

PHOTO COURTESY: KUMAR PROPERTIES, MARVEL REALTORS, AVINASH BHOSALE GROUP AND GOEL GANGA DEVELOPMENTS

A PRIVATE OASIS

When a water body dots a residence, it spells luxury. No wonder, the trend of having private pools at home is fast catching up to create an all-new luxe wave

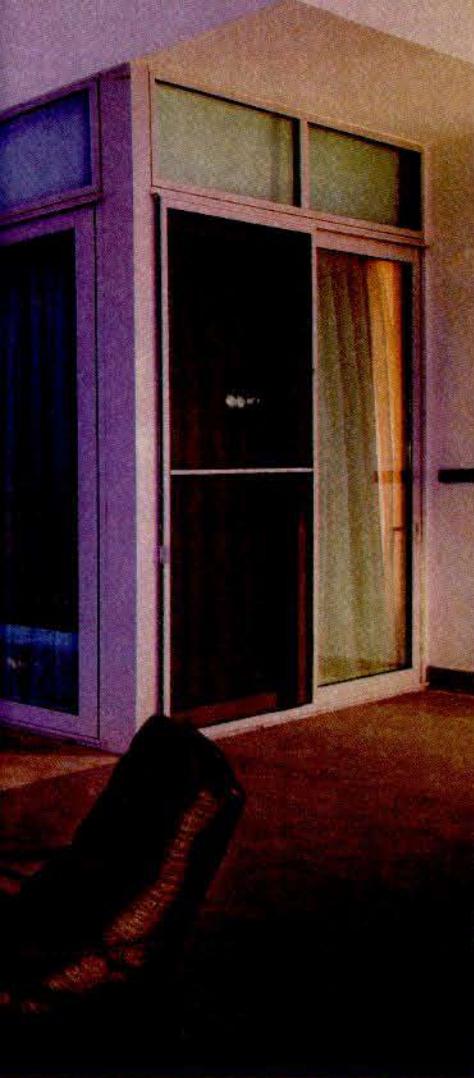
BY SONIA RODRIGUES

Fascination for water bodies is gaining a lot of popularity among the residents of Pune. Swimming pools, fountains and other forms of water bodies at home are said to increase the glam quotient of a home, and is thus the rapidly growing trend, say experts.

LUXURY QUOTIENT

Real estate builders feel that it is time that luxury is taken to the next level. Having a big common pool in a residential building is passé. The trend now is to have private pools in individual apartments or builder houses. There have been a number of exciting developments in water body designs and settings reflecting the trend of having water bodies right at home.

Right from elevated pools, to natural landscapes, or even rock waterfalls, hanging gardens, English



THERE ARE A PLETHORA OF POOL-SETTING THEMES AND OPTIONS AVAILABLE THESE DAYS TO EXCITE THE HOMEOWNERS WHO WANT TO LIVE LIFE, THE LUXE WAY



overall landscape of a home or an apartment complex. Sitting by a beautifully-lit pool and having the water lap gently at your feet not only rejuvenates, but also enhances the architectural elegance of a property," states Jain.

TREND TALK

Today, most builders in the city offer various options of having swimming pools or water bodies in many of



country garden fountains and European themed grottos—there are a plethora of pool-setting themes to excite the homeowners who want to live life, the luxe way! Rajas Jain, managing director, Kumar Properties, stresses that with the Indian luxury home-buyers becoming more confident and discerning in their tastes, they are now looking for residences with distinctive elements and spaces that simply spell indulgence. "A swimming pool by its mere presence serves as a source of beauty and rejuvenation. It occupies a central point of interest within the

their projects. Gunjan Goel, media and marketing director, Goel Ganga Developments, feels that water bodies add a good aesthetic value to any environment. "The sound of flowing water is extremely pleasing to the ear, and adds serenity to the surroundings. After a hectic day at work, the sound can be soothing. A lot of people are actually opting for water bodies at home with exotic lighting to add a fun element." Other than increasing the glam quotient, water bodies are said to bring in tranquillity at home, and a lot of developers are factoring in this aspect

WATER IS A COMMON ELEMENT IN MODERN LANDSCAPING; IT SYMBOLISES LIFE, PURITY AND CLEANSING. THAT'S THE REASON MORE AND MORE PEOPLE IN PUNE ARE GOING IN FOR WATER BODIES AT HOME

COVER STORY

also in their marketing strategies. Amit Bhosale, executive director, Avinash Bhosale Group, stresses that incorporating *Vaastu* in a home with water bodies makes a property even more viable, "Water bodies serve more purpose than one. Other than giving a boost to the aesthetic element, they also create a perfect setting for natural surroundings in an otherwise concrete building."

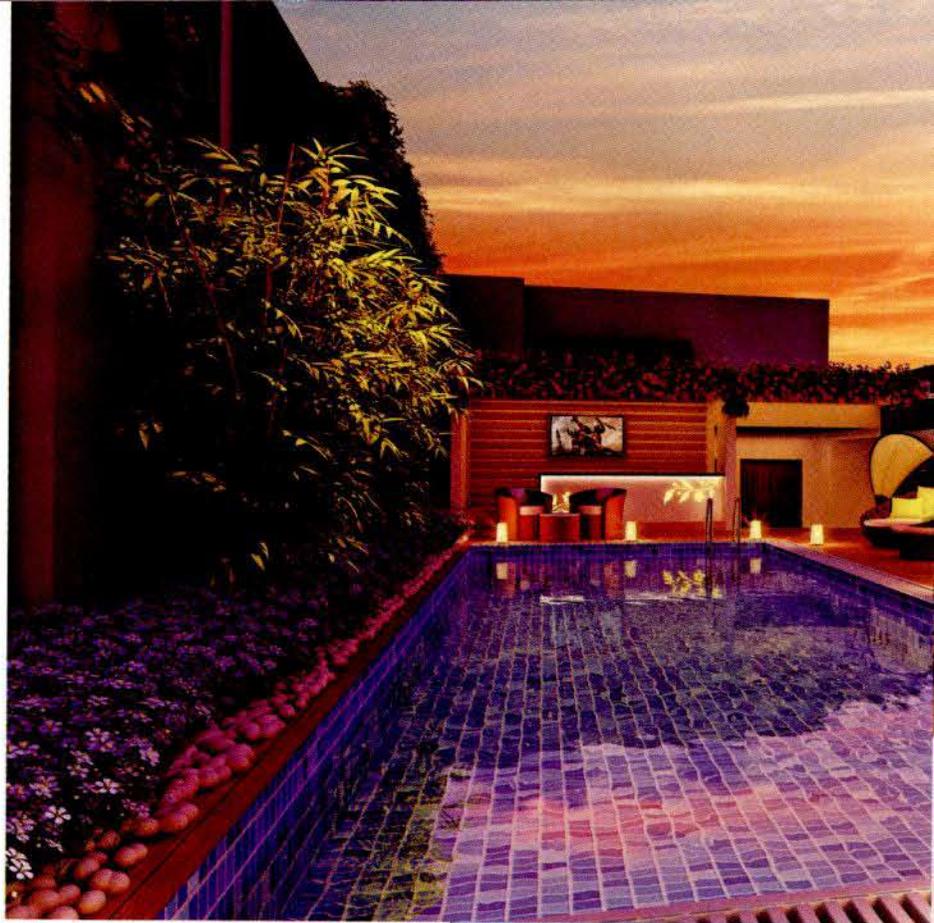
WHAT A MAKEOVER

A swimming pool is an attractive enhancement to one's home; it can transform a garden into a magical oasis. Ankush Seth, director-interior design, Marvel Realtors, feels water is a common element in that modern landscaping. It symbolises life, purity and cleansing. "A swimming pool represents comfort, relaxation, and enjoyment. An indoor swimming pool often becomes an aesthetic feature when it is enhanced with underwater lighting, indoor landscaping, designer tiles, and various other décor features. It complements and reinforces the size and uniqueness of an apartment and epitomises elegance. On a more subliminal and subconscious level, it connects with people and infuses a sense of calmness and serenity. An indoor pool for homes always creates an exquisite place for all the family members, offering them the intimate environment they need," points out Seth.

JAZZ IT UP

Since time immemorial, water has captivated our five senses collec-

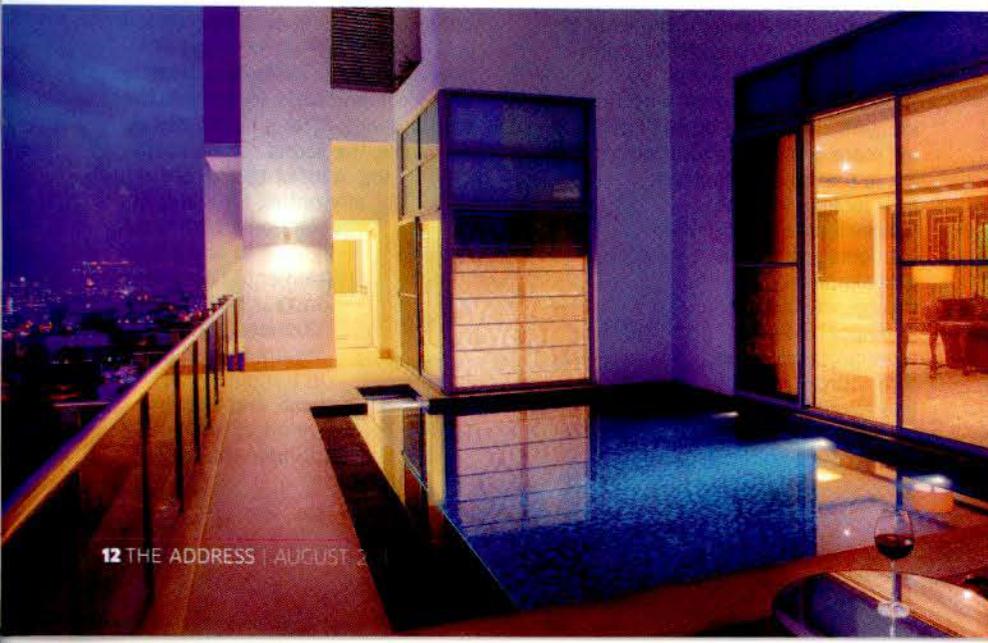
tively, and luxury as a concept, acknowledges this deep connection. "Features of underwater lighting, indoor landscaping with a combination of ornamental plants, shrubs and unique décor features around private pools are being seamlessly integrated to provide garden-like ambience to high-end customers who want their home to be much more than just four walls of a home," concludes Jain.

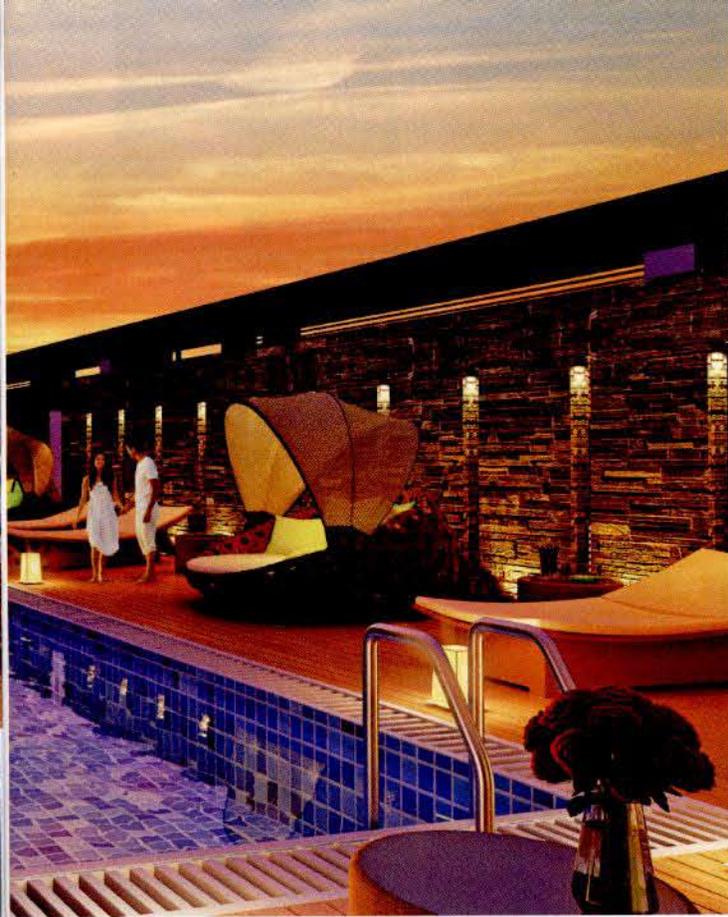


ENJOY,
BUT REMEMBER

Care must be taken to ensure ideal water-proofing to prevent seepage when constructing indoor pools/water bodies

Other than being private and utility driven, an advanced filtration system certifying recycled, reusable and treated water must be complete with treatment guides keeping international norms in mind





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