



India has successfully eliminated trachoma, a leading cause of preventable blindness, as confirmed by the World Health Organization (WHO).

### What is Trachoma?

Trachoma is a debilitating eye disease caused by the bacterium *Chlamydia trachomatis*.

### Transmission and Symptoms

- **Mode of transmission:** Personal contact, contaminated surfaces, or flies.
- **Symptoms:** Eyelash misalignment, corneal damage, visual impairment, and eventual blindness.
- **At-risk age group:** Typically affects individuals between 30-40 years.

### WHO's SAFE Strategy

To eliminate trachoma, WHO recommends the SAFE strategy:

- **Surgery** for trichiasis cases.
- **Antibiotics** (notably azithromycin) to eliminate infection.
- **Facial cleanliness** to reduce transmission.
- **Environmental improvements**, such as access to clean water and sanitation

# India Eliminates Trachoma



### Fact

- *Despite India's success, trachoma remains a global health issue in 39 countries, causing blindness in 1.9 million people worldwide.*

