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## Indian doc mends Pak hearts

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IF THE Indian and Pakistani governments are attempting to patch up old wounds through various CBMs, a parallel effort with the same aim is touching Pakistani hearts in India's hospitals. Last week, two Pakistani children suffering from serious heart problems were treated in Delhi as part of a goodwill initiative started by Rotary International, an NGO.

The children — Sami Khan (5) from Karachi and Abu Baker Tariq (6) from Lahore — were suffering from a crippling heart disease since birth.



Sami and Tariq after operation.

Cardiac surgeon Dr Anil Bhan of Max Devki Devi Heart and Vascular Institute, where the operation was carried out, said both kids had a hole in the heart and the arteries to their lungs had shrunk. This caused breathlessness and rendered them incapable of leading a normal life.

When the kids were brought to the hospital, their condition was serious.

But the operation was completed successfully and both are now set to resume life with a renewed vigour.

Abu, a cricket enthusiast, is eager to wield the willow. "I want to play like Imran Khan," he says. Sami, a Shah Rukh Khan fan, wants to watch a flick of his favourite star before returning to Pakistan. An overwhelmed Sardar Khan, Sami's father, says that he is able to see a bright future for his son for the first time. He is preparing to send him school now.

Eight Pakistani children suffering from similar cardiac problems have already been treated at PGI-Chandigarh, Escorts and at Max.