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End of chute journey.

— PICS: AZAD SHRIVASTAV

though we are late by ten years we have at least got the ball rolling and are on the right track." Welcoming the development, Karuguppikar further added that, these kinds of alternate safety arrangements were the need of the

hour for residential apartments, "I hope no further life would be lost," exclaimed the fire chief.

According to the developers, the chute can evacuate close to 30 people per minute, and in case of a fire a 50-storey descent can be

completed in no less than 100 seconds. Manufactured from three layers of patented fabrics with materials like spandex, modacryl, e-glass fiber, the chute can withstand temperatures of 750 degree Celsius in case of a fire.

Shyam Balsekar, the CEO of Linear Technologies, the manufacturers of the chute, explained its benefits, claiming that the pathway could be used by people of all ages and physical conditions, including people carrying babies and even the unconscious could be evacuated. He also stated that the cost of the chute is negligible compared to the lives it could save.

In a demonstration conducted for media persons, the chute seemed easy to use. One of the demonstrators stated that no training was required and anyone could use it.

The manufacturers, Linear Technologies maintained that they plan to take this development forward and were in talks with several builders and architects in the city to get similar chute's installed. ■