



■ Officials of Vipul Limited and Sankara Eye Care Institutions signing a Memorandum of Understanding for the setting up of an eye care hospital in Ludhiana in the presence of Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal in Chandigarh on Wednesday.

Set up more eye hospitals: CM

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CHANDIGARH: Punjab Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal, on Wednesday, called upon Sankara Eye Care Institutions to open more such hi-tech no-profit super specialty eye care hospitals in other parts of the state to cater to the needs of the poor.

Interacting with Project "Vision 2020" honorary director C.N. Srivatsan of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Medical Trust, which is running the chain of Sankara Eye Care Institutions with its headquarters at Coimbatore, Badal hoped that the upcoming 100-

bedded Sankara Eye Hospital at Ludhiana - the first project of its kind in the state - would provide the best treatment to patients.

Srivatsan said 20,000 free eye surgeries would be performed every year at the hospital with 80 per cent of the beneficiaries being the poor.

All specialties like cataract, glaucoma, retinal diseases and paediatric ophthalmology would be made available. He informed Badal that eye surgeons and administrators would be identified from Punjab and undergo intensive training at Coimbatore and Bangalore before getting

posted in the hospital. Likewise, girls from Punjab, especially belonging to poor families from the Ludhiana region, would be identified and trained at Coimbatore and Bangalore for a university certified course for a period of 18 to 24 months. They would be absorbed as paramedics in the hospital.

Earlier, a memorandum of understanding was signed between Vipul Limited and Sankara Eye Care Institutions in the presence of the Chief Minister for setting up the eye care hospital in Ludhiana over 2 acres of land on the Ferozepur road at a nominal lease rent for 90 years.

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