

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2025



QUASEM  
FOUNDATION

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



Over the past year, the global and national landscape has continued to evolve amid geopolitical tensions, economic uncertainty, supply chain disruptions, and climate-related challenges. For Bangladesh, these developments have had significant implications, particularly for vulnerable rural and urban communities.

Inflationary pressures, rising food and energy prices, foreign exchange volatility, and environmental risks have added further strain. At the same time, Bangladesh is advancing toward LDC graduation and strengthening its resilience in an increasingly uncertain global environment. These shifts present both challenges and opportunities.

Despite difficult economic conditions and funding constraints affecting many development organizations, we are deeply grateful that our valued donors remained steadfast in honoring their funding commitments. We were also encouraged to welcome new donors during the year, reflecting continued confidence in the credibility, transparency, and impact of the Quasem Foundation.

In the face of instability under the interim government in

Bangladesh, we not only fulfilled all commitments to our donors but also achieved our operational targets and increased the annual number of patients served—an accomplishment that reflects both institutional strength and unwavering dedication.

## **Healthcare remains at the heart of our work.**

Through our dedicated maternity and child care services and community outreach initiatives, we have continued to promote safer motherhood, improved maternal health, and essential medical support for newborns and children. We firmly believe that investing in mothers and children is investing in the future of our nation.

Our eye care initiatives have also played a significant role in restoring vision and improving quality of life for underserved individuals. By providing accessible and affordable treatment, we are helping people regain independence and productivity.

## **Education continues to be a powerful instrument of transformation.**

Our English Version School provides quality education in a disciplined and nurturing environment, shaping

students into confident and capable individuals. In addition, our scholarship program supports meritorious and underprivileged students, enabling them to pursue their academic goals without financial barriers.

During times of crisis—whether caused by economic hardship or natural disasters—our relief activities have extended timely assistance to affected families. Standing beside communities in their most difficult moments reflects the true spirit and responsibility of our Foundation.

None of these achievements would be possible without the commitment of our staff, volunteers, donors, and partners. Together, we continue to build resilience, expand opportunity, and nurture hope for a more equitable and prosperous Bangladesh.

Thank you for your continued trust and support.

**Dr. Reyhan Anis Islam**

Chairman  
Quasem Foundation

# MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY



Bangladesh continues to face significant challenges in both maternal health and eye care. Although progress has been made nationally, maternal mortality remains at 115 per 100,000 live births, and neonatal and infant mortality rates continue to pose concern, particularly in rural communities where access to quality healthcare is limited. At the same time, an estimated 1.2 million people in Bangladesh live with blindness, with cataracts and uncorrected refractive errors being the leading causes. More than 10% of the population suffers from some form of visual impairment—much of which is preventable or treatable through timely intervention.

Northern Bangladesh—especially Kurigram and surrounding districts—remains one of the most climate-vulnerable and economically disadvantaged regions of the country. Geographic isolation, poverty, and limited healthcare infrastructure make maternal health services and eye care both urgent and underserved needs. For these reasons, Quasem Foundation has prioritized maternity and eye health as core intervention

sectors—ensuring that vulnerable mothers, children, and visually impaired individuals receive affordable, quality care close to home.

During the year ended 30 June 2025, our Maternity Program, led by Alekjan Maternity and Child Welfare Center (AM&CWC) in Ulipur, continued to strengthen safe motherhood services. The centre conducted 1,478 normal deliveries and 484 cesarean sections, performed 11,678 diagnostic lab tests, registered 1,453 neonates, and enrolled 357 mothers for continued care. In 2025, the facility was expanded and upgraded into a higher-capacity OB-GYN centre, and a Satellite Program was launched to provide door-to-door antenatal check-ups, counselling, and referrals through trained field workers and paramedics.

**Under our Eye Health Program, our network of three eye hospitals and nine vision centres served 262,275 outpatient patients.** A total of 18,999 IOL surgeries and 1,571 phaco surgeries were performed, alongside 97,132 refractions and 20,682

diagnostic tests. More than 1,000 eye camps were organized to reach remote and underserved communities. This integrated hub-and-spoke model continues to play a vital role in eliminating avoidable blindness across Northern Bangladesh.

Education remains central to our long-term vision of sustainable development. NNZ-Quasem School in Ulipur, established in collaboration with a Netherlands-based partner, continues to provide modern and affordable education to rural children. During the year under review, the school served 165 students with the support of 13 teachers and 14 staff members, and successfully organized 7 educational and co-curricular events.

In addition, our Scholarship Program supported 38 students per month from financially disadvantaged backgrounds, helping them cover tuition fees, examination costs, and essential learning materials. Through these initiatives, we are investing in human capital development and creating pathways for social mobility and opportunity.

Quasem Foundation's Relief Program continued to respond to humanitarian needs during times of crisis and seasonal hardship. Through targeted distribution of essential relief items and emergency assistance, the Foundation supported vulnerable families facing economic distress, food insecurity, and climate-related challenges. This program reflects our enduring commitment to protecting dignity and extending compassion to those most in need.

We remain committed to expanding access and strengthening quality across all programs. During the year, the Kaliganj Vision Centre in Lalmonirhat became operational, and Electronic Medical Record (EMR) software was installed to enhance efficiency and patient management.

### **Looking ahead, key planned initiatives include:**

- Infrastructure expansion of NNZ-Quasem School (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floors) in 2026;
- Establishment of four new vision centres in Sundarganj (Gaibandha), Saghata (Gaibandha), Pirganj (Rangpur), and Jaldhaka (Nilphamari);
- Installation of a Phaco Machine and Fundus Cameras at Marium Eye Hospital, Saidpur and Ulipur;
- Commencement of the second phase of construction to expand Operation Theatres (OT), cabins, wards, and Caesarean (C-section) facilities.

On behalf of Quasem Foundation, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our valued donors, partners, and

well-wishers for their continued trust and generous support. I also sincerely thank our dedicated doctors, nurses, teachers, field workers, and staff members whose unwavering commitment makes our mission possible. Together, we remain steadfast in our pursuit of equitable healthcare, education, and hope for the people of Northern Bangladesh.

**Tasvir Ul Islam**  
General Secretary  
Quasem Foundation

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS



**Dr. Reyan Anis Islam**  
Chairperson



**Tasvir Ul Islam**  
General Secretary



**Samira Rokaiya Quasem**  
Joint Secretary



**Mirza Akhtar Maruf**  
Treasurer



**A.H.M. Zahirul Islam Biswas**  
Executive Member



**Shafi Md. Mehboob**  
Executive Member



**Mahamudul Alam**  
Executive Member

# QUASEM FOUNDATION

## EYE HEALTH 2024-2025

<b>262,275</b> OPD PATIENTS	<b>18,999</b> IOL SURGERY	<b>9</b> VISION CENTER	<b>3</b> HOSPITALS
<b>97,132</b> REFRACTION	<b>1,000+</b> EYE CAMP EVERY YEAR	<b>1,571</b> PHACO SURGERY	

## MATERNITY 2024-2025

<b>484</b> CESAREAN DELIVERY	<b>1,478</b> NORMAL DELIVERY	<b>1,453</b> NEONATAL REGISTRATION	<b>357</b> MOTHER REGISTRATION
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## EDUCATION PROGRAM 2024-2025

<b>165</b> SCHOOL STUDENTS	<b>13</b> TOTAL TEACHERS	<b>14</b> TEACHERS AND STAFF	<b>7</b> SCHOOL EVENTS
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## SCHOOL SIGHT TESTING PROGRAM 2024-25

<b>30</b> TOTAL SCHOOLS EXAMINED	<b>8,456</b> TOTAL STUDENTS EXAMINED	<b>177</b> IDENTIFIED WITH REFRACTIVE ERROR	<b>89</b> RECEIVED FREE SPECTACLES
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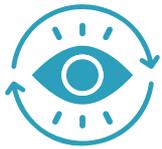
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# Who We Are?

Quasem Foundation (QF) is an organization dedicated to improving the lives of the impoverished people of Northern Bangladesh, extending charity where it is most needed and giving hope where it is most lacking. Founded in 1958, The Quasem Foundation began its operations in Ulipur, the home town of late Mr. Abul Quasem, its founder and head of the Quasem family.

The foundation is a sister concern of Quasem Industries PLC., a Dhaka-based PLC, however, is substantially supported by international donors given the large scope of its activities. The aim of the foundation is to improve the livelihoods of those living in Northern Bangladesh, specifically the Kurigram district. This area is one of the poorest, most climate vulnerable regions in the country. The activities of the QF primarily revolve around providing subsidized healthcare, education and when the need arises, emergency relief.

Through the implementation of focused and comprehensive projects, the foundation has grown in both its reach and its reputation over the last six decades to a point where it now serves not only Ulipur but also the entire Rangpur Division and even other parts of Northern Bangladesh; there are even cases of people coming from the capital city of Dhaka to avail the sincere, very reasonably priced, yet high quality services that Quasem Foundation provides to all.



# VISION

Our vision is to improve living standards towards sustainable development by providing excellence eye and child health care and maternal services together with education support in the best possible manner to the people of the northern part of Bangladesh.



# MISSION

We shall provide affordable eye care services to combat with needless blindness in the northern areas of Bangladesh. We shall provide excellence maternal and child health care services in affordable cost to the underprivileged people of northern areas of Bangladesh. We shall support students in need by our scholarship program and also conduct special programs to provide relief during natural disaster or during any emergency period.

# QUASEM FOUNDATION'S TIMELINE

**1958**

## **Foundation Established**

Quasem Foundation is founded with a commitment to serving vulnerable and underserved communities in Bangladesh.

**1984**

## **Legal Institutionalization**

Formally registered as societies under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

**2008**

## **Strengthening Clinical Capacity**

AM&CWC introduces an in-house diagnostic facility, serving 40–50 patients per day.

**2016**

## **Regional Eye Care Expansion**

Marium Eye Hospital, Rangpur branch established with enhanced clinical, pharmacy and spectacles services.

**2021**

## **New Hospital & Education Partnership**

Marium Eye Hospital, Saidpur established. Collaboration begins with NNZ to develop an English-medium school in Ulipur.

**2024**

## **Transforming AM&CWC & Pediatric Cataract Surgery**

Major expansion of AM&CWC initiated and Pediatric Cataract Surgery launched at MEH with support from Seva Foundation.

**1963**

## **Maternal & Child Health Begins**

Alekjan Maternity & Child Welfare Center (AM&CWC) opened in Ulipur, Kurigram, providing basic maternity and child health services.

**1994**

## **NGO Status & Flagship Eye Hospital**

Officially registered as an NGO. Marium Eye Hospital, Ulipur established with support from Sightsavers.

**2011**

## **Partnership with Seva Foundation**

Seva Foundation begins collaboration to expand comprehensive eye health programmes.

**2017**

## **First Vision Center Launched**

Nageshwari Vision Center established, extending primary eye care closer to rural communities.

**2022**

## **Education for the Future**

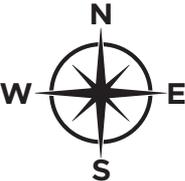
English version school in Ulipur formally launched in partnership with NNZ.

**2025**

## **Expansion, New Partnerships & Eye Care Reach**

Expanded AM&CWC inaugurated. Cure Blindness Project, MTB Foundation and VisionSpring join as partners. Kaliganj Vision Center established.

# GEOGRAPHIC REACH



- MARIUM EYE HOSPITAL (MEH)
- VISION CENTER (VC)
- ALEKJAN MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTER (AM&CWC)
- NNZ-QUASEM SCHOOL
- VC's Proposed & Underdevelopment

## PROGRAMS AND PROJECT OVERVIEW

1

### ALEKJAN MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE CENTER

AM&CWC in Ulipur provides comprehensive maternal, newborn and child health services, including ANC, PNC, normal delivery and C-section care, gynae OPD, diagnostics and pharmacy support. With a 40-bed capacity and strengthened OT and emergency services, it now manages more high-risk pregnancies and neonatal complications safely. Through its Satellite Programme, field teams regularly visit remote villages, identify at-risk mothers and ensure timely referrals to the facility.

3

### NNZ-QUASEM SCHOOL

Established in partnership with NNZ, this English version primary school in Ulipur offers a child-centered learning environment with smart classrooms, a large playground and a two-storey academic building. Following the national curriculum in both English and Bangla, it focuses on strong foundations in literacy, numeracy and values-based education. Regular teacher development through Alokito Teachers and co-curricular activities nurture confident, creative learners from disadvantaged and local families.

5

### RELIEF AND HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES

Quasem Foundation provides rapid humanitarian assistance during floods and other emergencies across Rangpur division and beyond. Support typically includes food packs, safe drinking water, essential household items and targeted health services delivered through its hospitals and field teams. These efforts aim not only to meet immediate needs but also to stand beside disaster-affected families as a reliable, long-term partner in recovery.

2

### MARIUM EYE HOSPITALS & VISION CENTERS

Quasem Foundation operates Marium Eye Hospitals in Ulipur, Saidpur and Rangpur, supported by a growing network of Vision Centers in Nageshwari, Rowmari, Gaibandha, Gobindoganj, Phulbari, Domar, Pirgacha, Panchagargh and Kaliganj in hard-to-reach upazilas. These facilities deliver comprehensive eye care, from school sight testing and refraction to cataract (Phaco/IOL) and non-cataract surgeries, plus low-cost spectacles and medicines. The Vision Centers bring screening and basic treatment closer to communities while linking patients needing advanced care to the base hospitals.

4

### STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

The Foundation's scholarship scheme supports talented and financially vulnerable students with tuition fees, learning materials and mentoring support. By targeting both school and higher-education levels, the programme helps reduce dropouts and enables promising learners to continue their studies without financial hardship. Many scholarship recipients are first-generation learners who become role models in their communities.



# EYE HEALTH PROGRAM

# EYE HEALTH SCENARIO IN BANGLADESH

## SCENARIO IN BANGLADESH

- 1.2M** people estimated blind in Bangladesh
- 602,000** cases are potentially preventable
- 30,000** children affected by visual impairment
- 534,000** cataract-induced blindness cases
- 1.0%** adults (40+) suffer from blindness
- 10%+** of population faces visual impairment

### Top Causes of Blindness

- Cataracts — primary cause of blindness nationwide
- Uncorrected refractive errors — major contributor
- Preventable causes: diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration

### Refractive Errors

- 1.4M+ people need corrective glasses or refractive surgery
- Timely intervention can restore vision and improve quality of life

### Childhood Blindness

- 30,000 children affected by visual impairment
- 16,200 children suffer from cataracts alone

### Unmet Need

- Significant gaps in eye health services in rural and underserved areas
- High demand for affordable eye care remains unmet

## SOLUTIONS WE PROVIDE

Marium Eye Hospital leads efforts to eradicate preventable blindness — offering cataract surgery and treatment for 10+ eye conditions across the region.

### ✓ Comprehensive Eye Care

- Cataract surgeries: Significant annual volume restoring sight to patients
- Refraction services: Diagnosis and corrective lens access for refractive errors

### ✓ Affordable & Accessible Care

- Financial assistance programs for underserved communities
- In-house spectacles shops at all Vision Centers offering corrective eyewear

### ✓ Mobile Eye Care

- Regular screening camps in remote areas — no need to travel far

### ✓ School Screening Programs

- Routine school eye tests enabling early detection in children

### ✓ Vision Centers

- Diagnostic services, cataract surgery & refractive correction across multiple districts

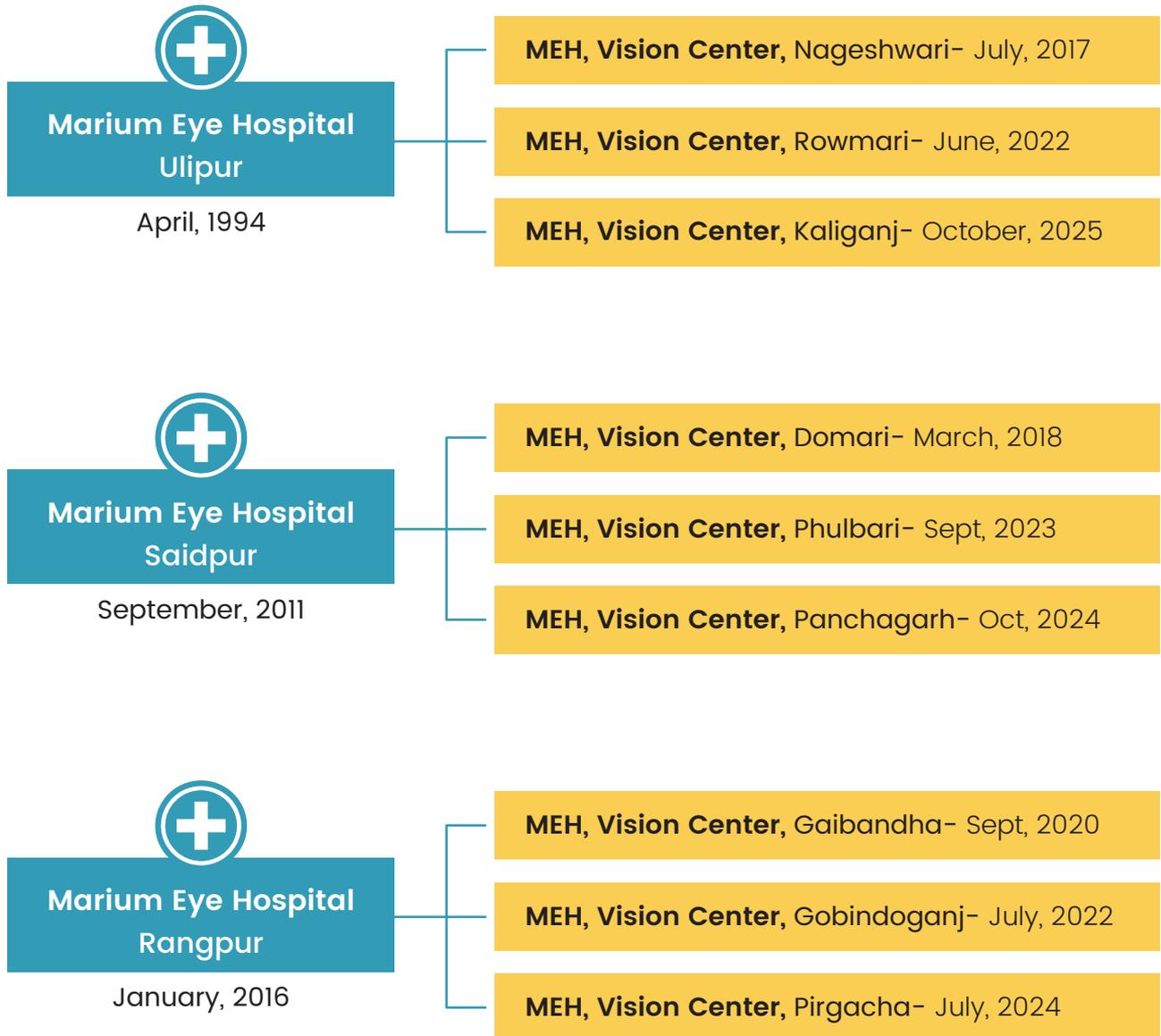
### ✓ Community Outreach

- Community education on eye health, cataracts, and the value of timely treatment

# TIMELINE OF MARIUM EYE HOSPITALS & VISION CENTERS

**Marium Eye Hospital (MEH)** is dedicated to performing surgeries that restore sight and improve lives.

**Vision Center (VC)** brings essential primary eye care service closer to remote communities.



# OBJECTIVES OF EYE HEALTH PROGRAMMES

1

## Quality & Affordability

Deliver high-quality clinical services at the lowest sustainable cost, including free and significantly subsidized care for underprivileged patients.

2

## Awareness & Access

Run regular community outreach and weekly PSP days at Vision Centers to educate households on eye health and drive early care-seeking.

3

## Prevention & Timely Treatment

Detect conditions early (screening/refraction/triage), ensure swift referral to hospitals, and provide sight-restoring surgeries to reduce avoidable blindness.

4

## Equity & Community Impact

Prioritise ultra-poor, remote and climate-vulnerable populations; support with counselling, affordability pathways and transport so cost or distance never blocks treatment.

5

## Capability & Continuous Learning

Build staff skills and contemporary knowledge, strengthen diagnostics and IPC, and use MEL dashboards to track outcomes and continuously improve service quality.

## MARIUM EYE HOSPITALS– FACILITIES

### MEH ULIPUR

MEH, Ulipur is Quasem Foundation's flagship eye facility with 74 beds and 4 operation theatres, providing comprehensive eye care including Phaco, IOL implantation, and other surgical procedures. Its catchment spans the Lalmonirhat and Kurigram belts, with additional patients from Jamalpur and Gaibandha, reached through OPD, Vision Centers, and community screening. Standardized theatre protocols, pre- and post-operative care, and data-driven quality assurance ensure safe, high-quality surgical outcomes. Affordable medicines, spectacles, and subsidized care pathways make services accessible to underprivileged patients across the region. Through surgical excellence and structured community outreach, MEH Ulipur remains committed to reducing avoidable blindness close to where people live.



MARIUM EYE HOSPITAL  
ULIPUR



MARIUM EYE HOSPITAL  
SAIDPUR

### MEH SAIDPUR

MEH, Saidpur is a 64-bed, 2-theatre facility serving Panchagarh, Thakurgaon, Dinajpur, Nilphamari, and Rangpur districts through OPD, Vision Centers, and community screening referrals. Clinical services include cataract surgery (Phaco and IOL), paediatric eye surgery, and non-cataract procedures such as DCR, DCT, and Pterygium surgery. Standardized protocols, pre-operative evaluation, and structured post-operative follow-ups ensure safe, high-quality outcomes. On-site pharmacy, optical services, and subsidized care pathways keep treatment accessible for underprivileged patients. By integrating outreach, referral, and surgical capacity, MEH Saidpur is committed to reducing avoidable blindness close to where people live.

### MEH RANGPUR

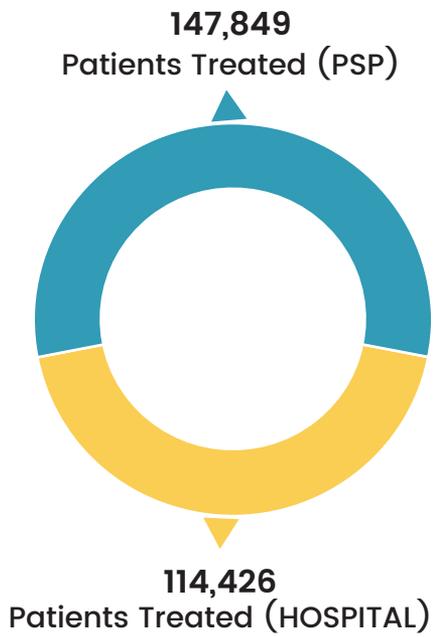
This is a 31-bed, 2-theatre facility serving Rangpur (Pirgacha, Pirganj, Mithapukur, Sadar, Kaunia, Gangachara) and Gaibandha districts through OPD, Vision Centers, and community and school screening referrals. Clinical services include cataract surgery (Phaco and IOL), DCR, DCT, and Pterygium procedures, supported by standardized pre-operative assessment and structured post-operative follow-up. On-site pharmacy, optical counters, and subsidized care pathways ensure essential medicines and spectacles remain accessible to underprivileged patients. The network has recently expanded with new Vision Centers in Pirgacha, Panchagarh, and Kaliganj – all supported by Seva Foundation and operated by Quasem Foundation. By integrating outreach, referral, and surgical capacity, MEH Rangpur remains committed to reducing avoidable blindness and keeping quality eye care close to where people live.



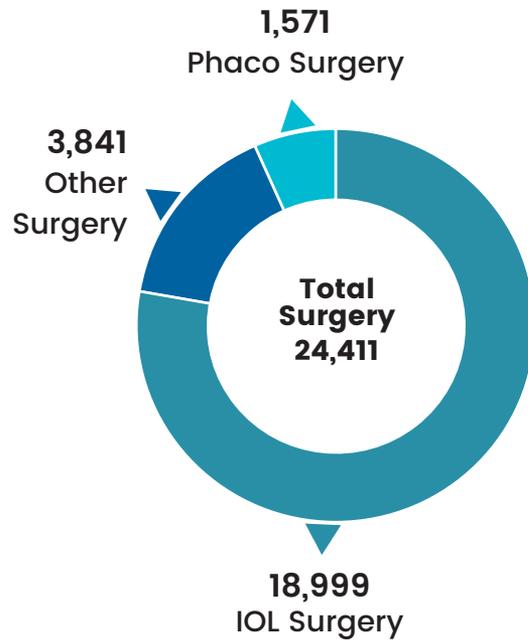
MARIUM EYE HOSPITAL  
RANGPUR

# LAST YEAR'S PERFORMANCE (2024-2025)

## OPD PATIENTS



## CATARACT SURGERIES



# PATIENT SCREENING PROGRAMME (PSP)

## EARLY DETECTION, FAST REFERRAL, REAL SIGHT RESTORED

PSP is the gateway to our eye-care system—finding problems early in the community and moving patients swiftly into treatment. We conduct PSPs across our three base hospitals (MEH Ulipur, MEH Rangpur, MEH Saidpur) with the support of DIN, CBP (Cure Blindness Project) and local organizers. In parallel, every Vision Center hosts a weekly PSP day — except Gaibandha VC—so communities know exactly when and where screening is available.

## WHAT HAPPENS AT A PSP SESSION

- **Screening & triage:** Visual acuity, refraction, basic anterior segment/IOP checks (as available)
- **Case identification:** Priority focus on cataract and other avoidable causes of vision loss
- **Immediate counselling:** Clear guidance on diagnosis, next steps and costs
- **Referral pathway:** Surgical/complex cases are booked or referred directly to the nearest hospital hub
- **Affordable correction:** Prescriptions and low-cost spectacles for refractive error
- **Equity measures:** Priority for ultra-poor and hard-to-reach patients; transport/referral support where needed

## WHY IT MATTERS

By linking village-level screening to hospital care through our hub-and-spoke network (Vision Centers → Hospitals), PSP turns early detection into timely surgery and continuity of care. The result is fewer missed cases, shorter wait times, and more people—especially the most vulnerable—regaining sight with dignity.



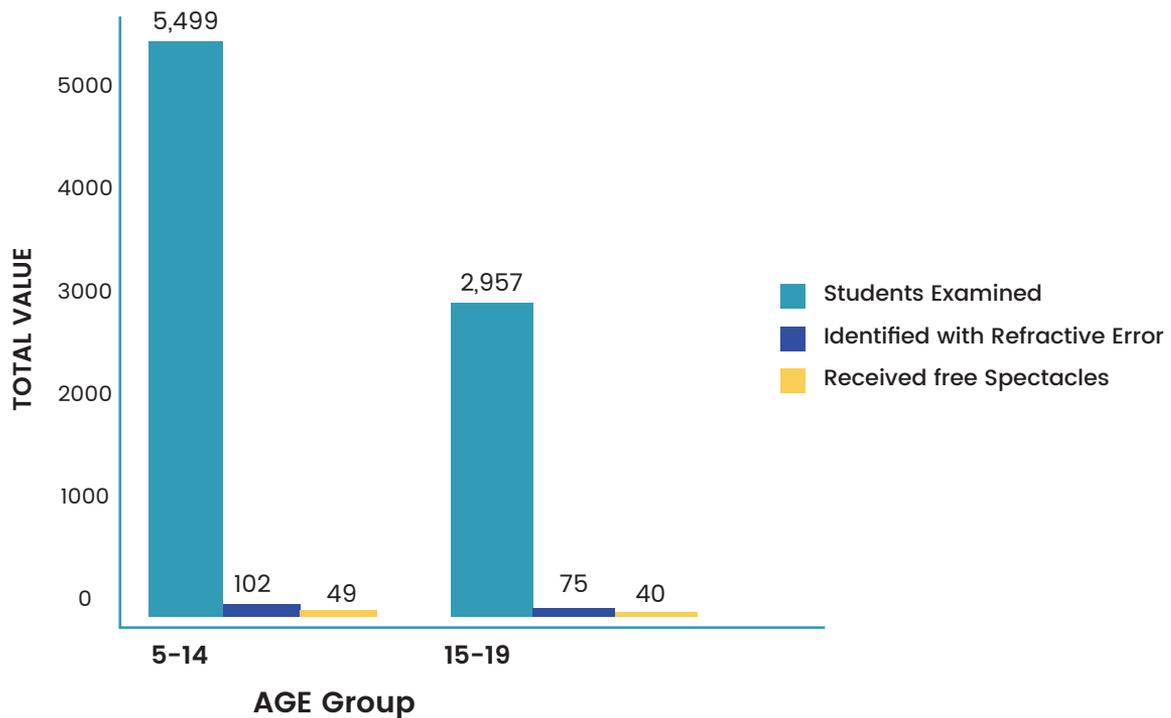
# MEH SCHOOL SIGHT TEST PROGRAMS

## SCHOOL SIGHT TESTING PROGRAMME

Supported by Sightsavers, the Quasem Foundation and Marium Eye Hospital ran a School Sight Testing Programme in Ulipur this year, bringing eye screenings, refraction tests, and free or subsidized spectacles to primary schools, secondary schools, and madrasas. Students with serious conditions are referred to Marium Eye Hospital for specialist care. Teachers are also trained to spot early signs of visual impairment and reduce stigma around wearing glasses. The programme bridges health and education, helping children see better, attend more regularly, and build healthier futures.

“ **WHEN 96% OF STUDENTS  
HAVE NEVER HAD AN EYE TEST  
EVERY SCREENING COUNTS** ”

## SCHOOL SIGHT TESTING 2024-2025



# ADULT CATARACT STORY OF MARIUM EYE HOSPITAL

## PATIENT INFORMATION

**Name** : Putul Mardi  
**Age / Gender** : 70 years / Female  
**Occupation** : Housewife & Day Labourer  
**Location** : Razbari Roghunathpur, Nababgonj  
Upazila, Dinajpur.  
**Hospital** : Marium Eye Hospital, Saidpur,  
Nilphamari  
**Distance Travelled** : 50 KM



“ I thought God was testing me. Everyone called me blind. I was a burden to my family. But Marium Eye Hospital gave back the light of my eyes and my confidence. ”

— Putul Mardi

## HER STORY

Putul Mardi, a 70-year-old Indigenous and housewife from Razbari Roghunathpur, Dinajpur, began losing her vision two years ago due to cataracts. Unable to manage household tasks and fearful of the cost of treatment, she hid her condition from her family. As her sight deteriorated, she felt increasingly helpless — labelled as "blind" by those around her and deeply afraid of becoming a permanent burden to her son, a day labourer with little income to spare.

Hope arrived when she learned through a community announcement that Marium Eye Hospital, Saidpur was organizing a free eye camp at Nababgonj Mohila Degree College on 12 May 2025. Her son brought her to the camp, where doctors diagnosed cataracts in her left eye (vision: 6/36). She underwent cataract surgery the same day at an affordable cost.

When her bandage was removed, Putul smiled and said, "I am not blind — I can see the beautiful world again." When hospital staff visited her home days later, she was overjoyed: "All my fears are gone. I have regained my confidence and can contribute to my family once more. Thank you, Marium Eye Hospital."

## SURGICAL OUTCOME

Pre-operative Vision  
**6/36 (Left Eye)**  
DIAGNOSED: *Cataract*

Post-operative Vision  
**6/9 (Left Eye)**

Surgery Date: 12 May 2025 | Discharge: Same Day | Procedure: Cataract Surgery (Left Eye)

# CHILD CATARACT STORY OF MARIUM EYE HOSPITAL

## PATIENT INFORMATION

<b>Name</b>	: Md. Shihab
<b>Age / Gender</b>	: 12 years / Male
<b>Condition</b>	: Congenital Cataract & Autism
<b>Family Background</b>	: Father: Daily Labourer
<b>Location</b>	: Adanipara, Botlagari Union, Saidpur Upazila, Nilphamari
<b>Hospital</b>	: Marium Eye Hospital, Saidpur
<b>Distance Travelled</b>	: 3 KM



**Just when all hope seemed lost, I got the opportunity to have cataract surgery at Marium Eye Hospital — free of cost. After the operation, I could finally see clearly again. It felt like getting a second chance at life. Now I can study, play, and dream like other children.**



— Md. Shihab

## HIS STORY

Md. Shihab, 12, was born with congenital cataracts and lives with autism in a low-income family in Adanipara, Nilphamari. With vision recorded at CF-IF in both eyes, he could not recognize faces, read, or write — making every day a struggle. His father, a daily labourer, and his housewife mother had no means to afford the treatment their son desperately needed.

Everything changed when Shihab was examined at Marium Eye Hospital, Saidpur, and diagnosed with cataract in his right eye. The surgery was provided entirely free of cost and was successfully performed on 2 June 2025. His post-operative vision improved to 6/60 in the right eye, and he was discharged the following day.

When his bandage was removed, Shihab exclaimed, “I am not blind — I can see the beautiful world again!” Days later, when the hospital team visited his home, he was overjoyed: “All my fears are gone. I can now study and contribute to my family. Thank you, Marium Eye Hospital, for giving me back my sight.” His story is a powerful reminder that timely, compassionate care can transform a life full of struggle into one full of promise.

## SURGICAL OUTCOME

Pre-operative Vision  
**CF-IF (Both Eyes)**  
DIAGNOSED: *Child Cataract*

Post-operative Vision  
**6/60 (Right Eye)**

Surgery Date: 2 June 2025 | Discharge: 3 June 2025 | Procedure: Cataract Surgery (Right Eye)

A close-up photograph of a woman wearing a black headscarf with a white polka-dot pattern. She is gently kissing a newborn baby on the cheek. The baby is wearing a yellow long-sleeved shirt and is looking towards the camera. The woman's hand is visible, supporting the baby's head. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting an outdoor setting. The text 'MATERNITY PROGRAM' is overlaid in the upper right corner.

**MATERNITY  
PROGRAM**

# MATERNAL AND NEWBORN HEALTH SCENARIO IN BANGLADESH

AM&CWC delivers integrated care for mothers, newborns, and infants in underserved communities across Rangpur Division – bridging critical gaps in maternal and child health services where they are needed most.

## BANGLADESH HEALTH INDICATORS & OUR RESPONSE

INDICATOR	NATIONAL CHALLENGE	OUR SOLUTION
<p><b>16.066</b></p> <p>Births per 1,000 People</p>	<p>Comprehensive care from pregnancy through postnatal recovery, including newborn monitoring, immunization, and family planning services.</p>	<p><b>FULL-SPECTRUM MATERNITY CARE</b></p>
<p><b>115.00</b></p> <p>Maternal Mortality Rate</p>	<p>Prenatal monitoring, safe delivery support, and essential diagnostics to protect mothers at every stage.</p>	<p><b>SKILLED MATERNAL CARE</b></p>
<p><b>17.20</b></p> <p>Neonatal Mortality Rate</p>	<p>Incubators, continuous monitoring, and timely medical intervention for the most vulnerable newborns.</p>	<p><b>SPECIALIZED NEWBORN CARE</b></p>
<p><b>19.95</b></p> <p>Infant Mortality Rate</p>	<p>Routine vaccination, treatment for common childhood illnesses, and comprehensive post-delivery support.</p>	<p><b>POST-DELIVERY &amp; CHILD CARE</b></p>
<p><b>~35–40%</b></p> <p>Higher Rural Maternal Risk</p>	<p>Round-the-clock care and diagnostic support for underserved mothers and babies, closer to home.</p>	<p><b>24/7 RURAL ACCESS</b></p>

AM&CWC – Empowering Mothers, Protecting Newborns, Building Healthier Communities

# TIMELINE OF ALEKJAN MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE CENTER

## OUR JOURNEY — A TIMELINE OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

**1958**

### **Foundation & First Maternity Centre**

Alekjan Maternity & Child Welfare Center (AM&CWC) is established in Ulipur, Kurigram — the very first maternity centre in the area. Normal delivery services begin from day one, providing safe birthing care to mothers across the region.

**2008**

### **Caesarean Section Services Begin**

AM&CWC introduces Caesarean Section (C-section) surgery, significantly expanding its capacity to handle complex deliveries and high-risk pregnancies — ensuring safer outcomes for mothers and newborns who need advanced obstetric care.

**2025**

### **Expansion Completed & Inaugurated**

The expanded AM&CWC facility is completed and officially inaugurated, significantly increasing capacity for safe, quality maternal care and offering enhanced clinical services to women and children across the Kurigram region.

**1989**

### **EPI Programme Launched**

The Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) is introduced at AM&CWC, offering essential vaccines for mothers and infants — protecting newborns and young children from preventable diseases and strengthening community health.

**2024**

### **Major Expansion Initiated**

A comprehensive upgrade of AM&CWC is initiated — expanding bed capacity, modernising facilities, and evolving the centre into a full-service OB-GYN and maternal health facility.

**2025**

### **New Satellite Programme Launched**

A new satellite outreach programme is launched, extending AM&CWC's maternal and child health services beyond the main facility — bringing essential care directly to remote and underserved communities.

# OBJECTIVE OF ALEKJAN MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE CENTER

## STRATEGIC GOALS — STRENGTHENING MATERNAL & NEWBORN CARE

1

### **Partner with Local Government**

Strengthen coordination with UHC/Upazila health offices and LGIs to extend ANC/PNC, delivery, pediatrics, and family planning services across the full catchment, including satellite centers.

2

### **Strengthen Monitoring & Evaluation**

Use AHMS dashboards and monthly reviews to track key MNCH indicators — ANC1/ANC4, facility deliveries, PNC ≤48h, low birth weight, and stock-outs — and act on gaps quickly to improve resource allocation.

3

### **Promote Consistent Ante natal & Post natal Care**

Run community outreach sessions and tele-reminders on birth preparedness, danger signs, breastfeeding, and postpartum visits to encourage timely and consistent care-seeking among mothers.

4

### **Reduce Socioeconomic & Geographic Barriers**

Maintain subsidized pricing, referral support, and transport linkage from unions and wards ensuring respectful, woman-centred, quality maternity care is accessible to all, regardless of income or location.

5

### **Sustain Emergency Obstetric & Newborn Care Readiness**

Keep 24/7 EmONC availability with PPH/eclampsia bundles, NRP drills, infection-prevention standards, essential medicine availability, and regular clinical audits to protect mothers and newborns.

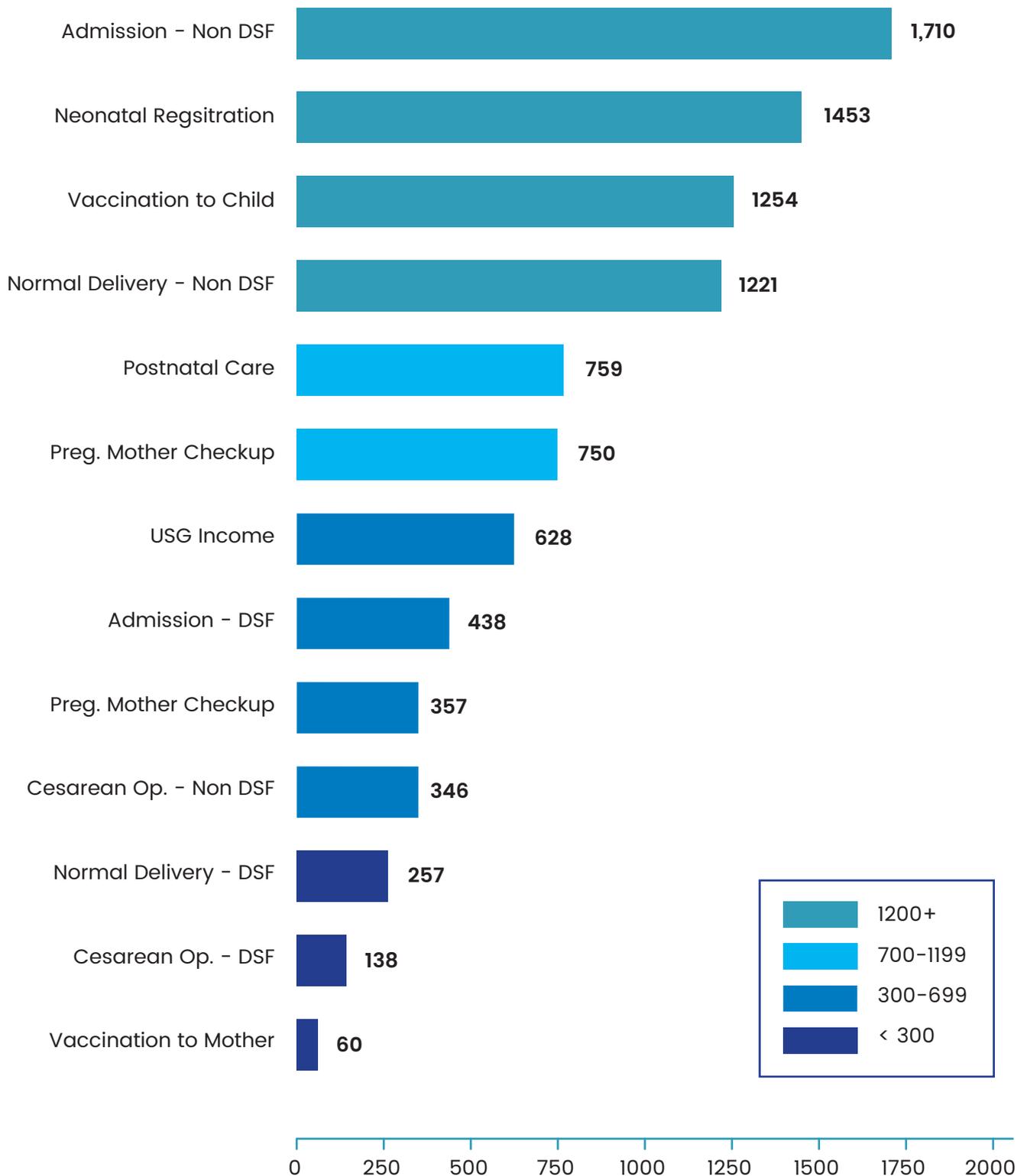
6

### **Provide Culturally Appropriate Health Education**

Distribute easy-to-read Bangla materials, integrate adolescent health and nutrition messaging, and link survivors to GBV and psychosocial support pathways — empowering women and families with rights-based information.

**Together, these goals aim to reach greater numbers of vulnerable mothers and babies with improved safety and continuity of care.**

## PERFORMANCE RECORD OF AM&CWC (2024-25)



## ONGOING DEVELOPMENT OF AM&CWC

In 2025, AM&CWC undertook an extensive construction project to restore its existing infrastructure, implementing modern solutions to ensure long-term sustainability and functionality. This initiative reflects AM&CWC's commitment to maintaining the highest standards across its facilities and core assets.

### EXPANSION & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY

PARAMETER	BEFORE	AFTER
Bed Capacity	24 Beds	40 Beds
Operation Theatre (OT) Rooms	1 Room	2 Rooms
Cabin Facilities	1 Cabin	8 Cabins
Number of Staffs	24 Person	43 Person



## AM&CWC PATIENT CASE STORY

**MST. FARZANA AKTER**  
Name

**26 years**  
Age

**CHILMARI, KURIGRAM**  
Address

**DELIVERY CARE**  
Service



“After receiving care at am&cwc, i felt a positive change in my mindset and mental state. I would recommend this facility to others.”

- Farzana Akter

### BARRIERS BEFORE COMING TO THE FACILITY

**Fear:** Anxiety about childbirth and clinical settings was a key deterrent to seeking timely facility based care.

**Distance:** Geographic remoteness from Chilmari Upazila created logistical challenges in accessing the facility in time.

### SERVICES RECEIVED AT AM&CWC

**Delivery Care:** Received full clinical support during childbirth in a safe, supervised environment.

**Laboratory Tests:** Necessary diagnostic tests were conducted to monitor health during the visit.

**Medicines & Counselling:** Prescribed medicines were provided along with clear guidance on usage and postpartum care.

**Newborn & Child Care:** Essential newborn care services were made available as needed after delivery.

**Registration & Waiting:** The process was smooth and waiting times were reported as satisfactory by the patient.

### PATIENT REFLECTIONS & IMPACT

**Mental Well-being:** Farzana reported a positive shift in her mindset and emotional state after receiving respectful, reassuring care.

**Environment:** She expressed satisfaction with the cleanliness, safety, and overall facility environment at AM&CWC.

**Recommendation:** Based on her experience, Farzana said she would recommend AM&CWC to other expecting mothers in her community.

**Communication:** Service providers explained advice and medicine instructions clearly, and she had no difficulty understanding them.

# AM&CWC SATELLITE PROGRAMME

## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The AM&CWC Satellite Programme is a community-based outreach initiative that delivers essential maternal and child health services directly to underserved and hard-to-reach areas within the AM&CWC catchment. Through scheduled sessions supported by trained medical and field teams, the programme reduces travel burden, improves timely access to care, and ensures proper referral linkage to AM&CWC for continuity of treatment.



## KEY SERVICES DELIVERED

### 01 Basic Consultation

Primary health consultations and treatment for mothers and children at their doorstep.

### 02 Antenatal Care

Scheduled ANC check-ups to monitor maternal health, detect risks early, and prepare mothers for safe delivery.

### 03 Postnatal Care

Follow-up visits for mothers and newborns after delivery to ensure recovery and early detection of complications.

### 04 Family Planning

Counselling and support on family planning options to empower women in making informed reproductive health decisions.

### 05 Health Education

Community sessions on maternal nutrition, danger signs, breastfeeding, hygiene, and child health practices.

### 06 Referral Support

Identification and timely referral of high-risk cases to AM&CWC for facility-based management and continuity of care.

## PROGRAMME IMPACT

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Builds trust and strengthens relationships between health teams and local communities – encouraging consistent use of maternal and child health services.

### EARLY RISK DETECTION

Regular screening at community level enables early identification of complications, ensuring timely referral and reducing preventable adverse outcomes.

### INCREASED UTILIZATION

By reducing travel burden and bringing care closer to home, the programme increases service uptake among women who would otherwise go without care.

### BETTER HEALTH OUTCOMES

Continuous follow-up and referral linkage to AM&CWC ensures continuity of care, contributing to improved maternal and child health outcomes.



# EDUCATION PROGRAM

# NNZ–QUASEM SCHOOL – OVERVIEW

**2022**  
Established

**0.66 Acres**  
Campus Area

**KG – Class 5**  
Current Grades

## ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Established in 2022 through a partnership between Quasem Foundation and Netherlands-based NNZ, the NNZ–Quasem School was created to widen access to quality education in Ulipur, Kurigram. Set on a 66-decimal campus with a two-storey academic block and large playground, the school delivers Kindergarten through Class 5 – building strong foundations in literacy, numeracy, science, social studies, and life skills within a safe, child-friendly environment.

## KEY FEATURES

### Bilingual Curriculum

English and Bangla instruction following the Bangladesh national curriculum, enhanced with activity-based learning and digital literacy sessions.

### Holistic Development

Co-curricular clubs, arts, life skills and sports on a large playground – nurturing values, behaviour and learning etiquette alongside academics.

### Scholarships & Access

Need- and merit-based scholarships keep quality education within reach, supported by regular parent and community engagement.

### Teacher Training

An annual initiative that strengthens educators' capacity to deliver an expanding curriculum and support a complete education pathway.

“ Widening access to quality education  
one child, one classroom, one community at a time. ”

## SUMMARY

<b>STUDENTS</b> <b>165</b>	<b>TEACHERS</b> <b>13</b>	<b>STAFFS</b> <b>14</b>	<b>EVENTS</b> <b>7</b>
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### GENDER SPLIT (STUDENTS)

<b>FEMALE</b> <b>74</b>	<b>MALE</b> <b>91</b>
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## EVENTS AT NNZ – QUASEM SCHOOL

### BOOK FAIR:

Students of NNZ–Quasem School participated in the Ulipur Book Fair 2025, where they explored books, engaged in activities, and were recognized on stage – strengthening their love for reading and community connection.



### DRAWING COMPETITION:

NNZ–Quasem School held a Drawing Competition to foster students' creativity and self-expression, reinforcing its commitment to holistic education beyond the classroom.

### PAHELA BAISHAKH:

NNZ–Quasem School celebrated Pahela Baishakh with vibrant performances in traditional attire, fostering cultural pride, creativity, and community bonding among students.



### ART & MUSIC PROGRAM:

NNZ–Quasem School launched an Art and Music Programme to nurture students' creativity, confidence, and holistic development alongside academics.

## EMBRACING DIGITAL EDUCATION AT NNZ-QUASEM SCHOOL

Here at NNZ-Quasem School, we recognise that smart, technology-enabled classrooms are essential to modern learning. Thoughtful use of digital tools strengthens students' critical thinking, communication, creativity, and teamwork. As highlighted by the World Economic Forum, technology's capacity for instant, interactive feedback makes learning more engaging and memorable. To harness this, we have introduced smart boards and integrated e-learning across lessons—ensuring our students experience an active, collaborative, and future-ready education.



## NEW CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT: ART & MUSIC PROGRAM

NNZ-Quasem School has recently introduced a new Art and Music Programme to support students' creativity and overall development alongside academic learning. Through regular, guided sessions, learners are encouraged to explore drawing, rhythm, and melody in a joyful and supportive environment. The programme is designed to help children express their ideas confidently, improve focus and coordination, and build teamwork through group-based activities.

Early sessions have already shown strong student engagement, with children actively participating, listening, and performing in an interactive setting. By integrating arts into the school routine, NNZ-Quasem School aims to nurture hidden talents, strengthen communication and self-confidence, and promote a more balanced learning experience—helping students grow not only as strong learners, but also as creative and expressive individuals.



# NNZ- QUASEM SCHOOL: A PARENT'S EXPERIENCE

## PARENT PROFILE

### MR. MASUD KORIM

Father of Saiyara Korim Masnoon

Class: KG (Rose)

School: NNZ-Quasem School

## PARENT RATINGS

SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT	★★★★★
CLEANLINESS & SAFETY	★★★★★
TEACHER COMMUNICATION	★★★★★
SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL GROWTH	★★★★
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	★★★★
OVERALL SATISFACTION	★★★★★

Overall: **HIGHLY SATISFIED**  
Recommends to others: **YES**

## EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

### ENVIRONMENT

Spacious, safe, and child-friendly. Masnoon adjusted quickly and stays enthusiastic every day.

### COMMUNICATION

Teachers keep us regularly informed – open, approachable, and highly responsive.

### SOCIAL GROWTH

Masnoon has gained confidence, made friends, and is developing strong communication skills.

### EXTRACURRICULARS

Creative sessions and celebrations boosted teamwork, creativity, and early leadership.



“ This school is building a solid foundation for my child’s future learning and growth. The way children are encouraged, recognized, and guided reflects a genuine commitment to early childhood development. ”



**SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAM**

# SCHOLARSHIP STORY OF CURRENT STUDENT

## PROFILE

### MONIRA SIDDIKA MIM

Joddar Para, Ulipur, Kurigram  
Pallabi Government College, Dhaka  
BBA – Management (2nd Year)

## HER JOURNEY

### KURIGRAM ROOTS & DETERMINATION

Grew up in Joddar Para, Ulipur Upazila – driven by a desire to rise above limitations and build a meaningful career through education.

### 2021 QUASEM FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Received scholarship support from Quasem Foundation, reducing financial barriers and enabling continued focus on academic achievement.

### PRESENT BBA – MANAGEMENT

Currently a 2nd year BBA student (Management) at Pallabi Government College – building strong foundations in business and leadership.

### FUTURE MBA & PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Aspires to pursue an MBA from a reputed university or abroad, and secure a leadership role in the banking or corporate sector.

## SCHOLARSHIP

Supported by Quasem Foundation Scholarship Programme since 2021, making quality education accessible and keeping her academic journey on track.



“ Alhamdulillah, because of this scholarship I am able to continue my studies. I want to be in a good position in a good sector – and I will work hard to get there. ”

– Monira Siddika Mim

## SUCCESS STORY OF FORMER STUDENT



### ASHIKUR RAHMAN

Officer General  
Janata Bank

#### PROFILE

Ulipur, Kurigram  
B.A. & M.A., World Religions  
University of Dhaka  
Janata Bank Limited  
Barafechi Bazar, Sunamganj  
Joined: July 2025

#### JOURNEY TO IMPACT

##### Ulipur Roots & Ambition

Grew up in Ulipur, Kurigram — balancing ambition with limited resources, driven by a desire to create impact.

##### Dhaka Academic Excellence

Pursued B.A. & M.A. in World Religions & Culture at University of Dhaka, developing analytical and communication strengths.

##### Scholarship Quasem Foundation Support

Received scholarship support that reduced financial pressure and allowed full focus on learning and self-development.

##### Jul 2025 Professional Entry

Joined Janata Bank Limited as Officer (General) at Barafechi Bazar Branch, Sunamganj — beginning a career in public banking service.

“

I'm continuing to grow as a young professional, carrying forward the confidence built through education and support — turning opportunity into meaningful service impact. ”

- Ashikur Rahman

#### SCHOLARSHIP

Quasem Foundation Scholarship Programme supported his academic journey, reducing financial barriers and enabling focused learning.

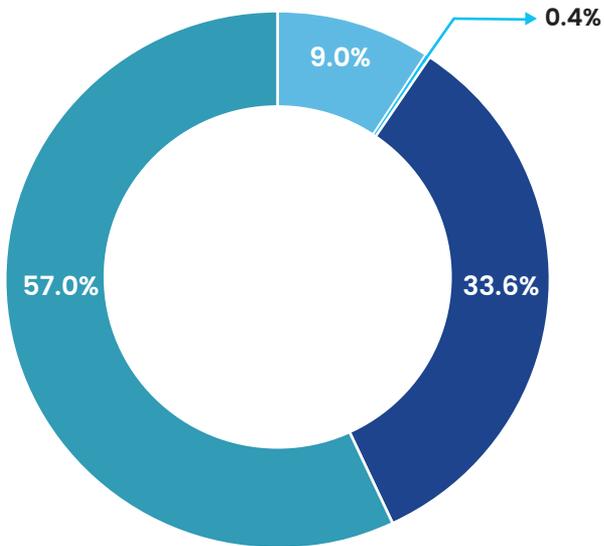
## RELIEF INITIATIVES

Quasem Foundation upholds its humanitarian commitment through timely, people-centred relief across underserved communities. During the peak winter season, the Foundation – under the banner of Consular Corps in Bangladesh – distributed blankets in Ulipur and Kurigram, providing essential warmth to elderly people, women, and low-income households. In 2024–25, the Foundation also responded swiftly to flooding across Rangpur Division, delivering essential relief items to displaced families in coordination with local representatives. Conducted with fairness and transparency, both initiatives reflect Quasem Foundation's steadfast resolve to stand beside vulnerable communities in times of need.



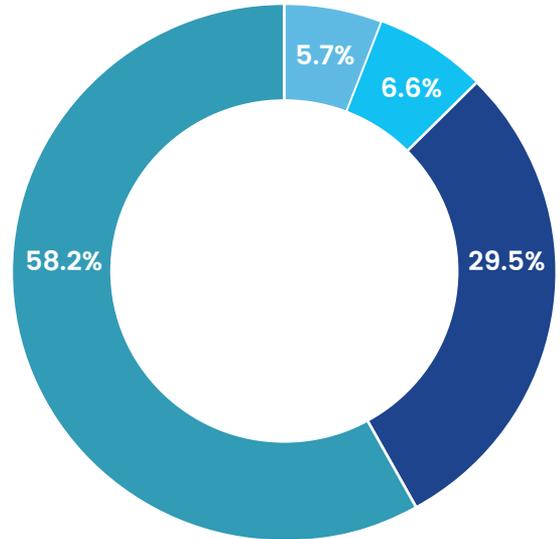
# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS 2024-25

## INCOME BREAKDOWN (2024-2025)



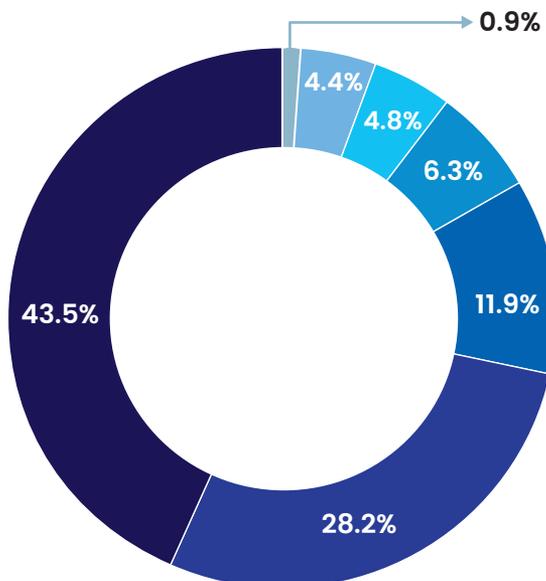
- Revenue Income (57.0%)
- Donations (33.6%)
- Other Income (0.4%)
- Government Grants (9.0%)

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN (2024-2025)



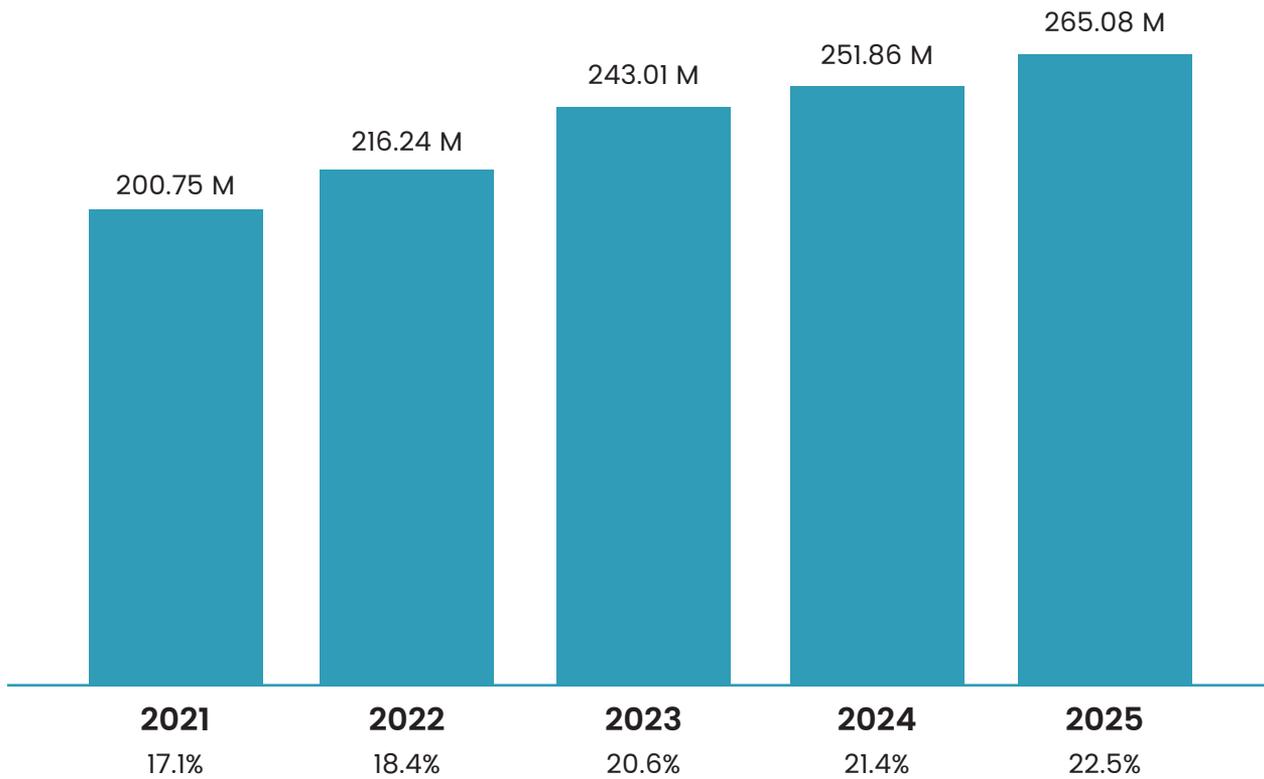
- Payroll Expenses (58.2%)
- Program Expenses (29.5%)
- Capital Expenses (6.6%)
- Admin Expenses (5.7%)

## DONATIONS BREAKDOWN (2024-2025)

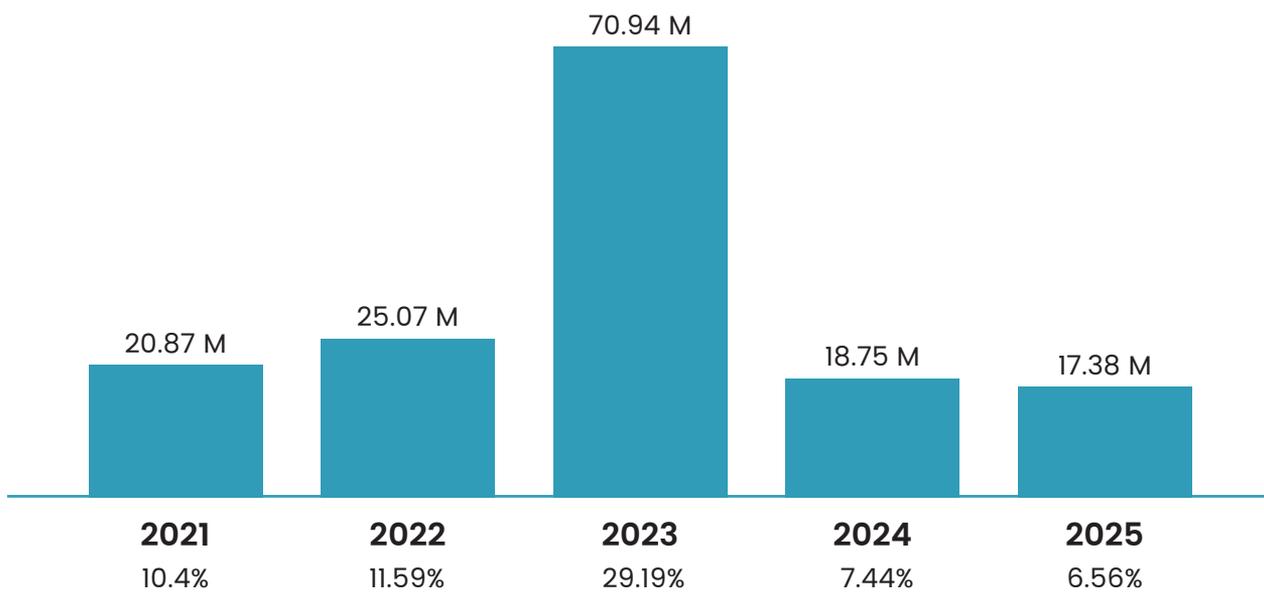


- DIN (43.5%)
- Sightsavers (28.2%)
- CBP (11.9%)
- Seva (6.3%)
- Quasem Lamps Ltd. (4.8%)
- Quasem Industries PLC (4.4%)
- BRAC (0.9%)

## FIXED ASSET (2021-2025)



## YEARLY INVESTMENT IN FIXED ASSET (2021-2025)



## OUR PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS



NGO AFFAIRS BUREAU



OUR OTHER LOCAL PARTNERS	INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS
Eco Social Development Organization (ESDO)	Mr. Md. Iqbal Azim
Gram Bikash Kendro (GBK)	Mr. Asifullah Milu
Social Agency for Welfare and Advancement in Bangladesh (SAWAB)	Brigadier General Shafi Md. Mehboob
Dost AID Foundation	Mr. Mahbulul Alam
Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Service (RDRS)	Mr. Mirza Akter Maruf
Rotary Club of Dhaka central	Dr. Zayed Ikram
Lions Club of Saidpur	Humayun Reza
Self-Hey & Rehabilitation Programme (SHARP)	Mr. Md. Tariq Abul Ala
Mohila Bohomukhi Unnayan Kendro (MBSK)	Aslam Hayat Anis
Donate For Good	Mr. Anowarul Islam
Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha (TMSS)	Dilras Banu
Moyeen Foundation	Imtiaz Shafiq

## CONTACT US

### MARIUM EYE HOSPITAL (MEH)

#### Ulipur Branch

K.C Road, Ulipur 5620, Kurigram,  
Mobile: 01788-150591, 01716-291713

#### Saidpur Branch

Niyamatpur, Nilphamari By-pass Road,  
Saidpur, Nilphamari.  
Mobile: 01773-807526

#### Rangpur Branch

Abdullah Complex, Sathmatha, Rangpur,  
Mobile: 01716-291798

### ALEKJAN MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE CENTER (AMCWC)

Doyal Para, Ulipur, Kurigram  
Mobile: 01712-978136

### NNZ-QUASEM SCHOOL

Narkelbari, Ulipur, Kurigram  
Mobile: 01714-011021  
[www.nnzquasemschool.com](http://www.nnzquasemschool.com)

### MEH- VISION CENTER

#### Vision Center, Nageshwari

Bolditari, Nageshwari  
Mobile: 01794-806186

#### Vision Center, Gaibandha

Palashbari Road, Gaibandha Sadar,  
Gaibandha, Mobile: 01745-434199

#### Vision Center, Domar

DB Road, Domar, Nilphamari.  
Mobile: 01799-788132

#### Vision Center, Rowmari

College Road, Rowmari, Kurigram.  
Mobile: 01964-242470

#### Vision Center, Gobindoganj

Sub-Register Office Road, Gobindoganj,  
Gaibandha. Mobile: 01325-661985

#### Vision Center, Phulbari

West of Muktijoddha Complex, Phulbari,  
Dinajpur.  
Mobile: 01758-615151

#### Vision Center, Pirgacha

Shyamoli Villa, adjacent to Walton Plaza,  
Pirgacha-Rangpur Road, Pirgacha,  
Rangpur.  
Mobile: 01333-442165

#### Vision Center, Panchagarh

C & B Road, Near Moitri Petrol Pump,  
Dhakkamara, Pahchagarh.  
Mobile: 01785- 272771

#### Vision Center, Kaliganj

Kaliganj-Patgram Road (In front of Kaliganj  
Thana) .  
Mobile: 01335129340



QUASEM  
FOUNDATION

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progati Sarani North Baridhara, Dhaka,  
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