

**Dr Kushagra Kataria**  
CEO and Chief  
Cardiothoracic Surgeon,  
Artemis Health Institute

A box of mangoes, chocolates, bouquets and 'thank you' cards are a regular, but the nicest thing was when a little girl, not from a very privileged family, who'd undergone a successful heart transplant surgery, sent my team a handmade card. We got it framed and it still adorns one of our hospital walls.

There was another patient who had a tumor in his chest and had lost his voice. He was also a good carpenter and created for me a cricket set on a sheet. It's been years, but the fact that he must have spent

days on making that set overwhelms me even now. Doctor's Day at Artemis, more than celebration, is a team-building exercise. A lot of people are cognisant about the day and the number of emails and messages I receive on the day from fellow doctors and patients is thrilling. So, for all our patients, we try and reciprocate their love by holding an orthopedic, oncology and cardiology camp where the usual services are provided at 50 per cent off.

Artemis



hindustantimes

# HT City

Meghna's email hacked P2

NEW DELHI, THURSDAY JULY 01, 2010, 8 PAGES www.hindustantimes.com

body & soul

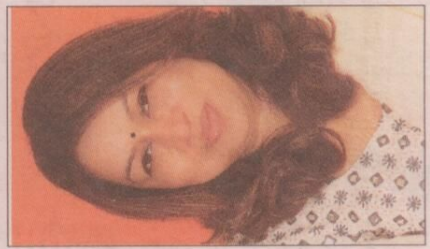
## THANK YOU, DOCTOR

On Doctor's Day today, HT City asked some men and women in white coats to share what makes this day special for them

**Dr Seema Malik**  
cosmetologist,  
Eleganza Rejuvenation  
Centre

I am in the cosmetic business. I usually get 'thank you' messages that say, 'My married life is better' and 'I have more confidence'. But, on Doctor's Day, the number of cards, bouquets I receive have grown over the years and it is exhilarating. In fact, sometimes the

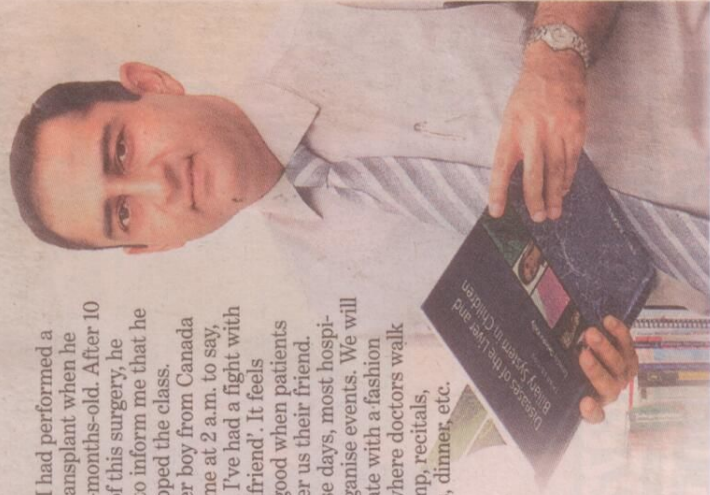
things that patients do to express their gratitude get embarrassing. There is a patient who sends me delicious biryani and that is a gesture I cannot forget. Our organisation celebrates Doctor's Day with a get-together and dinner. For our patients, we always hold camps for free tests. We put up banners outside the hospital inviting people. In the past years, we have held camps in slums for underprivileged kids.



**Dr Anupam Sibal**  
Paediatrician and Group  
Medical Head,  
Apollo Hospitals

With easy Internet access and increasing awareness, the Doctor's Day celebrations have really caught on. I am a paediatrician and when small kids come with handmade cards that say 'Happy Doctor's Day' in their cute handwriting, it makes me feel very special. Once, I got a call from a boy from Kanchipuram on

whom I had performed a liver transplant when he was 18-months-old. After 10 years of this surgery, he called to inform me that he had topped the class. Another boy from Canada called me at 2 a.m. to say, 'Uncle, I've had a fight with my girlfriend'. It feels really good when patients consider us their friend. These days, most hospitals organise events. We will celebrate with a fashion show where doctors walk the ramp, recitals, dances, dinner, etc.





# City becomes disease capital this season

## BUGGED People fight multiple infections; dengue cases highest

**Sanchita Sharma**  
sanchisharma@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** IT consultant Subhas Malhotra, 36, woke up with high fever on Tuesday and got tested for H1N1, dengue, malaria, typhoid and bacterial infections the next day.

"It turned out I had malaria and gastroenteritis. I didn't know one could get twin infections," said the Vasant Vihar resident.

Medical experts are not as surprised. Delhi is reeling under an onslaught of viral and bacterial infections, many of which begin with fever, headache and bodyache but go on to make you sick enough to need hospitalisation in less than a week.

"This season, dengue cases are the highest in a decade. Twin infections are also being reported. AIIMS is flooded with H1N1, dengue and conjunctivitis cases, but since there are no beds available, critically-ill patients are stabilised and referred to other hospitals," said Dr D.K. Sharma, medical superintendent, AIIMS.

So sick is the city that there are no free beds even in high-end hospitals. Delhi has 724 hospitals and nursing homes with 36,352 hospital beds, which is



**Delhi CM at a cleanliness campaign on Saturday. Like Dikshit, cover your mouth and nose while sneezing.**  
SUNIL SAXENA / HT PHOTO

### DISEASED DELHI

71 more patients tested positive for dengue on Saturday. Hospitals across Delhi are now reporting 100 per cent occupancy

#### INFECTION CITY

Compared to last year, 2010 has seen a sharp rise in infection cases

**Dengue: Up 120 times**  
(10 cases till September 4, 2009; 1,226 in 2010)

**Swine flu: Up 2 times**

**Viral and bacterial conjunctivitis: Up 4 times**

**Seasonal flu: Up 2 times**

**Gastroenteritis: Up 2 times**

**Malaria: Up 2 times**

**Typhoid: Same as last year**

#### NO BEDS VACANT

100 % occupancy\*:

**AIIMS**

(2,200 beds)

**Ganga Ram**

(675 beds)

**Medanta**

(400 beds)

**Fortis hospitals**

(1,326 beds)

**Apollo**

(600 beds)

**Max hospitals:**

(800 beds)

\*Data for first week of September, 2010.

SOURCE: HEALTH DEPARTMENT, HOSPITALS

Sibal, group medical director, Apollo Hospitals. His advice: Manage fever with paracetamol but get tested for dengue, malaria, H1N1 and typhoid if fever over 102 F persists on day three.

The Fortis Group of Hospitals has set up an infectious diseases control team that works 24x7.

2.14 beds per 1,000 persons — 2.5 times more compared to the national average of 0.86.

"Seasonal infections are higher this year. Add to that higher awareness and you have hospitals flooded with people demanding admission even when it's not needed," said Dr Anuram

With Delhi government and civic agencies shy of admitting the city is facing an infection nightmare, it's now up to Union health minister Ghulam Nabi Azad's to get the city cleaned up in time for the Commonwealth Games.

» DELHI AFFLICTED, P4