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After the WHO eradicated smallpox, many Western and South Asian medical professionals hoped to eradicate avoidable blindness. Public health, ophthalmology, and other professionals from India, Nepal, Israel, the UK, the USA, Denmark, the Netherlands, and Australia formed strong personal and professional links. They began an autonomous global network with specific advocacy goals and a cognitive rule to eradicate and control blindness that guided their future efforts. 


Key points:

i. Members present: During the inaugural function, 8 health ministers from the 11 countries of the WHO South East Asia Region (SEAR), Smt. Preeti Sudan, Health and Family Welfare (HFW) Secretary, Dr. Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director, WHO South-East Asia Region were present.

ii. Address by Harsh Vardhan: Poshan Maah: The month of September is observing as ‘Poshan Maah’ (Nutrition Month) addressing malnutrition problems and improve healthy eating and move towards ‘Malnutrition-Free India’.

Eat Right India: With the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India’s (FSSAI) adoption of fo