

With IOD in hand, Bhendi Bazaar one step closer to redevelopment

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Days after Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis extended support to the redevelopment plan of Bhendi Bazaar, the cluster development project received the Intimation of Disapproval (IOD) from the BMC.

According to the Saifee Burhani Upliftment Trust (SBUT) which is executing the project spread over 16.5 acres, getting the IOD is "one step closer to begin construction".

SBUT officials will now fulfil all conditions put forth in the document, before applying for the Commencement Certificate (CC). Once CC is in place, actual construction can begin.

The layout plan for the Rs 3,000 crore project has several 40-storey buildings, and will rehabilitate 3,200 families and 1,200 shops

CEO of SBUT Abbas Masters said, "The IOD is a major milestone in the project and has provided a stimulus to its development. We are now one step closer to begin the phase-wise construction that will provide Bhendi Bazaar a much needed transformation."

At present, over 60 dilapidated buildings have been demolished in Bhendi Bazaar and



A file photo of Bhendi Bazar

over 1,600 families have moved to residential transit homes. The Trust has acquired more than 85 per cent of the buildings, and has received the all-important environment clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

The project of demolishing old buildings and constructing several multi-storey towers was conceptualised in 2009, and the first step was taken in 2012. It was among the first few cluster development projects in the city. However, while other projects fizzled out, the Bhendi Bazaar plan has made slow but steady progress.