

## Mpower and NIMHANS sign strategic MoU for access to mental health services across India

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This MoU will help support Mpower to approach State Government to extend expert resource support to handle Tele MANAS services as add-on Tele MANAS Cells

Mpower, a mental health initiative of the Aditya Birla Education Trust, has signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NIMHANS (National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences) to support the implementation of Tele MANAS services across India.

As part of the collaboration, Mpower will be responsible for setting up, operating, and managing all day-to-day affairs for Tele MANAS centres that are going to be initiated by Mpower. NIMHANS, on the other hand, will provide Mpower with access to the platform, operating guidelines, training and mentoring, monitoring and framework needed to operate the centres.

Mpower will leverage its expertise in providing seamless, standardized, and world-class mental health services to beneficiaries of Tele MANAS. This collaboration aims to ensure the successful on-ground implementation of Tele MANAS services, as well as the accessibility and availability of trained experts and professional mental health counselling services to those in need.

Tele MANAS follows a two-tier model, with Tier 1 consisting of state Tele MANAS cells that employ trained counsellors and mental health specialists. Tier 2 has specialists available at District Mental Health Programme (DMHP)/Medical College resources for physical consultation and/or e-Sanjeevani for audio-visual consultation. Through this MoU, Mpower will support these offerings to ensure access to professional mental health services across the all of India.