



## **Fortis celebrates Nanhi Chhaan to create awareness about Girl Child**

***To create awareness in Gurgaon to save Girl child and protection of environment***

**Gurgaon, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015:** Fortis Foundation, the philanthropic arm of leading healthcare solution provider Fortis Healthcare Limited, celebrated Nanhi Chhaan by planting sapling at the Fortis Memorial Research Institute (FMRI) in Gurgaon today. Saplings were distributed to promote the message of 'Save the Environment, Save the Girl Child, Save humanity.' Nanhi Chhaan is an annual initiative that is celebrated across all Fortis hospitals in an effort to promote the welfare of the girl child. The occasion was marked by planting of tree saplings to patients, participants, local residents and children. Through this initiative, more than 12, 00,000 saplings were distributed across India.

Fortis Foundation is determined to address three glaring social issues of today; i.e. improvement in gender ratio, preservation of environment and building inter faith harmony. Nanhi Chhaan is an initiative to create awareness among society and empower them against female infanticide and environmental degradation.

India faces a grave situation of skewed gender ratio due to superstitions and lack of awareness. The state of Haryana is one of the worst hit as it has the lowest sex ratio in the country at 877 female per 1000 male. One of the growth engines of India, the district of **Gurgaon fares even poorly at 854 female per 1000 male**. It is indeed shocking how our economic prosperity has failed to address the problem of female infanticide.

**Dr Dilpreet Brar, Regional Director, Fortis Memorial Research Institute (FMRI),** "It is shocking to see how Gurgaon has one of the worst sex ratio in the country. It is no surprise that girl child face severe discrimination even today. The civil society has its task cut out to take stock of the situation and act. We, as responsible citizens and corporates, should create as much awareness as possible to arrest this problem. The Nanhi Chhaan campaign is manifestation of a belief that Fortis believes. It is the thought to 'Save Girl Child, Save Environment, Save Humanity.' We celebrate Nanhi Chhaan day every year to reiterate our commitment and support in the larger social movement to save girl child. We hope that this will send out the positive view of importance of protecting our girls and our environment."

On the occasion **Mr. Harpal Singh, Chairman, Nanhi Chhaan Foundation, Mentor and Chairman Emeritus, Fortis Healthcare** said, "To bring in social change, to overcome social evil, and to usher in a new society, it is important that we all join hands, integrate our will and fight for the cause of girl child. The Nanhi Chhaan foundation remains committed to the cause of girl child protection, environment preservation and social harmony. We appeal to everyone to become proactive partners to bring positive social development through this initiative."



### **About Fortis Healthcare Limited**

*Fortis Healthcare Limited is a leading integrated healthcare delivery service provider in India. The healthcare verticals of the company primarily comprise hospitals, diagnostics and day care specialty facilities. Currently, the company operates its healthcare delivery services in India, Singapore, Dubai, Mauritius and Sri Lanka with 55 healthcare facilities (including projects under development), approximately 10,000 potential beds and 270 diagnostic centres. In a global study of the 30 most technologically advanced hospitals in the world, its flagship, the Fortis Memorial Research Institute' (FMRI), was ranked No.2, by 'topmastersinhealthcare.com, and placed ahead of many other outstanding medical institutions in the world.*

### **About Nanhi Chhaan Foundation**

*The Nanhi Chhaan Foundation is a not-for-profit organization set up with the objective of addressing three important issues on the social agenda of the country namely an adverse gender ratio, environmental degradation and promotion of secularism. The Foundation reaches out to all people and institutions across all Faiths and institutions of civil society to achieve its objectives. Patrons of great eminence guide the Foundation and inspirational support is available from institutions like Schools, CII, Hospitals, Save The Children, World Wide Fund, most Faiths, CRPF, State Governments and inspiringly from a growing number of citizens.*

**For further details please contact:**

#### **Fortis Healthcare**

**Vidya Pawan Kapoor: +91 9899996189**

[Vidya.kapoor@fortishealthcare.com](mailto:Vidya.kapoor@fortishealthcare.com)

**Tituraj Kashyap Das: +91 9871918187**

[Tituraj.das@fortishealthcare.com](mailto:Tituraj.das@fortishealthcare.com)