

Government of Goa launches eye health programme for school children

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To prevent avoidable vision impairment

Government of Goa has launched the Vision for All School Eye Health programme in partnership with OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation and Prasad Netralaya. The programme is an extension of the current Vision for All Goa eye health programme.

The Vision for All Goa eye health programme commenced in February 2021 and its monthly camps have screened 50,000 citizens as well as provided free spectacles to 16,000 people in need.

The Vision for All School Eye Health will focus on training 2000 teachers on basic visual acuity tests for the children in their respective schools, followed by detailed refraction by qualified professionals from Prasad Netralaya. OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation has committed to providing 25,000 free spectacles to children identified with refractive error.

Dr Pramod Sawant, Chief Minister of Goa, said, "Identification and addressing the eye health issues among children at early stage itself is very critical and important to stop the further progression. In this direction, Government of Goa is organising training programme for school teachers to identify eye health problems among children and refer them for further treatment. The trained teachers will further compulsorily do basic visual acuity test for every child before the start of the academic year."