

THE PERFECT NEST

DEVAYANI SHAHANE

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THE Ganapati Netralaya, a state-of-the-art eye centre in Aurangabad, is the work of renowned architect M H Dalal. Dalal has combined contemporary and medical needs to create this amazing structure. And now driven by his need to develop a commune for senior citizens, Dalal has joined hands with Vascon and Manisha Constructions for his latest project - the Golden Nest, which will be housed in the ongoing Marigold project at Kalyani Nagar.

"The Golden Nest, as the name suggests is a place which provides for a nest (a secure life) within the proximity and environs of every day living," Dalal tells us. Hence the need to house it in a full fledged housing scheme. "Considering their ongoing project magnitude called Marigold (45 acres), I decided to house a senior citizen commune of about two and a half acres within this project," he informs.

Dalal is quick to point out that this is not an old-age home, but more like a community centre for people, who just happen to be senior cit-

izens. Dalal is known for his expertise in specialised designing. But for this project, he has used his architectural prowess and structured and conceptualised the project as its CEO. "I am in charge of the creative work, but the final drawings have not been done by me," he admits.

NASIR SHAIKH



HOME COMFORT: M H Dalal, architect and CEO for the Golden Nest Commune, a unique project aimed at senior citizens

Golden Nest has an in-built infrastructure, which takes into consideration house-keeping, health-care, fire detection, emergency helplines and a 24-hour ambulance service, to name just a few. "These are all comforts provided for emergency purposes," says Dalal.

The services provided are many, with a tie-up with Ruby Hall and HDFC bank. The tie-up with HDFC bank encompasses the collection of a corpus from all residents, which is put in a foundation with trustees nominated by the bank members, residents, etc. "This will ensure complete transparency and safety of the functioning of such a corpus," he adds.

While the project will kick-start tomorrow, with an estimated 18 months speculated till completion, there are other similar projects Dalal wants to undertake in areas such as Baner.