

Narayana Hrudayalaya to Set up Hospitals

Low cost hospitals will be set up throughout the country with a total of 30,000 beds, says Devi Prasad Shetty



Cardiologist Devi Prasad Shetty, D Veerendra Heggade and others at the inauguration of a Foundation Day Lecture at SDMIMD on Saturday | S Udayashankar

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Mysore: Narayana Hrudayalaya Group of Hospitals founder and chairman

Dr Devi Prasad Shetty said on Saturday that they are in the process of setting up low cost hospitals across the country with a total of 30,000 beds to provide health care at an affordable cost.

He was delivering the Foundation Day lecture at the SDM Institute for Man-

agement Development (SDMIMD) here.

He said the hospitals that they built at a cost of \$6 million will have no centralised air-condition facility as it will lead to infection and spouses of the patients will play the role of nurses.

Stanford University is preparing a curriculum to train spouses on nursing. Patients will be discharged within some days of surgery following which spouses will take care of them at home.

No one can take care of a patient better than their spouse, he felt.

Stating that India is the world's largest health care market and the existing corporate hospitals in the country constitutes no less than 0.1 per cent, Shetty said there are huge opportunities for entrepreneurs and management professionals as it has already turned out to be the second largest employer after the agricultural sector. Stating that only 10 per cent

of people are getting modern health care facilities not due to lack of money, but due to lack of management principles applied in the sector, he said, "its time management professionals put the better system in place at hospitals so that doctors can concentrate more on their actual work."

Taking a critical view of the healthcare facilities in the country, he said a lot needs to be changed in this regard. "Health care has been on the same slab with film theatres and malls when it comes to paying electricity bills. On the other hand, only one per cent of GDP is being spent on healthcare in the country as compared to 17 per cent in the US. In India, only 1 lakh, out of 25 lakh people in a year can afford heart operation," he said. There is acute shortage of medical colleges, doctors and nurses in the country. The government should open medical colleges around every district with special focus on Naxal-hit areas. "We cannot afford to spend the tax payers money on public health care," he said.