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ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Deccan Herald ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE: 24/3/2020

Worried about quarantining large number of people: CM

Says govt is serious to implement suggestions given

BENGALURU, DHNS
Chief Minister B S Yeddyurappa on Monday expressed concern over how the government can quarantine "the large number of people" who have come in contact with those tested positive for Covid-19, but vowed to intensify measures to tackle the crisis.
Yediyurappa voiced this concern during a meeting with heads of private hospitals. "I told them the government is serious to implement all suggestions given by them to contain the virus. Our only worry is how to quarantine the large number of people who

have come in contact with the diseased. They suggested a complete shutdown," he told reporters.
The chief minister said the private sector representatives, who were in the meeting, suggested starting fever clinics where preliminary check-ups will be done. "Thirty fever clinics will be started," he said. "They came forward to spare the service of doctors and clinical staff working in their hospitals. They've agreed to spare over 100 ventilators," he added.
Narayana Health founder Dr Devi Shetty, founder of Narayana Health, Manipal Hospitals chairperson Dr Su-



Chief Minister B S Yeddyurappa held a meeting with the heads of private hospitals and specialist doctors on Covid-19 at Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Monday.
DH PHOTO/B H SHIVAKUMAR

darshan Ballal, Aster Hospital CEO Dr Nitish Shetty, Association of Healthcare Providers of India president Dr Alex Thomas among others attended the meeting with the chief minister.
"They said the public-private partnership should be strengthened to deal with Covid-19. The government is keen not only to tackle and

prevent the spread of Covid-19, but it's even serious to create the required infrastructure to treat patients," Yediyurappa said.
The government, the CM said, has decided to create a separate 1,200-bedded block at Victoria Hospital and another 1,200 beds will be pooled up at a private hospital.
The CM also urged urban-

Free food for poor

More than 300 Indira Canteens, the highly-subsidised state-run eateries, will serve food to the poor free of cost, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa announced Monday. "In the interest of the poor, free food will be given only for the poor at all Indira Canteens," he said. There are some 174 Indira Canteens in Bengaluru alone. These canteens serve breakfast at Rs 5 and lunch/dinner at Rs 10.

ites not to venture into villages. "My sincere and serious appeal to people staying in urban areas is, don't visit villages and hamlets that are till today free from Covid-19," he said.