

Tekst 7

Medical tourism in India

Regarding the article "India's healthy appeal" (Aug. 31): India has been an exporter of medical doctors for some time. And now, as the article shows, it has excess capacity in health care facilities, skilled manpower and sophisticated technology, and the country has put this all on offer to high-paying clients worldwide who wish to go there for medical treatment.

There is, however, an urban-rural imbalance in the distribution of medical care facilities in India. Nearly 80 percent of its (mainly poor) population lives in the villages, while 80 percent of its medical manpower and health-care facilities are in the cities.

There is nothing wrong with promoting medical tourism if it is done as an initiative of the private sector in a market economy. But when the national government promotes the initiative, it raises serious questions of morality, social justice and equitable distribution of resources in a country where a large proportion of the population is poor and without access to proper medical care.

India's pious goal of providing health care for all exists only on paper. I have not seen any substantial evidence of translating this goal into action.

S. Shivananda

International Herald Tribune

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- “Medical tourism in India” (titel)
S. Shivananda heeft hier een uitgesproken idee over.
- 1p **28** In welke regels wordt zijn/haar mening met argumentatie expliciet weergegeven?
Schrijf de regelnummers op.
- 1p **29** How can the tone of the last 2 paragraphs best be characterised?
- A As approving.
 - B As critical.
 - C As disbelieving.
 - D As furious.
 - E As surprised.