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PCMC to conduct audit of civic buildings

PUNE: The Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) will conduct a structural audit of its properties that are more than 30 years old. The assessment of other important civic properties will be carried out in the second phase.

Speaking to TOI, engineering department spokesperson Shirish Poreddy said, "PCMC will soon start the audit work. It has also finalised a panel of seven structural engineers who will be authorised to conduct the structural audit of private buildings in the municipal limits at the rates approved by the civic body. The standing committee on Tuesday approved the panel and the audit rates for various types of buildings."

He said the civic body will only assess the buildings it owns. Owners of private buildings will have to do the exercise at their own expense. "The civic body cannot force them to carry out the audit, but it is advisable for owners of old private buildings to get the buildings assessed so that strengthening measures can be taken to avoid any mishap," Poreddy said.

A civic official said citizens who think their building is too old and needs to be strengthened can approach the engineering department for details of the structural audit rates and the panel.

The resolution approved by the committee also said in the second phase, the civic body will conduct a structural audit of the PCMC main office building, zonal offices, property tax divisional offices, hospitals, dispensaries, auditoriums and municipal schools, among other buildings.