Green Corridor from Delhi airport to Fortis Escorts, Okhla helps swift transport of live heart during peak traffic hours

- 18.4 kms of peak traffic was covered in 21:20 minutes
- Donated heart from 47-year-old man transplanted into 34-year-old woman

New Delhi, February 18th 2020: A team of doctors from Fortis Escorts, Okhla retrieved a live donor heart in Ruby Hall Clinic in Pune earlier today. The live heart was air transported from Pune to Delhi. A 18.4 kms long green corridor was created from Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport to Fortis Escorts in Okhla that swiftly transported the live heart in less than 21:20 minutes at the peak of traffic hours. The team of doctors was led by Dr Z S Meharwal, Head of Adult Cardiac Surgery, VAD & Heart Transplantation Programme, Dr Vishal Rastogi, Head, Heart Failure Clinic at FEHI and Dr Naveen Saraf, Principal Consultant, Cardio Thoracic Vascular Surgery at Fortis Escorts, Okhla (FEHI).

The team was alerted by National Organ Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) about a possible donor heart in Ruby Hall Clinic in Pune earlier today. The team immediately left for Pune at 03:10 AM today to retrieve the heart. The donor heart along with the team boarded the flight at 03:30 PM and reached IGI Delhi at 05:40 PM. The ambulance swiftly completed the 18.4 kms long stretch in 21:20 minutes amidst traffic rush.

The donor heart from a 47-year-old male was retrieved after he was declared brain dead. It was shortlisted by NOTTO for a 34-year-old female from Delhi. She has been getting treatment from Dr Vishal Rastogi, Head, Heart Failure Clinic at FEHI. However, her condition reached a critical condition almost a month ago and was on levosimandon infusion support since then. The heart transplant surgery is being performed by Dr Z S Meharwal, Executive Director & HOD, Cardiac Surgery at FEHI at the time of this press release.