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Great Scotland Yard hotel site sold to Indian tycoon for £110m

By Ben Martin

INDIAN billionaire Yusuffali Kader has bought Great Scotland Yard, which is being converted into a five-star hotel, from Galliard Group for £110m.

Lulu Group International, the Abu Dhabi-based conglomerate run by Mr Kader, will take ownership of the venue once Galliard has finished building.

Galliard bought the 125-year lease for the Edwardian, grade II-listed building in central London in 2013 and construction is already 30pc complete.

Great Scotland Yard was the headquarters of the Metropolitan Police for

61 years until 1890. It was subsequently used by the Army, and, more recently, as the Ministry of Defence library until 2004. Mr Kader, its new owner, is one of India's richest men and Lulu Group has a range of interests, from supermarkets to food processing.

The 92,000 sq ft hotel, to be called The Great Scotland Yard, is due to open in early 2017 and the most expensive suite could fetch as much as £10,000 a night. Lulu has contracted Steigenberger Hotel Group to manage the site.

Galliard had hoped to sell to Malmaison Hotel Group. However, talks ended after Malmaison was itself sold.

