

# MELWA JOINS WITH HILTON FOR A MEGA PROJECT

Melwa Hotel and Resorts partnered with Hilton, who will manage the company's six new hotels in Sri Lanka.



(L-R): P P Barathakumar, P P Devaraj, P P Barathamannickam and P P Anandharajah, Directors of Melwa Hotels and Resorts; William Costley, Vice President, Operations SEA & India, Hilton; Kieran Bestall, Director of Development Asia, Hilton; P P Muruganandhan, Director and Professor Ranjith Bandara, Director Business Development, Melwa Hotels and Resorts



The signing of the agreement between Melwa Hotels and Resorts and Hilton

**M**elwa Hotel and Resorts, a fully owned subsidiary of Melwire Rolling, signed a pivotal agreement with Hilton to manage its six hotels to be built in the Island. The partnership is considered a milestone for the tourism and hospitality industry where a 100 per cent Sri Lankan-owned firm undertakes to invest in six hotel projects under the Hilton brand.

The six hotels positioned in Sri Lanka's popular tourist locations are the, Hilton Kandy

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Resort, the Hilton Yala Resort & Spa, Hilton Kosgoda Resort, the DoubleTree by Hilton Nuwara Eliya, DoubleTree by Hilton Colombo International Airport and DoubleTree by Hilton Negombo.

William Costley, Vice President, Operations SEA & India, Hilton; Kieran Bestall, Director of Development Asia, Hilton; Professor Ranjith Bandara, Director Business Development, Melwa Hotels and Resorts and Melwa Group Directors, P P Devaraj, P P Barathakumar, P P Anandharajah, P P Barathamannickam along with the senior management of Hilton were present at the signing of the agreement.

Mewire Rolling, the holding company of Melwa Group, is a leader in the steel industry and a brand led by a strong Board of Directors and senior management team. The Group now focuses on investment areas such as hotel and leisure, real estate and property development, on construction and interior solutions as well as plantations, chemicals and paints.

"Today we are making history in Sri Lanka. With Hilton being in the business for 30 years, and now having to promote six hotels in a row along with Melwa, we will surely be able to reach the tourism demand here." stated Professor Ranjith Bandara.

Groundwork in the six hotels including three five-star properties is currently ongoing with the 106-room Negombo Resort and Yala boutique hotel to start operations in 2019. The other four projects, a 97-room hotel in Nuwara Eliya, a 200-room transit hotel in Katunayake, 200-room hotel in Kosgoda and a 150-room hotel in Kandy are expected to be completed by early 2025. The total investment is 15 billion rupees.

"We at Hilton are honoured and humbled that Melwa Hotels and Resorts have chosen Hilton as strategic partner in developing world class hospitality in key tourist destinations," stated William Costley. 