

## I'm glad that I can take care of my children again



60 yr old Sahoo lives in Hindol block of Dhenkanal distirct. She lives with her daughter and two grandchildren in a small house in a remote village called sana Hindol. To get to her house one has to cross a narrow improvised bridge and she usually fears to cross that bridge because of her poor vision. His husband Banamali works as a Truck driver, so he drives vehicles from one state to other state and hardly comes to home.

Mrs. Sahoo has not been able to see well for several years. In the village she had heard that it is possible to have eye surgery. However, she thought this was so scary that she always delayed it. The vision of Mrs. Sahoo became extremely limited and she could hardly do anything independently. She was very dependent on the help of her family, which made her feel ashamed. When she could



no longer care for her grandchildren and her daughter had to stop working to be there for her children, Mrs. Sahoo decided to attend the eye camp that was organised in their village by Kalinga Eye Hospital, Dhenkanal. But there are still some concerns in the back of her mind that, even if she agrees for surgery then where will she arranges money for the surgery? It was the counsellor, who has cleared off all her concerns and finally she given her nod for the surgery.

Mrs. Sahoo had cataracts in both eyes. She had a successful cataract operation on her right eye on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and now she is able to see again. Dalimba remembers how she felt: "I am very happy that I have undergone surgery and can see well again. Now I can take care of my grandchildren again and my daughter can go to work. I know better than anyone how important good eye care is. I tell everyone that they need to have their eyes checked".

