

# Let there be Light

Increasing use of natural light along with modern lighting systems focussing on patient comfort are becoming a crucial part of the lighting design equation in a hospital. **Archana Shukla** takes a peek



Strategic implementation of lighting systems in public areas like reception can make the patient feel comfortable

The buzzword in the healthcare industry today is comfort and all the activities are centered round providing the same, to the patient and his relatives. Apart from aesthetics and look, type of lights used can make a lot of difference in providing comfort in the hospital. Consequently, lighting is considered one of the prime aspects while planning the design and architecture of the hospital.

Like any other design element, there are different lighting systems that need to be implemented strategically. The congested, dingy corridors and rooms in a hospital are long forgotten now, as the hospitals have realised the importance of well-lit and open areas. Besides providing a better working environment for the staff, good lighting can also help to attract more patients.

The concept to plan lighting systems, which was earlier followed primarily by corporate hospitals, has now seeped into other private hospitals. As a result, variety of ideas are mushrooming for a favourable

and comfortable environment for patients. This includes opting for an open and brightly lit area; use of natural lights, wherever possible to save energy; preferring newer range of artificial lights for general and specialised departments; etc. With newer concepts and types of lighting available today, it is possible to work around various themes, while keeping the patient's comfort in mind.

## Different systems

While talking about the lighting systems for various areas, it is important to first understand the exact rationale of lighting in a hospital. Used for the purpose to enable better efficiency at work, the lighting system is effective only when the amount of light meets the requirement. Underlining the focus of hospitals today, PMS Ramakrishna, Marketing Manager-C&E, Wipro Lighting said, "The light should assist the patients in their faster recovery and make them feel comfortable during their stay in the

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