NatHealth Keen on ‘Digital India’ Tie-up With TN Dept

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Chennai: NatHealth, a healthcare body in India, is ready to tie-up with the State Health Department to extend digitalised healthcare service to people under the banner ‘Digital India’. Various health care companies participated in the governing council meet of NatHealth in the city on Friday, and discussed the ‘Digital India’ project.

Speaking on the sidelines of the event, Sushobhan Dasgupta, president NatHealth, said efforts to transform India into a connected knowledge economy and offering world class services at the click of a mouse was the aim of NatHealth.

The company had signed an MoU with NASSCOM to leverage technology to address healthcare challenges in India.

Anjan Bose, secretary general, NatHealth, said India’s mobile penetration has increased at 3 per cent, smartphones at 70 per cent and Internet at 22 per cent. “NatHealth would be tapping these resources and using them to engage people in healthy living and prevention of diseases,” he added.

State Health Secretary J Radhakrishnan said that in the government sector, manpower and resources were unequally distributed and to balance these two, the role of private partners was important. “We would welcome it if NatHealth comes out with new plans and may also look for future collaborations, if needed,” he added.

NatHealth officials assured that they would come up with a good healthcare providing facility suitable for Tamil Nadu, and expressed their interest in collaborating with the government. Dr Preetha Reddy, vice chairperson, Apollo Group of Hospitals, also spoke at the event.

India has mobile penetration increasing at 3%, smartphones at 70% and Internet at 22% and NatHealth is going to use this to engage people in healthy living

— Anjan Bose, NatHealth, Secretary General.

NatHealth’s aim is to transform India into a connected knowledge economy and to offer world class services at the click of a mouse.
Rising costs, choosy doctors affecting healthcare: Top official

Chennai: High cost of services and uneven distribution of human resources are the biggest challenges faced by the government sector in delivery of health services, said health secretary Dr J Radhakrishnan. Last year, the state government spent ₹8,245 crore on health services, and the costs are going up rapidly. “A strong public-private collaboration can help tackle these challenges,” he said.

Speaking at the NATHEALTH southern roundtable conference in the city on Friday, the official pointed out that most of the doctors preferred to work in cities, ignoring rural areas. They should be motivated to practice in remote areas too. “What they do not understand is that they have a lot of scope when they open clinics in smaller towns,” he said.

The important sectors where healthcare in the country needs a boost is data management, telemedicine, skill development and innovation, said Sushobhan Dasgupta, president of NATHEALTH. “So we have decided to focus on the ‘Digital India’ initiative where NATHEALTH has joined hands with Nasscom to maximise digitization in India,” he said. This will go a long way in practicing preventive healthcare, he added.

Pointing out that IT has a transformational potential in healthcare, Anjan Bose, secretary general of NATHEALTH said that Tamil Nadu will be a potential state for conducting pilots on digitisation. “We will soon be submitting a report with suggestions for betterment of healthcare,” he added.
NATHEALTH pledges support to PM’s initiative of ‘Digital India’

Chennai, July 11: NATHEALTH, the apex Healthcare Body in India, extended its support and appreciated Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s sendeavour to go digital.

Sushobhan Dasgupta, President, NATHEALTH said, PM’s efforts to transform India into a connected knowledge economy and offering world class services at the click of a mouse through Digital India programme, is truly commendable. Initiative of using mobile and internet strategies - such as telemedicine, doctors on call and remote patient monitoring will help in improving the access of quality healthcare universally.

Anjan Bose, Secretary General NATHEALTH said, using wearable and mobile technology will help educate and engage citizens in healthy living and prevention of diseases...India has Mobile Penetration increasing at 3%, Smartphones at 70% and Internet at 22%...Innovations in ‘Digital Healthcare’ will enable solutions across the healthcare value chain.

We aim to leverage digital technology for innovative solutions which will help both Healthcare and IT sectors grow further. Emerging technologies like cloud, analytics, pervasive presence of mobile telephony and broadband penetration has created new opportunities for both healthcare and technology sectors to collaborate and increase Healthcare quality, accessibility and affordability, informed Mr. Bose.

As Digital India is an umbrella programme including several schemes for inclusive growth in multiple sectors through digitalization of services, it would help us to create self-sustaining models in healthcare that will enable the rapid growth of the services, by creation of digital infrastructure and service delivery through digital mode, added Mr. Dasgupta.