

Newborn wins battle of survival after 40 days

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PANCHKULA: A newborn pre-term baby girl child - who was born with just 650g weight - was declared almost dead by doctors of private hospitals and allegedly turned down by PGI. But General Hospital, Sector 6, Panchkula admitted the girl child in intensive care for over 40 days, and managed to save her life, that too free of cost.

The baby's mother Alkesh, a resident of Sector 16 here - who belongs to a BPL family - said she gave birth to the child in a private hospital in Panchkula, which informed her soon after birth that her daughter would not survive. A disappointed Alkesh, soon after delivery, went to a few private hospitals. They informed her that they would charge Rs 1 lakh for a week for medication, and still there was no guarantee the child would

survive. Then, someone suggested she go to PGI, Chandigarh, but there too, she had to face disappointment, as the premier medical institute allegedly turned her down.

PGI spokesperson Manju Wadwalkar said, "Due to heavy rush at PGI, we fall short of incubators most of the times and have to refer patients." Alkesh took her daughter to General Hospital with her daughter, where doctors kept the baby in incubation in SNCU (Special Neonatal Care Unit). Alkesh's daughter not only survived but also gained 350g in weight - now she weighs more than one kg. Alkesh said: "All doctors told me that my daughter would not survive, and those who could take care, said her

medicines would cost in lakhs, which I cannot afford. But I'm happy now my daughter has survived, and is doing fine. It's like magic for me and my family."