

24-hour helpline for psychiatric services

PBD BUREAU

NEW DELHI, 12 OCT

VANDREVALA Foundation, Mental Health Initiative-India which runs a 24x7 mental health helpline in various parts of the country, today announced the launch of its helpline operations in the city in association with Emmanuel hospital association, St Stephen's hospital and the Mar Thoma Church. This launch of the helpline in the city is part of foundation's vision to reach out and provide medical assistance to a large number of patients, specially the underprivileged who need help.

The helpline 1860 266 2345 was inaugurated by Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit dedicating it to the service of the city and North India.

Arun John, executive vice president, Vandrevalla foundation said, "the Delhi helpline is part of our mission to provide assistance to a larger number of patients as statistics show that the capital city requires this initiative. Mind is the most essential asset of our country and protecting it is essential. In mental health often people know they need help but do not know where to get it. We intend to fill this void through the helpline."

Speaking on the occasion, Ashwani Kumar president, Delhi Psychiatry Society said, "we are very pleased to note that the services of a 24x7 national mental health helpline are being introduced in the city."



Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit lighting the lamp to inaugurate Vandrevalla foundation's launch mental health helpline in New Delhi on Wednesday —PBD photo by Gajendra Singh