

the best in almost all branches of medicine worldwide, therefore the level of comfort," he said.

The comfort is drawn from the fact that India also offers them world-class medical institutions with trained personnel and great nursing care (with an impressive nurse to patient ratio). According to Dr Thomas, the most common treatments sought by foreigners are breast, facial rejuvenation and body contouring surgeries.

As a thumb rule, a cardiac bypass surgery in the US may cost as much as \$75,000 to \$100,000 while the same in India could cost as little as \$5,000. The variation in the cost is similar or even less in the case of cosmetic surgeries. "Indian doctors have excelled in all fields of medicine worldwide and are sought after for their special talents and personalised care. Today, many Indian hospitals provide cutting-edge treatments," said Dr Thomas, who is a certified cosmetic surgeon with a special interest in facial cosmetic surgery. He is also the founder-president of the Indian Society of Cosmetic Surgery.

Another attraction is that communication is easy as most Indians speak English fluently, particularly in a hospital setting. Last but not the least is the opportunity to visit places in India. When you can visit your surgeon at an exotic location, you can't ask for more. The popular places preferred by foreign nationals are Mumbai, Goa and Dehradun. "We draw patients from all walks of life, with ages ranging from 18-80," said Dr Thomas. "They may be gainfully employed or retired. Interestingly, more and more men are seeking cosmetic surgery these days."

The Cosmetic Surgery Institute is associated with hospitals of international repute in Mumbai and Goa to provide appropriate pre- and post-surgery care. The institute has built a strong reputation, not only in India but also across the globe.

The quality of its medical professionals is acknowledged worldwide. Dr Thomas, for example, is being sought after for his high-quality treatment. "An innate sense of artistry and appreciation of beauty and form seem to have helped a lot, as cosmetic sur-

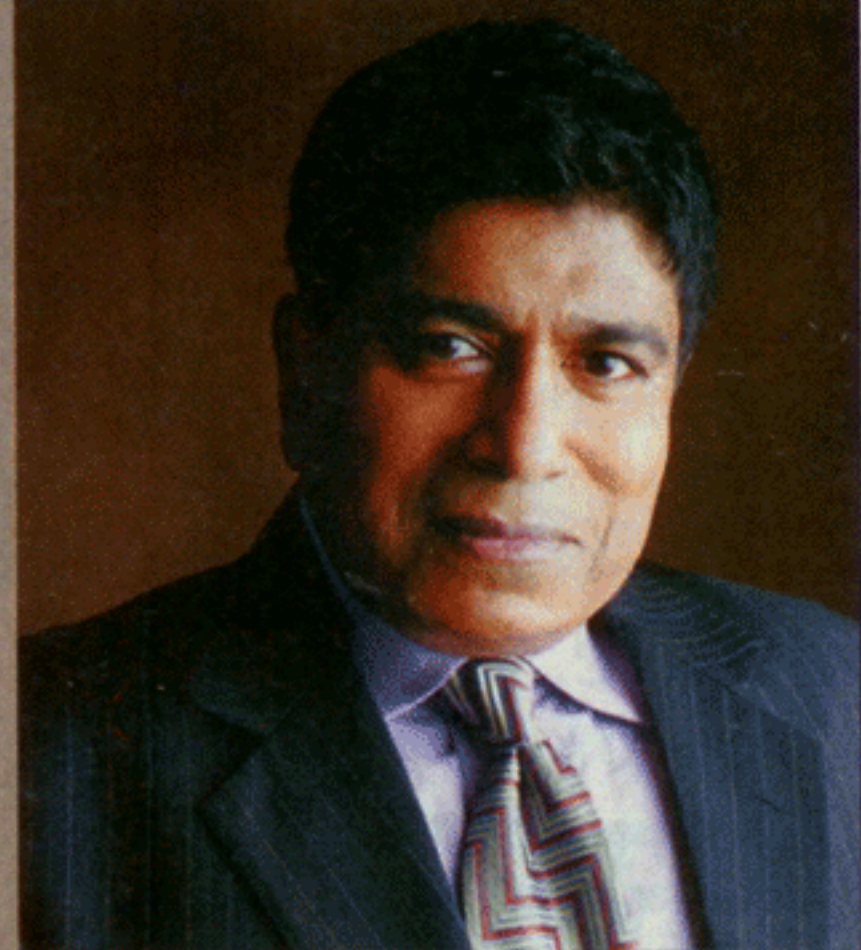
Doctor as an artist

Dr Mohan Thomas, the most sought-after cosmetic surgeon today, is not one to drop names. He is tight-lipped about his patients, who are from all walks of life and continents. An artist with the scalpel, Dr Thomas's expertise in facial rejuvenation, body shaping and contouring (face and body design) has been acknowledged worldwide. His passion is reflected on his face, eyes and speech. He is a keen listener, which helps him understand his patients better. His busy professional life has not stopped him from contributing to major journals like the Journal of Aesthetic Surgery and the American Journal of Cosmetic Surgery. So much so that there'll be no major meeting without Dr Thomas being a speaker or faculty. His speaking and teaching engagements run across the globe. The American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery has honoured him with an Award of Excellence in Cosmetic Surgery Education and the French Society of Aesthetic Surgery has made him a Member of Honor.

He takes time out to study each case individually. Dr Thomas is very selective about his cases as he believes in delivering the "goods". His kind and gentle style makes him an instant hit. It is no surprise that years after their first procedure patients seek him out for advice and wax eloquent about his artistic touch.

The Cosmetic Surgery Institute was designed by Dr Thomas with patient safety and comfort in

gery is a field where surgical skill has to blend with artistry. Being sensitive to the needs of the patient and taking the time and effort to listen and communicate with one and all are very important attributes to success. My recipe for a good outcome is the patient's wishes, medically appropriate procedure plus personal artistic inputs," he said.



mind. Top international consultants have assisted in creating this totally dedicated and exclusive Institute for Cosmetic Surgery offering premium patient care.

The team at The Cosmetic Surgery Institute has compiled some of the most successful techniques as part of their services to achieve this goal. The institute offers a unique option to enhance your looks, persona, sensuality, physical appeal and build self-confidence.

The Cosmetic Surgery Institute has a panel of experts (all trained under Dr Thomas) representing not only their expertise but also their areas of interest. The institute provides proven and mainstream cosmetic surgery services after extensive research on treatments and procedures. The dedicated and professionally-trained staff includes surgical assistants, registered nurses and certified anaesthetists who pay special attention to every detail of your care.

Quality and safety are given utmost importance at the institute. It is built to US standards and is ISO certified.

The Indian health care sector is making a grand attempt to catch up with the reputation of its medical professionals, globally. Many of our hospitals are now accredited to international agencies like the JCI and provide the same quality of care as in other countries, at a fraction of the cost, without compromising on safety standards. ■