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Press Release

Inauguration of CSR Summit for pioneering Cochlear Implant Surgery under CSR initiative of Airports Authority of India (AAI)

New Delhi, 14th December, 2017: Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot, Hon`ble Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment inaugurated the “**CSR Summit for Pioneering Cochlear Implant Surgery under CSR initiative of Airports Authority of India (AAI) through Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO)**” at Airports Authority of India Officer’s Institute (AAIOI), New Delhi today. Smt. Shakuntla Gamlin, Secretary, DEPwD, M/o Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Guruprasad Mohapatra, Chairman, AAI, Shri D.R. Sarin, CMD, ALIMCO and senior officers were present during the occasion. This summit was organized to showcase the success of the Cochlear Implant surgery initiative under the CSR and to introduce the Children who have overcome hearing and speech disability and started hearing and speaking which is not less than a miracle.

During the summit, few children who have overcome hearing impairment after the Cochlear Implant Surgery communicated with the guests. These surgeries were conducted under the CSR initiative of Airports Authority of India (AAI) through ALIMCO. Addressing the gathering, Shri Gehlot said that “An estimate shows that around 35,000 children need Cochlear Implant annually in India. Till date, more than 1000 number of Cochlear Implant Surgeries have been successfully conducted in the country under the ADIP Government of India and CSR funds.

He also expressed his happiness on initiatives of Public Sector Undertakings and Corporate sectors like Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Power Finance Corporation (PFC), who are coming forward to fulfil their social responsibility by helping the Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjans).

Recently, as part of Corporate Social Responsibility initiative, AAI has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ALIMCO for conducting Cochlear Implant surgeries on PAN India basis valuing Rs. 6.69 crores. AAI sponsored Cochlear Implant surgeries for 115 children with profound hearing loss under their CSR project implemented by ALIMCO on the occasion. Cochlear Implant Surgery and post-operative rehabilitation are undertaken by Ali Yavar Jang National Institute of Speech and Language Disabilities (Divyangjan), Mumbai. This major CSR initiative of AAI will help the children to completely overcome their hearing disability, thereby enabling them to hear and speak coherently and making them fully independent to lead a normal and productive life. This effort will not only bring these underprivileged children to the mainstream of life but will also contribute to national economy.

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For details please contact at:

9811521881, 011-24622787

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Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot, Hon`ble Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment speaking during the inauguration in presence of Dr.ShakuntlaGamlin, Secretary, DEPwD, M/o Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Guruprasad Mohapatra, Chairman, AAI, Shri D.R. Sarin, CMD, ALIMCO and other senior officers.