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P. Santha Kumar, Dean, Madurai Medical College, addressing a conference in the city on Friday.

Madurai Nov 02, The 11th annual conference of Indian Arthroplasty Association (IAA) being organised here from Friday had cautioned that India is on the verge of becoming a country with highest number of joint replacement surgeries performed in the world.

Leading orthopaedic surgeons have pointed out that the country needs more trained and experienced arthroplasty experts in the wake of spurt in knee replacement or joint replacement surgeries. Bharat Mody, president-elect, IAA, while speaking at the inauguration of the annual conference on Friday, said one lakh joint replacement surgeries were performed in the country this year and the number was set to rise gradually.

“In the next 10 years, India will have the highest number of joint replacement surgeries in the world. Our association’s objective is to train junior orthopaedic surgeons to handle complicated cases,” Dr. Mody said. The association would make efforts to generate interest among orthopaedic surgeons to learn more techniques, he added.

B. Santha Kumar, Dean, Government Rajaji Hospital, who inaugurated the conference, said junior doctors should be forthcoming to constantly learn from seniors in the field since experience held the key to success of a surgery.

Harish Bhende, president, IAA, said Pune would play host to the next conference.

K.J. Reddy, secretary, IAA, said the association, with 370 members, offered several scholarships and fellowships for young doctors to pursue higher studies in India or abroad.

A. Devadoss, senior orthopaedic surgeon and organising committee chairman of the conference, said Madurai was playing host to the conference for the second time. The first one was held in 2005.

The three-day conference, ‘IAACON-2014,’ taking place from October 31 to November 2 is being organised in association with Madurai Orthopaedic Society, supported by Devadoss Multi-Speciality Hospital in the city.

Around 300 orthopaedic surgeons from various hospitals and medical institutions in the country are attending the conference which includes panel discussions and live surgeries.