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**PRESIDENT, NAVI MUMBAI**

Prakash Baviskar

Ref. No. MCHI/PRES/18-19/378

July 20, 2019

To,

**Shri Praveen Pardeshi (I.A.S.)**

Municipal Commissioner,

Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai

Mumbai - 400 001



**Sub: Relevant provision / amendment of the law under the Maharashtra (Urban Areas) Protection and Preservation of Trees Act 2017, for temporary afforestation**

Respected Sir,

The pace of urbanization in any city affects primarily the available open spaces and in particular the green cover of the city. Mumbai city may not be an exception. It is this very aspect of urbanization that makes any afforestation exercise as indispensable and welcome.

It is also a fact in a land starved city like Mumbai, that there could be many plots of land that are underdeveloped for various reasons, and / or are lying vacant today as the land owner / project proponent may not deem it to be the best of times to develop the plot.

Say, on such underdeveloped plots or vacant plots of land, should there be a proposal to plant trees under The Maharashtra (Urban Areas) Protection and Preservation of Trees Act 2017, should be welcomed and allowed by MCGM as such a voluntary act of afforestation would only provide an additional green cover which is the need of the hour.

Without prejudice, when the same plot owner / project proponent, as & when comes forward with the proposal to now develop the plot for which he is seeking MCGM's permission to cut the aforementioned trees, the same should be allowed without any other provision of the law being made incidental on the land owner / project proponent to fulfil, as in the very first instance, when the same person had come forward for afforestation, it was done with the explicit intention and the clearly specified provision / intent. Such explicit provisions should be brought under the Maharashtra (Urban Areas) Protection and Preservation of Trees Act 2017, thereby permitting cultivation of such forest.

Should the above be provided and allowed by MCGM, it is CREDAI-MCHI's learned view that many plot owners may come forward for voluntary afforestation. A greener city always adds to the quality of life and to the Ease of Living; the short term to long term impact of green covers are beyond the realms of any documentation.

**CREDAI-MCHI's PRAYER**

- **Through relevant provision / amendment of the law under the Maharashtra Tree Act, temporary afforestation be allowed to plot owner's / project proponents**
- Without prejudice, when the same plot owner / project proponent, as & when comes forward with the proposal to now develop the plot for which he is seeking MCGM's permission to cut the aforementioned trees, the same should be allowed without any other provision of the law being made incidental on the land owner / project proponent to fulfil.

Thanking you,

Your sincerely,  
For CREDAI-MCHI



**Nayan A. Shah**  
President



**Bandish Ajmera**  
Hon. Secretary



**Sanjiv S. Chaudhary MRICS**  
Chief Operating Officer