

The Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

New Delhi . Chandigarh . Jalandhar . Bathinda . Thursday, May 13, 2010



Sita and Gita with their parents on Wednesday. Tribune photo: Mukesh Aggarwal

Separated conjoined twins to be discharged soon

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 12

Very soon Sita and Gita, the conjoined twins who were separated after a surgery at the Batra Hospital on April 5, would head for their native place in Bihar, as the doctors treating them have declared them fit for discharge.

The case of Sita and Gita is one of the rare 600 cases reported over the past 500 years where the patients have managed to survive.

"The children have done remarkably well. Post-operative recovery has been fast. Weight gain has been more than satisfactory and there

are no neurodeficits. The twins are absolutely fine and will be discharged soon," said Dr Sanjeev Bagai, CEO, Batra Hospital & Research Centre.

Before the corrective surgery, performed by a multidisciplinary team comprising 27 specialists, including paediatric surgeons, critical care specialists, orthopaedicians and plastic surgeons, the then 18-month-old twins were born fused and had common intestinal and urinary tracts.

It was only after the 14-hour marathon surgery, that the daughters of daily wage labourers Subhash Mukhia and Nirmala could be sepa-

rated. The operation involved separation of their spines, pelvises and intestines followed by splitting of the common anal canal.

One of the doctors attending on Sita and Gita during their surgery, critical care specialist Dr Pawan Gurha said, "Sita and Gita withstood the surgery well. Their intra-operative performance was excellent. They performed well on all parameters and their post-operative recovery has been consistent."

Doctors attending them feel that the reconstructed parts have now healed completely and the twins might now be discharged any day.