



Anilana Hotels launches eight hotel and property development projects with US\$ 122m investment

Anilana Hotels and Properties Ltd, a group controlled by entrepreneur and frontline Asset Manager Asanga Seneviratne and his family, will shortly launch eight hotel and property development projects with investments totaling to US\$ 122 million.

The group successfully raised capital through a private placement of US \$ 70 million early last year, will apply for a listing on the Colombo Stock Exchange end January, Seneviratne said.

The former boutique hotel chain moved out of the "small hotel " category in 2010 and invested heavily in property, mainly in the East coast and now will open the first ever five star resort on the world famous Nilaveli stretch in Trincomalee and another project in Passikudah, both in April, he said yesterday.

"The stunning 70 - suite five star resort at Nilaveli boasts of state of the art technology and design and has two 30-metre swimming pools , an open kitchen, two restaurants , roof top dining and Spa's designed by a world renowned specialist. The 60 room five star Resort in Passikudah is similar in style and the chalets are a few metres away from the ocean," he said

Two other properties are under construction in Dambulla and Panichankerni and are set to open early 2013. The developments under design are Blue Lagoon in Trincomalee , Vakarai, Kalkudah and Colombo, he said.

The Chairman of the Group is Peter Amerasinghe who heads the Aristons Group of Companies and its Board comprises leading hotelier and promotor Prassana Jayawardene and former Bank of Ceylon Chairman Gamini Wikramanayake.

The group COO in charge of the hotels operations is British National Trevor Burton who counts over 23 years of experience with the Grand Hyatt Group of Hotels and has launched many Hyatt properties around the world.

The construction operations is headed by Gihan Zoysa who successfully built over 800 houses in the east coast after the tsunami.

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