

# Relief in sight for pre-RERA flat buyers

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**PATNA:** Hundreds of flat owners, living in apartments constructed before 2017, will now have the opportunity to get their dwellings registered following government's in principle nod for changes in the rules governing registration of old structures.

Existing rules mandate production of completion and occupancy certificates as necessary pre-condition for the registration of such flats, ever since Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) came into existence and insisted that all structures conformed to building by-laws.

"The government will be coming out with an amendment in the rules governing the registration of flats, constructed before 2017, within a couple of days. It will provide relief to homebuyers and help in the registration of their properties," said Afzal Amanullah, RERA chairman.

Earlier in the day, RERA chairman had attended a high level meeting of departmental



Real Estate Regulatory Authority chairman Afzal Amanullah at a press conference in Patna on Tuesday.

SANTOSH KUMAR

heads of urban development and registration which was presided over by chief secretary Deepak Prasad. The meeting was convened after a series of parleys were held over the matter to resolve the issue.

In order to ensure that all new structures coming up rural areas also adhered to building by-laws

and RERA provision, Amanullah said that he has asked the government to initiate measures by making the entire process accountable.

Admitting that mukhiyas were sanctioning plans without necessary appraisals, he said that the government can involve junior engineers to oversee the techni-

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AFZAL AMANULLAH, RERA chairman

cal aspects in the approval of building maps. "RERA is applicable all over Bihar and an effort at all levels is required," he said.

"RERA has been playing a proactive role in regulating the real estate sector and has initiated action against erring builders. "A total of 438 complaints have been received by the authority, out of which, 344 are in the hearing stage and orders have been passed in 70 cases," he added.

RB Sinha, member RERA, said that 683 projects have been registered so far, while 344 are in the process of registration. "Nearly 50% of RERA registered projects are likely to be completed by December 31, 2020," he said adding "close monitoring of projects has helped in timely execution of projects."