

A City Within A City



The apartment complex

Imagine living next to your favourite shopping mall, in a place where you don't have to brave the perils of the Colombo traffic every time you want to go shopping, a place where you can look out from the comfort of your balcony and glimpse the sea. It sounds too good to be true but it could soon be a reality.

This is the scenario envisaged under the Havelock City project, as outlined by Remaz Ghouse, Chief Operating Officer at Overseas Realty, which is currently overseeing construction of the second phase of the project. This second phase involves the construction of two residential towers, Layards Tower and Davidson Tower. The towers will each extend up to 22 floors, and will comprise 225 apartments altogether.

Words Chiranthi Rajapakse

Commenting on the apartments, Remaz points out that the extensive height of the planned towers will provide residents with panoramic views of the city and, from the higher floors, of the sea. All the apartments will have a balcony, fully fitted kitchen, timber flooring in the bedrooms and built in wardrobes. Construction is

due to start in early 2011, and prospective buyers can look at the show apartments that have already been completed.

The project planners have also focused on providing a pleasant landscaped environment for the residents, so that in spite of the apartments' convenient central location, residents are cocooned from the hustle and bustle of the city. An extensive six acre garden is planned says Remaz.

Another unique feature of Havelock City will be the synergy that comes between the commercial and the residential. The next planned component of this project is the construction of a commercial complex consisting of two office towers, a large shopping mall, multiple food and beverage outlets, and a cinema multiplex. As its name implies, along with the residential towers, this will form a city within a city. Says Remaz, "From the residents' point of view, the shopping mall is just next door, all they have to do is walk across". Construction of the commercial complex is planned to start in the third quarter of 2011.

Apart from checking out the shopping, apartment residents will also be able to relax and enjoy the facilities of a clubhouse, which is due to be completed by early 2012. The clubhouse will include a swimming pool, function rooms and barbeque.

The implementation of the second phase takes place following the successful completion of two residential towers, Elibank Towers and Park Towers, in the first phase of the project. Almost all the apartments in the first phase have been sold out, says Remaz.

Overseas Realty is also in charge of developing and managing the World Trade Centre, Colombo. Under the leadership of Chairman, S P Tao, Overseas Realty plans to forge ahead with the development of the Havelock City project and with it, offer Colombo residents new options in stylish living.

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