

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a black sari with gold and blue floral embroidery, sits on a brown leather armchair in a traditional Indian living room. The room features a red fireplace, a wooden cabinet with teal glass doors, a bookshelf, and various framed pictures and decorative items. In the foreground, a wooden coffee table holds silver candelabras, a lit candle, and other decorative objects.

HER HELPING HAND

Running an NGO that's actively involved in bridging the gap between patients from all sections of society and healthcare providers, Indiritta Singh D'mello is carrying forward her family's royal legacy of supporting those who aren't privileged.

Her innate need to give back to society is what drives Indiritta Singh D'mello. Granddaughter of Raja Pratap Singh of Kutchaman, Indiritta was deeply affected by the illness of a close family member, which is why she decided to work in healthcare. After graduating from the University of Oxford in philosophy, politics and economics, the lady knew she simply had to come back to India and work in the area of social development. Especially since she had grown up watching her mother, Rajkumari Priti Pratap Singh—who claims her lineage as one of the last descendants of Mirabai—work towards reviving the crafts of Rajasthan, doggedly championing the cause. Indiritta's late father Rudolf D'mello was actively involved in the freedom movement of Goa, and was later posted as an ambassador to Cuba, where she was born.

"After having worked in hospitals and seen what patients/attendants go

through, I realised there was a need to start an unbiased service which would guide patients to the right doctors," says Indiritta. "It is paradoxical that India is emerging as a hub for medical tourism, yet we are not able to provide healthcare to all sections of our people."

This lacuna egged her on to set up the Hospital Guide Foundation (HGF), an NGO with a vision to revolutionise healthcare in India by making quality healthcare accessible to all sections of society. "It's a free service. Patients are not charged, neither is there any commercial transaction with suggested healthcare providers or doctors, thus ensuring unbiased suggestions," she elaborates. Currently in Delhi and Bangalore, HGF is also working in the rural areas to drive accessibility in healthcare through technology. "Our aim is to make the best healthcare advice accessible to all sections of society."

Block georgette embroidered sari by Kapi & Monika; earrings, necklace & bangles from Lolo—The Makers of Fine Jewellery

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