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Berhampur, April 29, 2015

Chief Minister Lays The Foundation Stone For A 100 Bed Tata Steel Funded Super Specialty Eye Care Hospital In Ganjam**Rs. 42.3 crores to be spent on the construction****Sankara Eye Hospital of Chennai to operate the hospital**

Berhampur, April 29, 2015: Chief Minister of Odisha Shri Naveen Patnaik today laid the foundation stone for a 100 bed Tata Steel funded Super Specialty Eye Care Hospital at Samarjhola village under Hinjilicut block of Ganjam district. The hospital, which is to be operated by Sankara Eye Hospital of Tamil Nadu, will offer modern eye care services to the people of Ganjam and nearby districts.

To be built over 4.5 acres of land in the Samarjhola village which is approximately 17 km from Berhampur city, the eye hospital with world class facilities and highly qualified doctors will offer services comparable to the best corporate hospitals at an affordable cost.

Dr Priyanshu Pradhan, Hon'ble MLA, Chhatrapur; Mr. Prem Chandra Choudhary, District Collector, Ganjam; Mr Manikanta Nayak, Chief Resident Executive, Tata Steel; Mr Sushanta Mishra, Chief, Project Gopalpur & SEZ, Tata Steel and Shri. S. Visvanathan, Trustee & Secretary, Shankara Eye Hospital were present on the occasion.

During the function the Chief Minister handed over a cheque of Rs 6.7 crore to Sankara Eye Hospital authorities which is part of the grant of Tata Steel for construction of the hospital. Earlier, in January 2015, a grant agreement was signed between Tata Steel and Sankara Eye Hospital in Bhubaneswar according to which the steel major would extend financial support as a grant up to Rs 42.3 crore for the construction of the hospital and the required infrastructure. On that occasion a cheque of Rs 3 crore was also given to hospital authorities as advance money to start the work.

Sankara Eye Hospital, which has an outstanding record of providing quality eye care for over two decades, will run this hospital which will have facilities like Comprehensive Eye Care, Investigations and outpatient treatment, Low Vision Clinic, Contact Lens Clinic, Special clinic for children, Day care Options – same day surgeries, Micro Phaco cataract surgeries for spectacle free vision, Glaucoma services and many more.

Tata Steel is also setting up 500 bed and 200 bed multi-specialty hospitals at Gopalpur and Kalinganagar, respectively. The steel major's health care interventions through its hospitals in Joda, Sukinda, other Health Centres, Mobile Health Units and Health Camps enables the company to reach out to more than 4 lakh patients every year in the state.