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Surgery Transforming Lives of People With Deformities

by Mohammed Yacoub

Shantigram (Puttapparti): Saravanan, a 34-year-old legal advisor with a private firm in Chennai, was suffering from trauma-related deformity for the last three years and had difficulty moving due to a problem in his left ankle.

After having approached many specialists in Chennai, he had lost all hope of being able to keep his foot down and walk properly. Fortunately for him, a relative of his, who works with Sathya Sai Hospital in Puttapparti, gave him new hope.

He followed instructions given at the hospital regularly for the last few weeks. He was chosen for Ilizarov surgery by experts from European countries, who have put in many years of practice in this technique.

At a live surgery organised



Delegates from India and abroad at the concluding ceremony of the three-day conference on 'Ilizarov-Evolution and Applications' at Puttapparti. SSSIHMS, Prasanthigram Director Dr Gurumurthy looks on

by the Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Medical Sciences on Sunday, as a part of the three-day International Orthopaedic Conference, he was operated upon.

"I am also suffering from sickle cell anaemia. However, the doctors took me into confidence and conducted the surgery. They say in six weeks, I will be able to see the results and by the end of

three months, I should be able to walk," he said.

Dr Alexander Kirienko, San Raffaele - Milano (MI) Italia, an expert in bone lengthening and congenital malformations correction, said, "The patient was doing well after the operation and he will walk soon." He termed the concept of free healthcare for all at Sathya Sai Hospital, amazing. The

government should also come forward to popularise such techniques, he said.

At the conference, other patients with deformities such as congenital and trauma deformity were also operated upon. These were surgeries on the leg for correction of bone issues, said Dr D S Sundaresh Dabir, chairman of the event.

Dr Guilherme Bottino

CURTAINS ON 3-DAY MEET

The three-day Sri Sathya Sai International Orthopaedic Conference-2015 on 'Ilizarov-Evolution and Applications' organised by the Department of Orthopaedics of SSSIHMS, Prasanthigram concluded on Sunday.

Martins, consultant from Menino Jesus Hospital, Brazil, said that governments should take special interest in promoting medical education and knowledge exchange programmes.

Dr RA Agrawal, president of ASAMI, India, who has worked in correcting deformities in bones for polio patients, says this procedure is biomechanics which applies principles of engineering and medical sciences. "The patient has to come once in a

month or two to replace the wires from the fixators, which will cost around ₹1,000."

Dr Milind Chaudhary MS (Orth) is a pioneer in the field of Ilizarov technique in India. Over the last decade, he has performed some of the most difficult and intricate surgeries, perfected its routine applications and has introduced several new operations using this system.

He has to his credit the longest limb lengthening operation performed in India. Dr Chaudhary has perfected this procedure and given a new lease of life to several children with dwarfism. He practises at the Govt Medical College at Akola, Maharashtra. "From 10 cm to up to 27 cm of limb lengthening can be done and a reasonable height can be given. This can help people use utility facilities such as toilets and stairs better," he said.