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A Case Study on Refurbishing
300 bedded Yashoda Hospital, Ghaziabad

Demolishing existing facilities and constructing new is not always an economically viable solution to provide modern healthcare services. There is a need for specific design sensibilities in the healthcare facilities to resonate with the current times. An ideal approach towards hospital design must cater to the needs of not only the patients & staff, but the attendants as well. It is really important to design spaces which inspire the staff and keep their energy levels afloat. With these considerations in mind, here's a list of certain factors that we've considered to re-invent an old facility into making an aesthetically pleasing & functionally efficient Healthcare Centre.

Refurbishing The Brand Identity Through Architecture

The prominent healthcare establishment of Ghaziabad, 300+ bedded Yashoda hospital had aged gracefully through the 25 years of its existence. However, now there was a dire need to reinstate their brand value in order to empower trust across the community. To strengthen their identity our design concept was to bring in a majestic façade along the face of the access road. This façade now acts as the threshold between the hospital and the world outside, while establishing a renewed identity of strength, trust and

BEFORE   AFTER

care. A lot of louvered panels and jali were used in repetitive modules to create this floating façade. Effort was also made to bring in this secondary skin onto all the faces of this hospital. Modular nature of this skin will lead to easy and affordable maintenance in the future. Green, being the brand colour was added at various intervals to create an overall impression of a special charisma and exceptional aesthetics, serving as a warm and friendly welcome to the hospital.

Strengthening The Backbone: Efficient Space Planning

Another key parameter required for the refurbishment process is an integrated & effective use of existing spaces with consideration to circulation, interaction, flexibility, daylight and ventilation. Healthcare must not only cater to patients and staff, but also the attendants thus provision of good open public spaces such as waiting areas is another significant factor. Reinventing nonexistent lobbies, while creating better waiting areas without hampering the circulation was taken care of. Very few possibilities of civil alterations in existing layout can sometimes be a challenge in healthcare refurbishment projects. Here at Yashoda, there were ill-illuminated corridors leading to Y-shaped patient rooms; which further led to disorganised furniture placement. Through efficient lighting, furniture refurbishment, artwork installations & incorporating common material palette which eventually ran across the hospital,
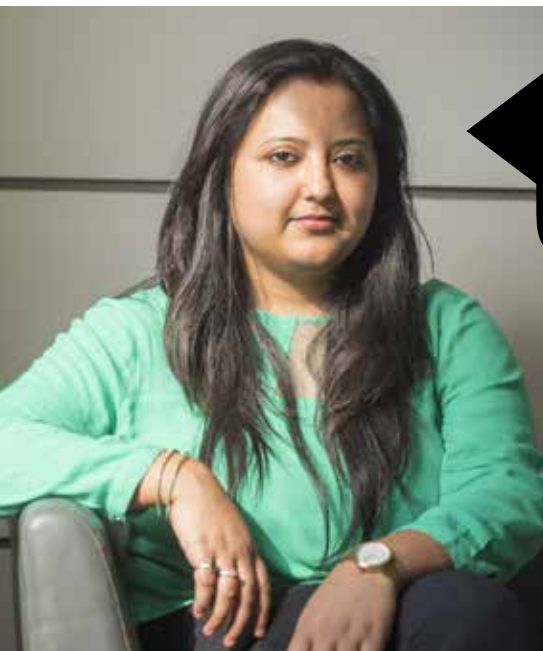
#ABOUT US
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we successfully managed to bring in the positive vibes which were lost with time. Soothing shades of beige, whites & greys were chosen & a pinch of lime green was added to develop a style statement.

Arteries & Veins: Segregating Circulation / Movements

Segregation of the patient and service circulation is one of the significant aspects to be considered, not only to avoid chaos but in order to increase efficiency for smooth functioning of a hospital. Hence the traffic flow needs to be differentiated at a point or integrated at other, to avoid creating a congested environment.

However minute it may look but an effective way-finding signage system is crucial to keeping a hospital environment systematic, productive, and free from interruptions. Its even more crucially significant to patients and attendants since they're already in a heightened state of anxiety. As designers it was very important for us to understand the patient and staff psychology and bring them comfort and hope through architectural interventions.

THE HEALING FACTOR

The fact that built environment has the ability to affect patients' health and psychological well-being, has been ignored in several existing healthcare buildings in the past. Taking in account the ideologies of "patient oriented care" the monotonous clinical environments can be transformed into warm, appealing and positive healing spaces.

By using a subtle yet inviting material palette running through the wards, corridors and every space possible, we intended to rejuvenate the internal areas.

Child psychology was the reason we chose a spectrum of bright and welcoming colours, which is a pleasing sight for the children in the PICU. Unlike other ICUs, this space exhibits a wider dash of colours. An interesting feature here is the comic wall that has an interactive character to itself with the display of cartoons with playful dialogues.

Artwork has the capability to heal patients; hence a lot of artwork has been installed at various intervals. Thus we managed to exploit every opportunity to create healing architecture.

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NURTURING WITH NATURE

Incorporating greeneries at different corners and focal points in a refurbishment project is a must. It is another integral aspect that helps in healing the patients while bringing them closer to nature. Proper daylight solution should be planned around these corners which results in better air quality. With proper placements at focal points, a courtyard is always a cherry on the cake to enrich the aesthetics of a healthcare facility.

COST & TIME OPTIMISATION

Renovation of a running hospital requires a lot of strategic time management, construction noise management, and workforce distribution strategy. Since the hospital was running, thus in order to avoid functional errors, we designed a concept which ran across the Hospital. Effective measures were taken to help reduce the overall cost. Furniture were re-furbished rather than changed, Vinyl Flooring were added on top of existing Marble flooring & a variety of measures were taken to save both time and money.