

# Bhendi Bazar awaits last green nod

Clara Lewis | TNN

**Mumbai:** The city's largest project of cluster redevelopment of old and dilapidated buildings in south Mumbai is only one step from receiving the final environmental clearance before work can start on it.

Last week, the Bohra community's Rs 1,500-crore redevelopment project, spread over 14 acres in Bhendi Bazar, was granted green clearance by the State Environment Appraisal Committee-2 (SEAC-2); the panel has been set up to specifically scrutinize and clear proposals for work in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region. Now, the project, which is being executed by the Saifee Burhani Upliftment Trust (SBUT), will approach the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority for the final green nod.

After the final environmental clearance was received, constructions would start in April, SBUT secretary Sheikh Abdeali Bhanpurawala, .

A brainchild of Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin, spiritual leader of the one million-strong Dawoodi Bohra community, the project embodies the redevelopment of old and rundown houses in Bhendi Bazar, which stretches from the JJ flyover junction at Byculla to Minara Masjid on the south. Around 80% members of the

TOWERING PLAN			
PLOT AREA: 14 ACRES			
<b>CLUSTER 1</b>	<b>CLUSTER 2</b>	<b>CLUSTER 3</b>	<b>CLUSTER 4</b>
Flats   58	Flats   652	Flats   582	Flats   707
Shops   232	Shops   185	Shops   172	Shops   152
Rooms   88	Max height of building   101.3m	Max height of building   120m	Max height of building   144m
Max height of building   65m			
			<b>CLUSTER 5</b>
			Flats   531
			Shops   141
			Max height of building   129m
			<b>CLUSTER 6</b>
			Flats   901
			Shops   221
			Max height of building   159.5m
			<b>CLUSTER 7</b>
			Flats   252
			Shops   84
			Max height of building   160.3m
			<b>CLUSTER 8</b>
			Flats   1,292
			Shops   172
			Max height of building   220.7m
			<b>CLUSTER 9</b>
			Mhada/Public Housing: 215 tenements

Bohra community lives and works out of this area. The work comprises nine clusters, with buildings ranging from 15 to 62 floors. Four existing mosques will be retained. Of the 252 Mhada buildings, 152 have been scrutinized and certified by the authority. Sources at the trust said around 800 tenants had already been shifted to transit camps in Mazgaon and Sewri.

While granting the nod, the SEAC-2 di-

rected the trust to draw up a traffic management plan as large number of trucks will ply the area for three years during the constructions; the trust has also been told to set up foot overbridges at important junctions and to use only treated waste water for the work. The project proponent has been asked by the SEAC-2 to ensure that all mitigation measures are implemented in "letter and spirit".