

## Ramnagar Satellite Hospital

As part of its efforts to reach comprehensive eye care to the poor and needy in the underserved areas, Venu designed a comprehensive eye care programme for the newly formed state of Uttaranchal. The reasons for selecting Uttaranchal were many :

- One of the most underserved states with respect to healthcare
- Availability of eye care services is skeletal. The volume and quality of eye care is much below the national average
- The terrain is difficult with 11 of the 13 districts being high mountain areas. The climate conditions in most parts is extreme

In May 2005, Venu started its OPD services in Block Ramnagar, district Nainital, from the Government Hospital, Ramdutt Joshi Civil Hospital. A team comprising an Ophthalmologist and an Optometrist would visit the Hospital once a week and those identified for surgery would be given a date when the Eye Surgeon alongwith an OT Technician would perform the surgeries. When the number of Patients increased and the waiting list demanded regular services, a team of 1 Ophthalmologist, 2 Optometrists, 1 OT Technician and a driver were stationed locally and daily OPD services began. A periphery was also started, 70 kms from the Ramnagar Centre.



On 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2006, Venu shifted to its own hospital building in Ramnagar. This was made possible with financial support and land given by the Government of Uttaranchal and Christoffel Blind Mission, who sponsored the construction of the building and equipment.