

Consultant to help draw up Mapusa town plan

Under the scheme, the government plans to build projects such as Kala Mandir, Bodgeshwar plaza, interstate bus-stand, warehousing facilities, exhibition ground, football ground, infrastructure to move schools out of Mapusa, etc. In phase one, the scheme will develop downtown Mapusa around the Bodgeshwar temple (about 11.24 lakh sq m) and in the second

phase, the scheme will develop the areas of Camarkhazan and Gaunsavaddo (about 5.87 sq m).

NGPDA chairperson Michael Lobo told TOI that the authority will send a delegation led by urban development minister Francis D'Souza to Gujarat to see how a town planning scheme works. D'Souza, besides being the MLA of Mapusa, is also a member of the NGPDA.

The special feature of this scheme is that the government will not take over the land under the Land Acquisition Act, which is very time-consuming. Instead, the government will take over the land under the town planning scheme, which is much quicker. D'Souza is so confident of the plan that he hopes to lay the foundation stone for the Mapusa Kala Mandir on December 19 this year.