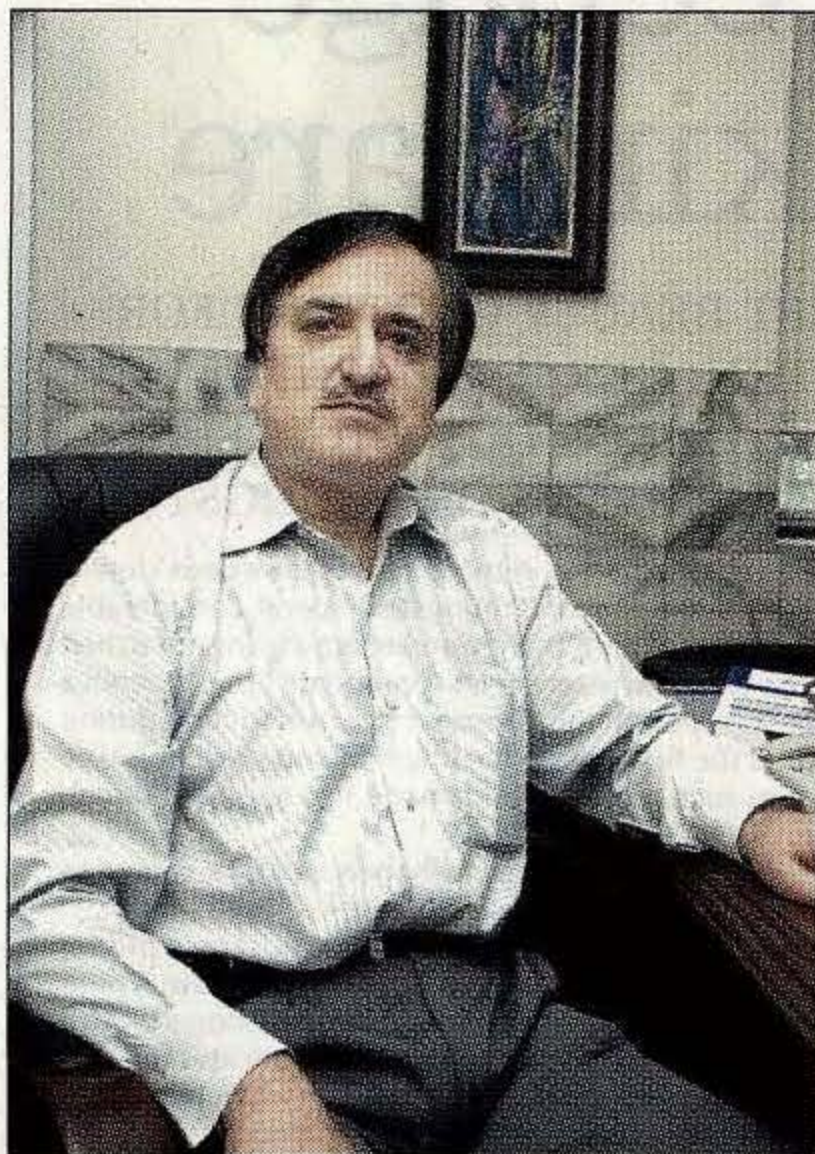


## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOUR

## Healing hearts

HAVING PERFORMED A RARE SURGERY ON A 48-DAY-OLD BABY RECENTLY, HERE'S ONE OF THE WELL-KNOWN CARDIOLOGISTS OF THE CITY DR ANIL BHAN IN A TÊTE-À-TÊTE WITH *SOUTH DELHI PLUS*



VINOD KUMAR

>> **Dr Bhan** has performed around 15,000 surgeries

Rakesh Malik Saket

**H**is ever smiling face, pleasant persona and positive outlook adds to his healing touch. Having served in some of the top notch health care institutes, Chief cardiac surgeon at Batra Hospital and Research Institute Dr Anil Bhan has a lot of feathers to his cap, with the most recent addition being the rare surgery he has performed on a 48-day-old infant.

Explaining the same he says, "This child from Assam had abnormal connection at two levels in the heart. He was in the corrected transposition of the heart. He also had a hole in his heart. The operation involved correcting both these abnormal connections and closure of the hole. Usually surgeons operate such a patient on two stages. They perform the difficult part of the operation once the baby gains some weight. We conducted this operation on a single stage. I am glad to say that we came out with flying

results." So was it a premeditated thought on his part to get into the field or he just happened to get into it? Reminisces Bhan, "I was inclined to join cardiac surgery right from my undergraduate days. This was essentially because of the influence of my father who is a general surgeon himself and was Professor of Surgery at Medical College, Srinagar. Today, I have done almost 15,000 cardiac procedures that include all kinds of cardiac procedures right from a newborn to patients in their 90s," shares Dr Bhan.

Advising South Delhiites on how to have a healthy heart, he says, "It is difficult to prevent congenital heart disease. But in order to have a healthy heart, one must exercise, avoid smoking, strictly monitor blood pressure and blood sugar. Also it is important to have a healthy lifestyle," he concludes.

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*It is very important to go for regular preventive health check-ups*