

# Towards eco-friendly homes

SatyaVani Homes has floated 'Green Homes' concept which is aimed at conserving water and energy to the maximum, writes **M.L. MELLY MAITREYI**

All those who complain that Hyderabad is no longer what it used to be with the city literally turning into a concrete jungle with rising carbon emissions can take comfort that eco-friendly 'Green Homes' may well become the trend in the coming years. The booming construction industry is one of the major carbon emitting sources in the world. But by going in for eco-friendly construction material and conserving non-renewable energy resources, research studies have proved that carbon emissions and global warming can be significantly brought down.

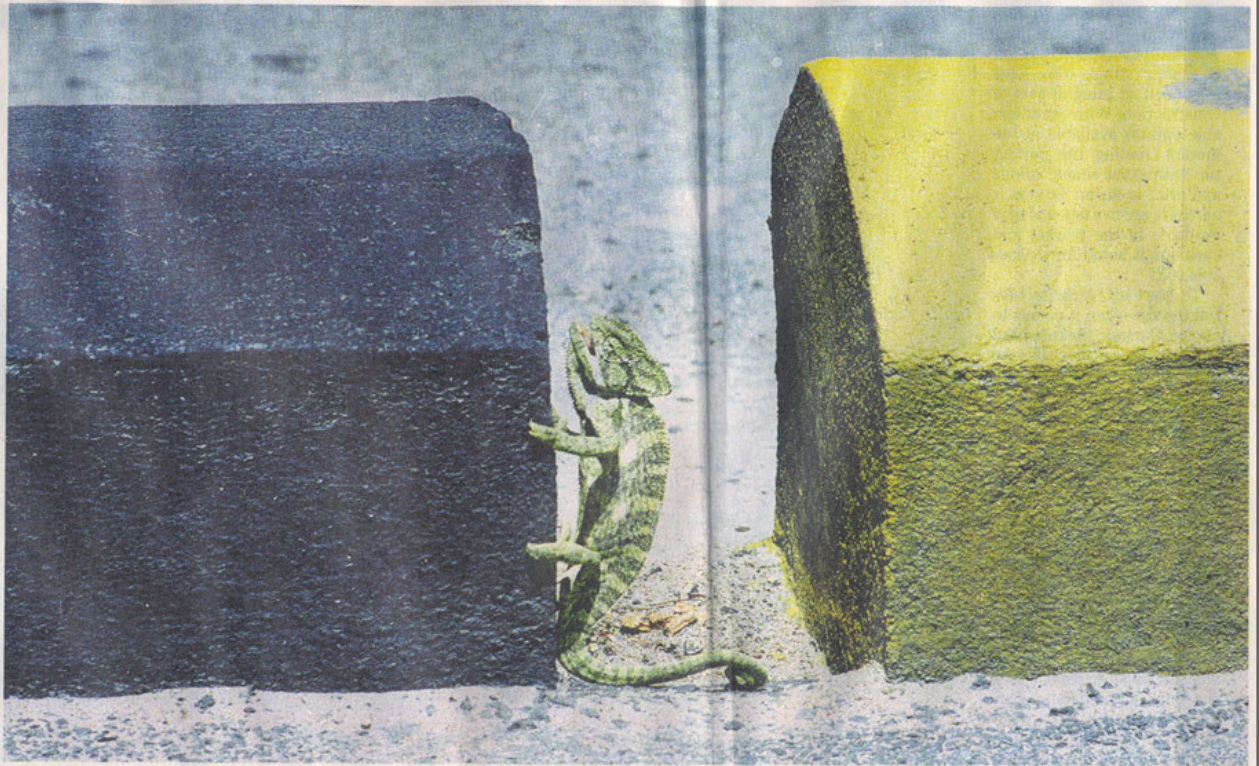
And making a pioneering effort in the city is SatyaVani Homes, the real estate company, through its 'Green Homes' concept. It will build eco-friendly homes in various locations in the twin cities.

"We all worry about global warming and the alarming impact it has on environment. Green Homes help in addressing the adverse impact of conventional concrete structures on the environment," says Surya Prakash, a structural engineer and Managing Partner of SatyaVani Homes.

## The design

A 1,500 sq.ft conventional house built in 200 sq.yard plot emits 600 metric tonnes of carbon per year while consuming 6 KWH of energy as per Government estimates. Green Homes would significantly reduce this. The concept is yet to be implemented in the residential sector anywhere in the country, claims Surya Prakash.

"Our goal is to create a zero impact building. That is a



**CAUSE FOR CONCERN:** Hyderabad has turned into a veritable concrete jungle with massive construction activity taking place, without any consideration for environment. - PHOTO: P.V. SIVAKUMAR

structure that conserves water and energy to the maximum, uses no toxic materials," he says. In line with its Green concept, the company intends to set up captive wind and power plants and use biogas besides outsourcing it. The Green Home projects would deploy recycled, reusable material, minimal waste disposal

system, total solid waste management, separate community washing space to prevent detergent mix-up in the sewage as treating such sewage pushes up costs. Incandescent bulbs would give way to power conserving LED bulbs and only refrigerators free of CFCs would be permitted inside these homes. Importantly

Green Homes would be offered to citizens who would have to sign an agreement prior to purchase to abide by the norms to be adopted in Green Homes.

## Location

The sites that were located close to companies like Satyam, Maytas, Rahejas IT

Park, Apparel Park were selected targeting employees working there to reduce their commuting time and bring down congestion on the roads, he says. The company proposed to build 5,000 homes in five years while 2,000 homes would be completed in three years at a cost of Rs.400 crores. A US-based company

Amitayus Investments entered into an MoU with Satya Vani Homes to invest \$10 million through FDI, he disclosed. While the villas to come up on Narsapur road would be in the range of Rs.60 lakhs to Rs.1 crore, flats in Annojiguda and Gogillapur would be priced at Rs.30 lakhs to Rs.50 lakhs.