

# Unique medical project to take care of parents of NRIs

## Our Correspondent

**Kolkata:** Now, a simple overseas call will be enough to treat one's ailing parents in India. Starting from transportation, check-ups, hospitalisation and the final discharge at home, all will be taken care of by a private medical service provider.

For the first time in India, a unique project to provide medical support to NRIs with aged parents back home in India was launched on Wednesday by private healthcare provider Medica Synergie.

Be it the financial lure, better living standards or the chance to do well in life, more and more young Indians are looking westward for job opportunities. A large number of these young people are settling abroad, having to leave behind aged parents to fend for themselves.

In times of need, particularly medical emergencies, children settled abroad are completely helpless and unable to help their parents in any way. In spite of being financially well-off, they cannot find any peace of mind as they are nagged by thoughts of having abandoned their parents.

Healthcare for Overseas Parents and Elders (HOPE) is a unique scheme initiated by the healthcare provider for the benefit of elderly parents of young professionals settled abroad, who do not have any support system to deal with medical emergencies. The scheme promises to hold the hands of such people when it is most required.

"The idea cropped up during my visit to the North America Bangla Convention in July. There were so many Bengalis and all were worried about their parents' well-being but were helpless," said Alok Roy, the hos-



## HELPING HAND

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The main facilities for the HOPE beneficiary include help in getting doctors' appointments, having prescribed tests carried out and medicine purchase from an in-house pharmacy. Long-term medication would be sent to homes as per schedule every month.

Ambulance services would be provided round-the-clock for emergencies and transportation organised for hospital visits if required.