

## Amrapali Homebuyers may have to Wait Longer for Possession

Project contractors threaten to stop work after delays in payment from NBCC

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**New Delhi:** Around 40,000 homebuyers in Amrapali's properties will likely face further delay in delivery of their houses, as the contractors working on the projects have threatened to stop the work after continuous delays in payments from NBCC.

At some of the sites in Noida and Greater Noida, the pace of work has slowed down and some contractors have even disbanded their teams, creating nervousness among the homebuyers.

"We have had a number of meetings and the contractors have met the CMD (chairman and managing director of NBCC) also, but the payments have not been released since February 2021. With the pending amount rising every month, we will stop the



work if the payments are not released," said Vivek Garg, director of Varindera Construction, which is one of the contractors.

The company is executing three projects — Golf Homes, Leisure Park and Kingswood — with a total of 8,000 units that are valued at ₹1,555 crore.

State-run NBCC is involved in the completion of 23 Amrapali housing projects which were stuck amid a fund crunch and alleged of financial mismanagement at the real estate firm. It took over the projects on a Supreme Court order. The court had also

appointed a receiver to sell some of Amrapali's assets like land to raise funds for the completion of the projects.

"Due to Covid-19, timely payment could not be released. However, that shall get regularized soon," NBCC CMD PK Gupta said.

The court receiver said he did not want to comment on the matter.

The cost for the completion of these projects is estimated at about ₹8,500 crore, according to experts. ET has seen the letters written by five different contractors to NBCC in the past few days.

As per the letters, about ₹500 crore of payment is pending from NBCC to these contractors.

"Most of us raise bills of ₹40-50 crore in a month and as per the contract NBCC has to pay at least 75% of it within a week. Till February, payments were being released on time but there have been no payments since then. We continued working for some time but we have now disbanded the team," said Nishith K Shah, senior vice president, GLCPL-AHC.

GLCPL-AHC is working on 8,000 units of the Dream Valley Phase-2 project, having started work in October 2020.