The pall bearers of the Sanstha – - Adv. A.V.Menon The patron of NSS and former judge of Mumbai High Court; staunch follower of Gandhian philosophy.

- Dr. Ravindra Jaybhaye (M.Sc., Ph.D.) Founder member of the Sanstha, a geologist of repute and academician par excellance, has been associated with vocational trainig activities of the Sanstha.

- Mr. C.G.S.Mani Former president of Bajaj Electricals (western region) and one of the founder members of the Sanstha.

-Adv. J.D. Patil (B.SL, L.L.B) Founder Member and legal advisor for the Trust. Instrumental in arranging funds for various Sanstha activities.

- Mrs.Mamta Nair (M.C.A., M.B.A.) Treasurer of the Sanstha and experienced academician. Advisor to the Sanstha on edcuational activities

- Dr. Santosh Kumar Nair (M.S.(Ophthalmology) President of NSS and Medical Director of Nair Super Speciality Eye Hospital, with which the Sanstha has been associated, since its inception, for all its eye care activities

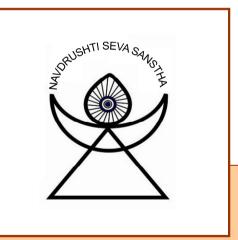
- Mrs. Vijayshri Patil (M.S.W., M.A.(Socio), M.B.A (Health Care Management) The dynamic secretary, who has conducted various eye camps and health camps across Raigad district and Navi Mumbai and co-ordianted with various NGOs over social and medical issues



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# Navdrushti Seva Sanstha

"Health for Body, Mind and Soul"



*Giving Sight to the needy is the most wonderful gift you can give.* 

India, as a nation, has progressed remarkably well in economic, industrial and educational sectors-post-independence. But, equally true is the fact that there has been marked disparity in rural –urban distribution of basic services like potable water, electricity, sanitation, health services, etc., Along with the government machinery, many NGOs like the Lion's Club, Rotary Club, HelpAge India, etc., have contributed immensely to provide basic amenities to rural India over so many years.

In this context, a few philanthropic individuals pooled in their skills and resources to form the NavdrushtiSevaSanstha to provide quality health care, career oriented course, affordable eye care etc., to the rural folks in their own unique way.The NavdrushtiSevaSanstha (NSS) was formed on 10th Feb 2008, by 7 founder members from various walks of life. The common goal of the Sanstha was to tackle the problems of health inequality, rural-urban divide, vocational training, etc., On this front, the Sanstha started many programs, like-

### Rural Eye Care Program –

Pursuing the goal of Vision 2020, the NSS has conducted approx. 250 free eye camps in the rural areas of Pen, Panvel and UranTalukas and also in Navi Mumbai. Approx. 700 free eye surgeries have been done through these camps. The Sanstha also provides free medicines and low-cost spectacles in these camps.

#### General health camps –

The NSS, through its volunteer physicians, conducts general health camps where in common ailments like hypertension, diabetes, arthritis, influenza, gastroenteritis, etc. are addressed to and appropriate medications supplied free of cost.

#### Health Counselling –

Patients with life threatening diseases like AIDS, cancer, hepatitis B, etc. are counselled and guided for improving their quality of life, provided accessibility to proper care and rehabilitation.

Low vision aids and eye donation –

The NSS works actively towards rehabilitation of visually and socially blind people by providing them and guiding them towards using low vision aids modelled to their life style. Avenues for providing them with sources of livelihood are also being worked out by NSS. The importance of eye donation in treating preventable blindness is impressed upon at every fora.

Vocational courses and training – The NSS is working aggressively

towards increasing computer literacy amongst the rural youth ,providing diploma and degree courses in optometry and optical sciences, certificate courses in clinical assistance and to make the rural populace self – dependent.

The future projects of NSS include -

## i) Networking of NGOs –

NSS plans to improve co-ordination and interaction amongst various NGOs involved in different activities with a view to share manpower, material and resources and to divert them towards areas of priority.

### ii) Medicine Bank –

*NSS* plans to involve generous donors towards pooling up expensive and life-saving medications for the common good of poor patients.

#### iii) Research and education -

NSS plans to involve scholars and students to promote health awareness through publications, journals and patient- information booklets. Also social and health implications of rural development programs need to be researched in the proper perspective.

# Immediate goal of NSS-

In order to bring to fruition - the NSS vision of affordable healthcare- it has been the need of the Sanstha for a wellequipped mobile ambulance to transport rural patients to base hospitals, as well as upgrading the vocational training facilities and book bank services at its co-ordinating hospital. The Sanstha requests generous donations from individuals/ organizations to carry forward its future projects so that the lesser-privileged sections of the society can be benefitted in some way.

# Helping a blind person see is akin to giving re-birth.