospital and Research Centre, a charitable hospital in Mumbai has launched the “Roshni Cataract Services” an initiative aimed at performing free eye check-up and cataract surgeries for underprivileged individuals. The event was inaugurated by the esteemed **Permanent Trustees- Shri Rajiv Mehta** along with Dr. Niraj Uttamani, COO at Lilavati Hospital & Research Centre, Bandra and team of doctors at Ophthalmologist department. This initiative aimed to provide essential eye care services 100% free of cost to those in need while raising awareness about eye health.

In India, cataracts continue to be a leading cause of blindness and vision impairment, affecting millions of lives across the country. Despite the availability of effective treatment options such as cataract surgery, there are significant hurdles in providing adequate care and addressing this escalating eye health issue. Challenges facing cataract treatment in India stem from various factors including limited access to healthcare facilities, lack of awareness about preventive measures and symptoms, as well as financial barriers that prevent many individuals from seeking timely treatment.

As part of the Roshni Cataract Services initiative by Smt Charu Mehta, Founders & Permanent Trustees for Life at Mumbai's prestigious Lilavati Hospital, individuals in need will have access to essential eye care services without any financial burden. By offering free eye check-ups and cataract surgeries, Lilavati Hospital aims to address the pressing issue of visual impairment among underprivileged in Mumbai. An individuals can register and undergo screenings under the care of dedicated professionals who understand the profound impact vision restoration can have on quality of life. This noble endeavour not only provides vital medical assistance but also raises awareness about the importance of maintaining good eye health. Through this program, Lilavati Hospital continues its legacy of giving back to society by ensuring that even those who cannot afford due to financially constrain receive quality healthcare services.

Shri Rajiv Mehta, a Permanent Trustee at Lilavati Hospital and Research Centre in Bandra, Mumbai, brought attention to the lack of knowledge within communities regarding the importance of regular eye check-ups for early detection and treatment of cataracts. He also stressed that financial limitations often hinder individuals from obtaining essential healthcare services, particularly in rural areas where medical expenses can be a heavy burden on families. In response to these obstacles, Lilavati Hospital, a charitable institution in Mumbai, will be launching various healthcare awareness initiatives for communities lacking adequate medical facilities. The goal of these programs is to enhance access to high-quality healthcare and improve the well-being of underserved populations. By increasing awareness and providing timely care, individuals can receive necessary treatment promptly, leading to better health outcomes and an enhanced quality of life overall.

Dr. Niraj Uttamani, COO at Lilavati Hospital & Research Centre, Bandra, said cataracts are a major issue in India, causing 70% of blindness and 90% of distorted vision. Recent data highlights the widespread impact of cataracts, prompting healthcare professionals and policymakers to take action. Millions are affected, so quick action is necessary. Early detection, timely treatment, and increased awareness are crucial for lowering cataract rates. Failing to manage cataracts properly can harm individuals and communities. Leading hospitals and stakeholders should work together to develop strategies focusing on prevention, affordable treatment, and education. Collaboration can help reduce cataract-related blindness and improve vision, enhancing the quality of life for those affected.

Further Shri Rajiv Mehta added that under Roshni Cataract Services, we've screened approximately 200 patients, with 29 scheduled for life-changing free cataract surgeries. Our commitment doesn't end there; we aspire to perform over 500 additional surgeries, granting individuals a new lease on life, echoing Lilavati Hospital's unwavering dedication to restoring sight and hope.