

# 'Country needs health model that takes care of rich, poor alike'

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D R MEHTA, founder of Bhagwan Mahavir Viklang Sahyata Samiti, known for the production of 'The Jaipur Foot', a cost-effective rubber-based prosthetic leg for people with below-knee amputations, has underlined the need to introduce a new health model for the country.

Mehta was speaking after receiving the annual national award instituted by the MIT Group of Institutions here on Monday.

"There has to be a debate on the existing health model in the country. Several hospitals receive a range of concessions from the government, but poor people are not allowed inside. We need a new kind of health model, which will take care of health needs of all," he said.

Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo, BJD leader and MP from Orissa; M S Pillai, founder-director of Sadhana Centre for Management and Leadership Development; and a TV journalist were also honoured at the function.



**Scientist R A Mashelkar honours Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo, BJD leader and MP from Orissa, at MIT's annual national award ceremony on Monday.**

PAVAN KHENGRE

Mehta, who is a recipient of the Padma Bhushan, appealed to youngsters to work for inner satisfaction rather than monetary aims. "Everyday, I see smiles on the faces of people who benefit from our products. This inner satisfaction has no match," he said.

Deo said every politicians should not be gauged by the same yardstick, and those who work for the well-being of people should be backed.

"Educational institutions should aim at awakening the minds of individuals. With awakened individuals, we can have an awakened nation. This should be the ideology behind imparting education," Pillai said.

Padma Vibhushan R A Mashelkar, Padma Shri Vijay Bhatkar, MIT founder Vishwanath Karad and MIT awards convener Rahul Karad were also present.