

# Press Release

Tuesday, 31 March 2015

## [Standard Chartered Bank hands over NPR 5.5 Million to Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology in support of its Seeing is Believing initiative](#)

Standard Chartered Bank Nepal has handed over an amount of NPR 5.5 million (USD Fifty thousand equivalent) to Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology (TIO). The funding is part of a financial grant of USD 1.0 million (NPR One Hundred million only) agreed earlier by the Bank for funding a major expansion project by (TIO). The project aims to reduce avoidable blindness by developing a surgical facility in rural and semi-urban areas.

The objective of this project is to construct two permanent eye centres in two districts, upgrade Bhaktapur District Community Eye Centre (DCEC) into Secondary Level Eye Centre (SLEC) and upgrade Nuwakot DCEC into a periodic surgical facility. The project also aims to create an awareness of eye care among school teachers through training program; train 750 primary school teachers on basic eye care; screen school children and supply 3,810 spectacles and provide cataract surgery service to people in need through cross-subsidy model.

At a special function organised in the Bank today, Joseph Silvanus, Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered Bank Nepal Limited handed over a cheque of NPR 5.5 million to Nabin Rai, Project Manager of TIO.

On the occasion, Mr Silvanus stated that “Standard Chartered is honoured to be associated with the work of Tilganga, a world class facility for dealing with avoidable blindness. This support of NPR 5.5 million is a part of the Bank’s Seeing is Believing programme which has a target of raising USD 100 million for the prevention of avoidable blindness.”

It may be recalled that the Bank had earlier extended a financial support of USD 1 Million to the Biratnagar Eye Hospital (EREC-P) under the Groups’ Seeing Believing Phase IV program.