

# ARCHITECTS ROPED IN FOR GIRGAUM SITU REHAB SCHEME

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
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The Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation (MMRC) has appointed architects G.D. Sambhare and R.H. Mahimatura to provide architectural and design services for Girgaum and Kalbadevi in situ rehabilitation scheme. The land comprising 19 buildings at Girgaum and Kalbadevi will be utilised to carry out construction activities of Metro-III corridor (Colaba-Bandra-SEEPZ). The total cost incurred for appointing the architect is more than ₹6 crore.

A total of 19 buildings are impacted due the works and thus have to be demolished. Around 293 residential and 341 commercial Project Affected Families (PAFs) were identified.

The affected families will be rehabilitated at the same place. The MMRC assured that the buildings would be redeveloped at the same pace as that of the project, which means both will be complete by 2021. The authorities are waiting for a NOC from MHADA. The acquisition process is also pending with the original landowners.

“Of the 19 buildings, 15 are cess buildings and hence we need an NOC from MHADA. The housing authority will conduct its own survey and will provide NOC by October,” said Ashwini Bhide, managing director of MMRC.

Once the NOC is secured from MHADA, the residents will be shifted to MHADA buildings or the shelters arranged by BMC. Ms Bhide said the project would acquire 8,600 square metres of land out of which 2,600 sq metres will be utilised for metro construction activities. The rest of the space will be used for redevelopment.