



## Anushka Nandini Hearing Impaired Spella-thon Champion



Young Anushka Nandini is a true fighter! For she not only fought her hearing impairment at a very young age, but also overcame it and is now en-route to fulfilling all her dreams by leading a normal life like any other healthy child!

Anushka was probably born with Sensori-neural hearing loss in both her ears that causes damage in cochlea or the inner ear, leading to hearing loss. However, her parents were able to detect the problem only when she was almost a year old. Anushka's mother had accidently dropped a glass on the floor, leading to a loud crash. Seeing that Anushka even failed to react to the loud noise, they realised that something was wrong with their child and immediately decided to get help!

Early medical intervention is the best way of dealing

with physical disabilities. And Anushka's parents were aware of it. They consulted the best available doctors and did their own research too on the disease. The doctors advised them to go for a bilateral cochlear implant (implant in both the ears).

It was extremely hard for Anushka's parents to see their one year old daughter undergo a complicated surgery! They were scared and apprehensive, but counselled by the doctors and family they decided to go ahead with the procedure! The little girl was operated upon at the Apollo Hospital in Delhi.

The post-surgery phase was testing and stressful for both Anushka as well as her parents. The path to recovery was a long process and any carelessness would hamper her progress significantly. For the next two years, Anushka's parents diligently took her to the Auditory – Verbal therapy. They achieved all milestones of her rehabilitation by taking one step at a time.

It is because of never-say-die attitude of Anushka and her parents that today Anushka is studying in one of the best schools in Delhi and is a champion in spelling competitions, winning several 'Spella-thons'. She loves Music and is an avid dancer too.

Anushka is a living example that timely intervention can help children with disabilities lead a normal life!