

## For a more sustained future



The second edition of 'Space Forward' -The Paradigm Shift forum by Saint-Gobain India Pvt. Ltd - Gyproc business and Commercial Design focused on deliberating innovative and smart design solutions for the industry

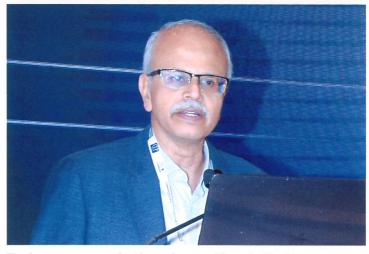
ast month, ITC Maurya, New Delhi, witnessed the get-together of leaders from the AEC industry for an evening of knowledge-sharing and ideation to fuel the development of a better future. Acknowledging the support of the industry and its fraternity members, the forum was opened with a welcome address by Venkat Subramanian, MD, Gyproc India.

"As a company, Saint-Gobain has been duly involved in improving sustainability in construction. We are constantly focused on bettering the comfort and wellbeing of occupants in living spaces, across all sectors. There is still a lot of work that needs to be done and, I hope, each of us will have an action plan to take forward," said Subramanian, before calling the commencement of the proceedings.

Christine Bruckner, Director at M Moser, Hong Kong, an well-being expert in the field of architecture, who has worked extensively with the end user and stakeholder community with an aim to incorporate wellness and sustainability in both living and working spaces, was the keynote speaker of the day. Bruckner said, "Architecture is about creating a place that takes care of people and helps them exceed their own 1 & potential. Not just hospitality and healthcare buildings but all spaces should be occupant-comfort centric. Circadian lighting control, acoustic control, colour control, air quality control and layout - all together create environments that let users stay productive, happy and



Christine Bruckner, Director at M Moser, Hong Kong, was the keynote speaker of the day.



The forum was opened with a welcome address by Venkat Subramanian, MD, Saint-Gobain India Pvt. Ltd - Gyproc business.



eakers of the first panel discussion – 'Design & Construction in Healthcare – Gaining a leading edge with innovations and smart solutions': (L to Manu Malhotra of RSMS Architects; Raviganesh Venkataraman of Cloudnine Group of Hospitals; Dr Vivek Desai of Hosmac; Ramakrishna Paluri m Gleneagles Global Hospitals Ltd; and Nitin Bansal from Morphogenesis.

## PANEL DISCUSSION:

'DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION IN HEALTHCARE – GAINING A LEADING EDGE WITH INNOVATIONS AND SMART SOLUTIONS'

Manu Malhotra, Founder Partner, RSMS Architects
Nitin Bansal, Director — Projects, Morphogenesis
Ramakrishna Paluri, Head — Projects, Gleneagles Global
Hospitals Ltd

Raviganesh Venkataraman, CEO, Cloudnine Group of Hospitals

Dr Vivek Desai, MD, Hosmac (Moderator)

## althy."

From the architectural firm that es workspace design, Akshay khanpal, Regional MD for Space atrix, took the dais to talk about e changing aspects of how aces are being conceived by signers and perceived by users. e said, "People are approaching e concept of health as a holistic urney, inclusive of physical, ental and spiritual wellbeing. Echnology is continuing to change by people learn, create and ork. The concept of 'identity' is by broader and people are now



Akshay Lakhanpal, Regional MD for Space Matrix, spoke about the changing aspects of how spaces are being conceived by designers and perceived by users.



Manav Thadani, Founder Chairman of Hotelivate, shed light on the trends and opportunities in the hospitality industry.



Or Vivek Desai, MD, Hosmac



Raviganesh Venkataraman, CEO, Cloudnine Group of Hospitals.



Manu Malhotra, Founder Partner, RSMS Architects.

nore empowered to be their true selves." He added, "As designers, we should create spaces keeping n mind this evolved lifestyle that demands collaborative spaces, private spaces, recreational areas and more."

Next was a panel discussion on 'Design & Construction in Healthcare - Gaining a leading edge with innovations and smart solutions'. Moderated by Dr Vivek Desai, MD, Hosmac, the panel members included

Raviganesh Venkataraman, CEO, Cloudnine Group of Hospitals; Manu Malhotra, Founder Partner, RSMS Architects; Ramakrishna Paluri, Head - Projects, Gleneagles Global Hospitals Ltd; and Nitin Bansal, Director - Projects, Morphogenesis.

Dr Desai began with the three primary elements of hospital design — physical infrastructure, social milieu and digital integration. He asked Venkataraman about how these aspects are catered to at



Nitin Bansal, Director - Projects, Morphogenesis.



Ramakrishna Paluri, Head – Projects, Gleneagles Global Hospitals Ltd.

**Evolving** technologies - light-weight contruction techniques such as drywalls - is constantly feeding the

construction industry towards improving built structures."

Cloudnine Group. Venkataraman pointed out,"The infrastructure and design of our hospitals are developed keeping the user at the centre. Our cheerful interiors, right lighting, good air quality and digital integration in spaces ensure that our hospitals feel like hotels and offer home-like comfort."

Malhotra took the dialogue forward, saying, "If we can design hospitals that are more patientcentric, it helps strengthen our top and bottom lines. We try to embody biophilic design in projects such that occupants are directly engaged with the natural environment. Other than that, adequate spaces for the doctors and caregivers are provided to keep productivity at peak."

Bansal added,"At Morphogenesis, we believe in innovation. We look at considerations of space planning that contribute to developing any project within the budget and desired design criteria. Our philosophy is based on a



eakers of the second panel discussion – 'Profit by Design – Articulating on how intelligent hotel design can be a smart business investment': to R) Sudeep Kolte from Gyproc India; Rajiv Batra from InterGlobe Hotels; Shiv Kashyap from AccorHotels; Zachary Jekot of HKS; Reema Diwan om IHCL; Salil Khare of Ascentis; and Manav Thadani of Hotelivate.



## PANEL DISCUSSION:

'PROFIT BY DESIGN –
ARTICULATING ON HOW
INTELLIGENT HOTEL DESIGN
CAN BE A SMART BUSINESS
INVESTMENT'

Manav Thadani, Founder Chairman of Hotelivate
Rajiv Batra, Head of Design, InterGlobe Hotels
Reema Diwan, Corporate Director-Technical Services &
Interiors, IHCL

**Salil Khare**, Managing Director – India, Ascentis **Shiv Kashyap**, Vice President - Technical Services, India & South Asia, AccorHotels

**Sudeep Kolte**, VP - S&M, Gyproc India (Moderator) **Zachary Jekot**, Vice President, HKS

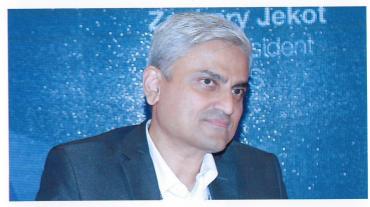
rinciple called 'SOUL'. It stands or Sustainability, Optimisation, niqueness and Livability. By ringing in all stakeholders and onsultants to the table at the eginning of the design process, re are able to save time, conserve nergy, maintain good indoor uality, achieve design goals and ptimise cost."

When asked to talk about roviding dedicated spaces for elatives and visitors in hospitals, aluri shared, "Over the last ve-six years, India has witnessed positive change in this regard. Ithough, the per-bed area in our

country is still low due to costs, hospitals have started looking at providing the right space, ambience and experience for relatives and visitors as well."

In the spotlight, next was Manav Thadani, founding chairman, Hotelivate, who touched upon the scenarios of inbound and domestic tourism in India that affect the travel and hospitality sector. He said: "Bleisure travelling, virtual assistants, customer acquisition and big data, sustainable hospitality, and coliving are booming trends currently."

His address led to the second panel discussion of the day that



Sudeep Kolte, VP - S&M, Gyproc India.



Reema Diwan, Corporate Director-Technical Services & Interiors, IHCL

focused on 'Profit by Design – Articulating on how intelligent hotel design can be a smart business investment'. The panelists included Zachary Jekot, VP, HKS; Rajiv Batra, head of Design, InterGlobe Hotels; Shiv Kashyap,



Rajiv Batra, Head of Design, InterGlobe Hotels.



Cachary Jekot, Vice President, HKS.



Delegate members engaging in a dialogue with the panel of speakers at the forum

/P of Technical Services, India & South Asia, AccorHotels; Reema Diwan, corporate director of Technical Services & Interiors, HCL; Salil Khare, MD India, Ascentis; and Thadani. The session was moderated by Sudeep Kolte, /P – S&M, Gyproc India.

Kolte kicked-off the talk, nquiring about the evolving nfrastructural practices in the hospitality industry. Khare responded, "Speaking from the perspective of project

management, building a hotel in a difficult location used to be a big challenge. But accessibility and availability has made the job much easier. Other than that, technology is constantly feeding the construction industry towards improving built structures." Jekot added that a significant trend was that "each hotel brand is on the lookout to carve its own niche in the market." Kashyap pitched in, "I believe trends are marketand demand-driven. From space



Salil Khare, Managing Director - India, Ascentis.



Shiv Kashyap, Vice President - Technical Services, India & South Asia, AccorHotels.

Architecture is about creating a place that takes care of people and helps them exceed their own potential. Not just hospitality and healthcare buildings but all spaces should be occupant-comfort centric."

requirements to F&B demands, from technology to comfort, every aspect needs to be considered. Although efficiency should always the base of all decisions, guest experience is top priority."

To take the idea of guest experience forward, Batra rightly said, "Today, luxury is more experiential than infrastructural. The various segments that a hotel has are directly related to how the experience stimulates or influences guests." Diwan agreed: "Earlier, luxury was all about expansiveness and volume. But now, it is more about lifestyle and experiences. This is not only favourable for building a strong and happy customer base, but also favourable for revenues and bottom lines."

At the end of the conference, Tridiv Ojha, National Head for Projects at Gyproc India, offered a token of appreciation to each of the panel speakers, which led to the conclusion of the forum with a vote of thanks on behalf of Saint-Gobain Gyproc and ITP India.