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Mysoreans may soon get their dream house

Shankar Bennur

MUDA is thinking of re-introducing Own Your House Scheme

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'Houses in categories suiting different income groups has been proposed'

Proposal may be brought up at the next board meeting

MYSORE: Owning a house in the "city of palaces" may not take too long if the plans of the Mysore Urban Development Authority (MUDA) are executed.

Investment option

Following reports that about 40 per cent of site holders in its layouts are "outsiders" who may not construct houses but keep their sites as an investment option, the MUDA is contemplating re-introducing Own Your House Scheme which was discontinued due to technical reasons.

The MUDA had plans to re-introduce the scheme in 2005, but it pulled out from the initiative.

With pressure mounting on it from genuine local site aspirants who want to construct houses

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here, the officials are contemplating re-launching the scheme at least by the end of the year, after the process of site distribution at the newly developed Ravindranath Tagore Nagar is completed.

Sources in the MUDA told *The Hindu* that many people had bought its sites as a safe investment option, considering the number of vacant sites in layouts that had been developed 10 or 15 years ago.

"Some people keep sites as an option for liquidation. This is affecting development (construction of houses) in the layouts," they added.

The MUDA's project of building apartments in the past did not receive the desired response. The quality of construction did not satisfy the prospective buyers. Therefore, it discontinued the scheme after a couple of projects, including the one in Sharadadevi Nagar.

A senior MUDA official said that houses in categories suiting different income groups such as lower-income groups, middle-income groups and high-income groups had been proposed. "The houses can be affordable and at the same time fulfil people's desire to own a house," he said. The proposal may be brought up at the next board meeting. "On getting the green signal, the layouts where the housing project can be taken up will be identified and other modalities will be completed afterwards," he added.

There were plans in the past to re-introduce the scheme in areas such as Vijayanagar 4th Stage, Hebbal Layout and Sathagalli-Devanuru Layout.