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**Title:** Need to release funds for Sankara Eye Hospital, Coimbatore and its new unit at Guntur in Andhra Pradesh - Laid.

SHRI Y.V. RAO (GUNTUR) : The Government of India is presently implementing the World Bank aided Scheme called National programme for Control of Blindness. Shri Kanchi Kamakoti Medical Trust Sanakra Eye Society is running "Sankara Eye Hospital" at Coimbatore. The society is a Non-Government Organization working towards the removal of blindness under the National Programme for Control of Blindness.

The Sankara Eye Hospital at Coimbatore performed around 40,000 eye surgeries in the hospital with the state-of-the-art technology last year. The society has also started "Guntur Sanakara Eye Hospital" at Guntur, Andhra Pradesh with Rs. 20 crores initial expenditure for 100% free service. Even though the society is performing yeomen service towards removal of blindness under the NPCB Scheme, the Sanakara Eye Hospital at Coimbatore has not received the funds from the Central Government and also Rs. 2 crores from the DBCS in Tamil Nadu, which are due to it.

I, therefore, request Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare to intervene in the matter and have funds released to Sankara Eye Hospital, Coimbatore. Funds may also be provided to new hospital started at Guntur.