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EXPRESS ARCHIVE



Sita and Gita with parents before surgery

## Conjoined twins separated

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 5

A TEAM of 27 doctors of a city hospital successfully separated 18-month-old Siamese twins — Gita and Sita — who were joined at the waist. The surgery began at 7 in the morning and continued till late in the evening.

"The sisters have been successfully separated and both are doing well. It took almost 13 hours to do the job," Dr Sanjeev Bagai, Chief Executive Officer of Batra Hospital and Research Centre, where the surgery was carried out, said.

The reconstruction process is taking place now which will end late, he added.

The twins were born with congenital structural abnormalities and were joined at the waist with a common genital, urinary and intestinal system. "The reconstruction of the urinal passage and the rectum of one of the twins will be accomplished in some more time," Dr Bagai said. Two surgical theatres were functioning simultaneously to accomplish the surgery, the doctor added.

"If everything goes well, they will have to stay in hospital for up to four weeks," Dr Bagai said. The twins are resident of Bihar and their parents work as labourers.