

Name of the hospital: Medics International Hospital

**Location:** The proposed hospital is located on Kanpur Road, Lucknow.

**Type of project:** It is a green field project by Lucknow-based Medics International Lifesciences.

**Type of hospital:** The hospital is a multi specialty tertiary care set-up with focus on oncology, cardiology, critical care, trauma and gastroenterology.

Bed strength: Over 300

**Built-up area:** 3,30,000 square feet **Status of the project:** The project is currently under advanced construction and scheduled to be completed in the first half of 2016.

Patient profile: Says Dr Sushil Gattani, chairman, Medics International Lifesciences, and co-owner at Avadh Hospital, Lucknow, "The hospital is intended to cater to patients across all socio-economic strata."

Cost of the project: Rs 250 crore (Rs 150 crore for building and services and Rs 100 crore for medical furniture and equipment).

**Nature of funding:** A mix debt and equity. **Type of rooms:** Private and semi-private rooms have been provided along with VIP suites and general wards.

**Patient catchment area:** The primary patient catchment area is the district of Lucknow and surrounding districts.

**USP of the project:** The design of the building responds to the site with views of the surrounding parks and green areas given importance in the patient areas. A grand entrance space leads to an expansive podium area while a high tower houses the in-patient department.

**Technology:** TrueBeam linear accelerator for radiation oncology, state-of-the-art operation theaters, cath labs and others.

About design: The building form is oriented in such a way that the majority of the rooms, especially in the in-patient departments, face towards the northeast direction which offers excellent views across the green areas, while drawing in copious amounts of light into the building. The surrounding garden spaces also flow into the facility through the use of courtyards, lawns and the tree lined streets around the building. The architectural language of the building is modern in line with the approach to form and function, with green spaces and highlights that are created in the form of stepped terraces.

Architect: Manu Malhotra, RSMS Architects.



Dr Sushil Gattani, chairman, Medics International Lifesciences



anka Hospital, located at Mukund Nagar on Pune-Satara Road, Pune has undergone expansion and renovation, adding several new dimensions. The 75-bed expanded facility (with 25,000 square feet of the new wing and 20,000 square feet of existing hospital) will be catering to the growing demands for quality healthcare.

Started in the year 2000 with 50 beds, Ranka Hospital now offers state-of-the-art emergency medical care including patient friendly ICU beds and comprehensive life support system. "Over the last two years, Pune has faced two major epidemics-H1N1 and dengue- where the city experienced an acute shortage of ICU beds, general beds and ventilators. In southern part of Pune, there is no multispecialty hospital. During emergency, patients have no nearby hospitals to go to. Our hospital is set to bridge this acute shortage of ICU beds with our state-of-the-art 16-bed ICU set-up," said Dr Ramesh Ranka, founder-president of the Ranka Hospital.

The new multi-specialty wing of Ranka Hospital is a super-specialty center for orthopaedics, joint replacement and arthroscopy. The new multispecialty branch has OPD facility and a multidisciplinary diagnostic centre with radiology and pathology units, automated operation theatre and

centre for physiotherapy, rehabilitation and alternate therapy.

Meticulous planning by the project team factored the fact that the operational hospital was unhindered during the stages of construction. Care was taken to cause minimum disturbance to the patients and the regular day-to-day operations of the hospital. Says Kshititi Nagarkar, principal architect, Shree Design, "The stack planned had out-patient clinics and diagnostic rooms on the ground floor, ICU and OT complex on the first floor, laboratory and multibed wards on the second floor, while the third and fourth floor accommodate the single and deluxe rooms." The environment of the facility has been designed in such a way that patient comfort and privacy is pre-dominant feature.

The ICU, designed as per NABH standards, has a cool colour scheme to soothe the patients while high-end monitoring systems mounted on vertical bed-head pendants help the nursing staff to provide responsive care. "The patient is received into the facility from the exiting entrance through which a connecting zone connects the old to the new wing. A swanky large reception cum admission desk assures quick service to the patients and they are ushered into spacious and pre-meditated OPD rooms," adds Nagarkar.

The hospital has patient-friendly ICU beds.



## **Bright ideas**

External lighting is a crucial aspect of planning and design

BY MANU MALHOTRA

hile architecture is the face of the building and planning the backbone of healthcare facilities, lighting is the accessory providing highlights and embellishments, whether subtle or bold, playful or subdued. Good lighting should blend into the architecture like an inherent piece of the design, yet it should stand out to be noticed.

At night, healthcare facilities are silent and still with little or no activity or movement on the premises. To a visitor or patient, such an atmosphere might prove to be scary or psychologically intimidating. Well-designed lighting can help ease the stress of the visitor in such a situation by providing clear and well-lit pathways, with lighting aiding the visitor in way finding in conjunction with signages.

Lighting used for pedestrian pathways needs to be subtle, while ensuring well-lit walkways free of shadows. The green areas along the pathways can be highlighted by strategically placed luminaires which make the park and garden spaces seem lively, negating dark corners and shadows that may be disturbing. This can be achieved through a combination of bollard lights and pole lights placed strategically.

We have to attempt to create signage systems which are not lit during the day but can come to life at night and merge into the overall external lighting scheme. We have to be intelligent in the use of signage which can double up as ambient light during the night.

An atmosphere of harmonious lighting eases the visitor, calming his nerves, drawing away the tension, while making the surroundings appear friendlier. A well-lit drop off zone and entrance helps in easy location, while welcoming the visitor with cheerfulness. Another way of improving the patient experience is through the use of festive lighting. We can take a step further and integrate the festive lighting into the facade and the external lighting of the building. The festive lights may be used on occasions such as festivals and national holidays. Integrating this intelligently into the system allows for ease of maintenance and control, while the lighting itself can bring cheer and joy to the patients-making them feel at home.



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External lighting at Paras HMRI Hospital, Patna.