



# Robotic Cataract Surgery Breakthrough

- **Where & When:**
  - Performed at the Army Hospital Research & Referral (AHRR), Delhi Cantonment.
  - This marks the first-ever robotic custom laser cataract surgery in a government hospital in India.
  - The procedure used the advanced ALLY Adaptive Cataract Treatment System.
- **Significance:**
  - India is now the second country in South Asia where this robotic cataract surgery has been performed in a government setup.
  - Represents a major technological leap in ophthalmic surgery, especially within the public healthcare system.
  - Will benefit defence personnel, veterans, and their families who depend on AHRR for tertiary care.
- **Technology Details:**
  - The ALLY system combines femtosecond laser precision with advanced robotic guidance.
  - Customizes treatment for each patient based on eye measurements.
  - Reduces dependency on manual incisions and phacoemulsification.
  - Results in improved precision, reduced surgical trauma, faster recovery, and better refractive outcomes.

- **Patient Benefits:**
  - Faster post-surgery rehabilitation.
  - Improved visual outcomes compared to conventional cataract surgery.
  - Potential reduction in complications, especially for patients with complex cataract profiles.
  - Enhanced safety for elderly and high-risk patients.
- **Wider Context in India:**
  - Cataract is the leading cause of blindness in India, contributing to over 60% of avoidable blindness cases.
  - While phacoemulsification remains the standard, robotic laser cataract surgery is a step towards next-gen precision eye care.
  - Integration into government hospitals may pave the way for wider public access, beyond private high-end eye centres.
- **Future Scope:**
  - AHRR will serve as a training hub for military ophthalmologists.
  - If successful, the technology may be scaled to other AIIMS and major government hospitals.
  - Possibility of inclusion under Ayushman Bharat or defence healthcare coverage to expand affordability.

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👉 This development places India at the forefront of ophthalmic robotics in South Asia, with potential long-term impact on both public healthcare accessibility and global recognition of Indian medical innovation.