

## Inno Group To Raise Fund For New Project

Investment group Inno Group Holdings Ltd is raising a new, fifth fund to develop a housing project near Chennai, after investing around ₹362 crore so far in hotel and housing projects in India.

The new ₹150 crore fund will be raised from overseas investors, mostly high net worth individuals (HNIs) in Belgium. The firm, which has separate investment, real estate and advisory units, has a capital commitment of about \$200 million from its investors.

Inno Group, set up by Belgian nationals of Indian origin, Rajamannar Ramaswamy and Sajid Sathak, functions as a private equity (PE) fund and is also developing real estate projects on its own.

Property analysts believe that raising global capital of any amount is very difficult in the current scenario when a number of private equity (PE) funds are struggling to bring in money for Indian real estate projects.

Most funds have been unable to raise overseas capital because of the weak macro-economic scenario as well as the fact that not many global funds have generated good enough returns from Indian real estate investments in the past.

Inno Group intends to strengthen its real estate development portfolio, and has decided to develop projects on its own.

Under Inno Real Estate Pvt Ltd, the company launched Inno Geo City, a 131-acre township project near Chennai, and has sold 450 apartments in the first phase.

Also, it will launch more such township-projects under the Inno Geo City brand that may have both mid-income and high-end apartments.

Instances of PE funds getting into full-time real estate development are not new. Fire Capital Fund ventured into pure-play real estate development late last year, when the management tied up with US-based professionals to launch Astrum Homes to provide middle-income housing. 🏠

