

In one week, MHADA to ready roadmap for Dharavi Sector 5



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THE Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority (MHADA) is expected to come up with a roadmap for the Rs 2,000-crore redevelopment of Dharavi Sector 5 within a week.

In a meeting attended by MHADA officials and Principal Secretary (Housing) Gautam Chatterjee on Tuesday, it was decided that a special cell under a senior MHADA official will be created to take care of the project, which until now was handled by the Dharavi Development Authority. Over the next fortnight, MHADA is expected to appoint

LOTTERY ON MAY 31

THE MUMBAI Board has collected a total deposit of Rs 331 crore from the 1.82 lakh applications it has received for its annual lottery expected to be held on May 31. A total of 4,034 houses, mostly for low income and economically weaker sections, are available this time around. While the interest on the deposit amount will go to Axis Bank, MHADA has got about Rs 65 lakh from application fee.

in for fresh bids.

Senior MHADA officials said many residents will be temporarily housed in transit camps that have been constructed in Dhar-

a consultant to work out the project details. The housing board is toying with the idea of approaching the World Bank or the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for generating funds for the project.

Chatterjee said it was decided at the meeting that a timeframe will be finalised within the next three or four days for various steps to be taken by MHADA to expedite work on Sector 5, including appointing a contractor, deciding where the houses will be built, town planning and architectural issues, etc. "MHADA will also appoint a consultant who will oversee planning for Sector 5," he said.

Last week, Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan had passed orders that the 23-hectare Sector 5 near Mahim Nature Park will be carved out from the two sq km area of Dharavi and handed over to MHADA for redevelopment. As for the remaining four sectors, the government is expected to go

avi. The redevelopment of Sector 5 is expected to generate about 5,000 affordable homes for MHADA, which barely has any land bank in Mumbai. "Even when we go in for fresh retendering for the remaining four sectors, we will ensure that we get additional homes from the developers who win the bids. Under the previous plan, there was only a provision for collecting premium, but it said nothing about handing over built-up area to MHADA," said Mumbai Board chairman Amarjeet Singh Manhas.

Meanwhile, MHADA is expected to enter into a joint venture with the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC) to create affordable houses. About 100 acres in Lodhivali and some land at Adai, both near Panvel, will be used by MHADA to create public housing. MSRDC, on the other hand, will benefit from the revenue generated through the project.
