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THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI
SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2023

Floods Over, Authorities To Get City Ready For G20 Summit Repair roads, clean public spaces by July 31, orders govt MCD decides to roll out beautification work next month

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Delhi government has fixed July 31 as the deadline for repairing and cleaning roads, parks, footpaths and public spaces, removal of encroachment and sprucing up parks and green areas for the G20 Summit, which is less than two months away.

A senior Delhi government official said senior officers have been assigned one district each to monitor the work and update the lieutenant governor daily.

The deadlines were fixed in a meeting chaired by LG VK Saxena and attended by chief secretary Naresh Kumar apart from the secretaries of stakeholder departments of the Delhi government, and heads of MCD, NDMC and DDA, among others.

The summit will be held in the capital from September 8-10. A large number of delegates from participating countries and tourists are likely to visit.

According to officials, the works that are required to be completed by the end of this month include cleaning of roads and markets, repairing of potholes, making pots and flower beds ready, filling up the missing green cover, pruning of trees and shrubs, replacing faded and dilapidated signage, removing encroachment, fixing waterlogging hotspots, making streetlights functional and painting iron grills on the central verge, among others.

"Sixty roads, maintained by different agencies, have been identified that would be repaired, cleaned and spruced up," said an official. "Roads leading to important hotels, where the delegates would stay, popular monuments such as the Red Fort, Qutub Minar, Lotus

OFFICIAL SAYS

Sixty roads, maintained by different agencies, have been identified that would be repaired, cleaned and spruced up for the G20 summit

Temple etc are among them."

Another official said that all departments concerned have been asked to nominate one officer not below the rank of executive engineer to ensure compliance of all directions. In order to strengthen the monitoring at the ground level, a committee for each revenue district, comprising the district magistrate, the deputy commissioner of police, the MCD deputy commissioner and a chief engineer of the DDA, has been formed to do a gap analysis and generate actionable points on the Delhi e-monitoring app.

An officer of the planning department has been assigned the responsibility of compiling the daily reports received from the monitoring committees, the district in-charge and others and submit them to the LG and the chief secretary.

An order issued by the LG secretariat set deadlines of July 31 for most of the preparation work. The senior IAS officers deployed at respective districts will update the LG daily, officials said.

"The LG has made it clear that failure to adhere to the timeline would attract disciplinary action, including suspension," said an official. "The LG would inspect the progress from time to time," he added.

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New Delhi: The MCD plans will start projects for G20 that had either been halted because of the rain or had got damaged because of the flooding Yamuna in Delhi. The G20 summit is in September.

In flood affected areas, painting on boundary walls and in public areas has been ruined due to the heavy rain and stagnant water.

"Beautification of the Mahipalpur roundabout, Shaheed Park at ITO, development work at the PVR Anupam market, G20 Park at M block Greater Kailash II, placement of extra dustbins to control littering at prominent locations and markets and installing of signboards related to the event are among the works to be taken up on priority," said an official. Progress in these works will start next month.

The MCD has also directed all zones to do wall painting depending on requirement. "Due to the rainy season, no wall painting is planned but close to the event we may carry out such a drive," the official said.

The repairing and painting of boundary walls near the Yamuna ghats and on the Ring Road will be done by other agencies.

"We are only emphasising on cleaning and lifting garbage from the sites/roads affected by the recent floods. Restoration, if required, will be carried by the PWD or DDA," the official said.

The horticulture department is planning to place more than 1 lakh pots at various prominent locations, including

OFFICIAL SAYS

We are emphasising on cleaning and lifting garbage from the spots affected by the floods. Restoration will be PWD or DDA's duty

the venues and hotels in view of the G20 meet in September.

"The initiative is aimed at beautifying the places. The civic body has invited bids to revamp parks at markets in Lajpat Nagar, Hauz Khas, Green Park, Defence Colony, Jangpura and Sarita Vihar. The zonal horticulture teams will focus on ensuring that dense greening is taken up. This would be followed by the revamping of pathways. In some cases, sculptures and additional elements will be added," the official said.

The MCD is already working on a project to revamp parks up to an acre. "There are 154 parks in this category and their details have already been shared with the government. It parks include 27 in Rohini, 22 in Shahdara north, 17 in central Delhi, 18 in Keshavpuram, 16 Najafgarh zone, 12 in Karol Bagh, 13 in Shahdara south, 10 in the south zone and 9 in the west zone," the official added. Work will be taken up on priority for parks in prominent locations.

"Further, the roads leading to and from prominent venues will be cleaned multiple times with the help of mechanical road sweeping machines, jetting and sprinkler machines during the event," the official said.

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THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI
SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2023

RAPIDX Plans Wholesome Growth Of 3 Stations In City

Gets Agencies To Chalk Out Transit-Oriented Devt Policy

Priyangi Agarwal
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New Delhi: The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC), responsible for executing the RAPIDX project, has engaged agencies to prepare a transit-oriented development (TOD) policy for its three stations in Delhi — Anand Vihar, Sarai Kale Khan, and Jangpura. Additionally, a TOD plan is in progress for Ghaziabad and Meerut in Uttar Pradesh.

The Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RAPIDX corridor com-

prises a total of 25 stations, including four in Delhi. An NCRTC official said, "The plan will be submitted to the relevant agencies for implementation."

TOD is characterised as a policy intervention by governments and their agencies to promote integrated planning of dense, compact, vibrant, pedestrian-friendly, and inclusive communities around transit nodes.

In 2017, the Union ministry of housing and urban affairs released the National TOD Policy and National Value Cap-

ture Financing (VCF) Policy Framework, acknowledging the importance of TOD adoption in the development plans of Indian cities. On Friday, NCRTC organised an international two-day workshop on TOD, aiming to revolutionise urban planning practices.

Vinay Kumar Singh, the managing director of NCRTC, said, "By promoting TOD, we can effectively reduce urban sprawl, congestion, and pollution, while enhancing accessibility, affordability, and the overall quality of life in urban spaces."

He added, "As RAPIDX is a multi-state project, we have to coordinate with four states to implement TOD policies along our corridors. In the first corridor, some portion is in Delhi and the rest is in UP. The development authority — DDA — has chosen three out of the four stations in Delhi as transit-oriented development nodes."

Vikas Kumar, the managing director of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, highlighted that even before the formulation of the TOD policy, DMRC constructed 93 residential flats at Dwarka NSIC, drawing inspiration from international experiences. "The challenge in Delhi is that development or infrastructure for the urban scenario has already taken place much before the metro came," he noted.

Ved Prakash Dubeja from Rail Land Development Authority said, "It is very difficult to approach New Delhi railway station from the Paharganj side as there is no space where buses can stop. We are creating 23 km of elevated road infrastructure which will facilitate passengers from different parts of the city."

Manoj Joshi, secretary, Union ministry of housing & urban affairs, expressed confidence that the collective wisdom and constructive discussions during this workshop would inspire transformative changes in urban planning practices and benefit future transit projects.

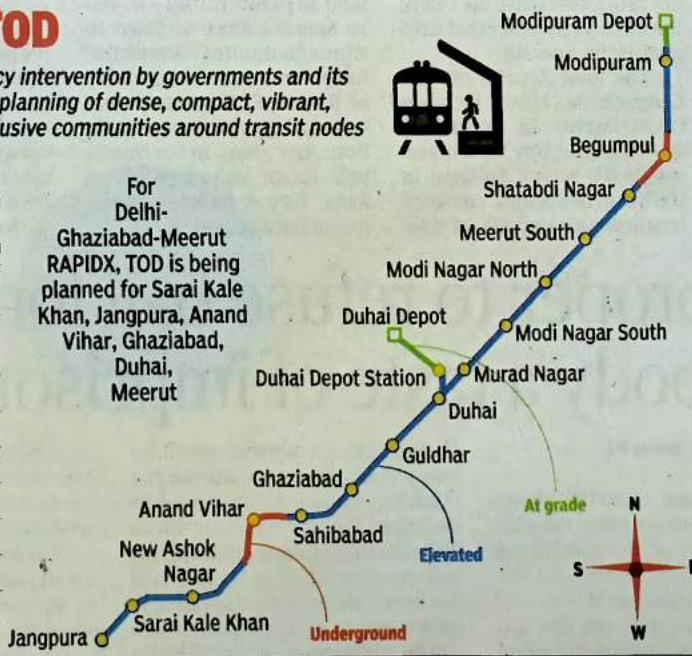
WHAT IS TOD

TOD is defined as a policy intervention by governments and its agencies for integrated planning of dense, compact, vibrant, pedestrian-friendly, inclusive communities around transit nodes

Salient Features

- Informal sector orientation 
- Managed parking 
- Street-oriented buildings 
- Optimised densities 
- Mixed land use 
- Traffic calming 
- Inclusive habitat 
- Multimodal integration 
- Last-mile connectivity 
- Interconnected street network 

For Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RAPIDX, TOD is being planned for Sarai Kale Khan, Jangpura, Anand Vihar, Ghaziabad, Duhai, Meerut



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NAME OF NEWSPAPERS **दैनिक जागरण** नई दिल्ली, 22 जुलाई, 2023 DATED _____

इसी महीने पूरी हो जी-20 की तैयारी : एलजी

अधिकारियों को मिला **31 जुलाई तक का वक्त**, राजनिवास को प्रतिदिन उपलब्ध करानी होगी रिपोर्ट



निखल सिंह • नई दिल्ली

राजधानी में बाढ़ का पानी उतरने के साथ एलजी वीके सक्सेना ने जी-20 शिखर सम्मेलन की तैयारी की डेडलाइन 31 जुलाई तय कर दी है। सभी एजेंसियों को सम्मेलन से संबंधित इलाकों की साफ-सफाई और रखरखाव कार्य के लिए स्पष्ट निर्देश दिए हैं कि 31 जुलाई तक हर हाल में इसे पूरा कर लें। साथ ही इसकी प्रतिदिन रिपोर्ट भी राजनिवास को उपलब्ध कराएं। तैयारी में कोई कोताही न हो, इसके लिए जिले स्तर पर निगरानी समिति से लेकर विशेष अधिकारियों की 11 सदस्यीय समन्वय टीम भी बना दी है।

आठ से 10 सितंबर के बीच में राजधानी में जी-20 शिखर सम्मेलन होना है। इसकी तैयारी की समीक्षा को लेकर एलजी ने मंगलवार को उच्चस्तरीय बैठक की अध्यक्षता कर डीडीए से लेकर पीडब्ल्यूडी, एनडीएमसी और एमसीडी के साथ ही जिला अधिकारियों को निर्देश दिए थे। इसमें 20 जुलाई तक संबंधित विभागों को उन होटलों, पर्यटन स्थलों व सड़कों के नोडल अधिकारी नियुक्त करने के निर्देश दिए गए थे, जिनसे जी-20 शिखर सम्मेलन में आने वाले प्रतिनिधियों का आगमन होगा या रुकने की व्यवस्था होगी। प्रत्येक जिले में चार सदस्यीय

ये होंगे काम

स्वच्छता

- सड़कों और बाजारों के विभिन्न स्थानों की पूरी तरह सफाई। मलबा, गाद व कूड़े को पूरी तरह से हटाना
- जी-20 शिखर सम्मेलन से संबंधित सड़कों व स्थानों पर खुले में किसी भी प्रकार का कूड़ा नहीं डाला जाएगा।
- सड़कों और प्रमुख स्थलों पर कूड़ेदान हो और बाढ़ के बाद नालों से गाद निकालने का कार्य हो

उद्यान

- गुलदस्ते और फूल पर्याप्त मात्रा में उपलब्ध रहे
- जहां पर फुटपाथ या सेंट्रल वर्ज पर हरियाली नहीं है, वहां हरियाली की जाए
- झाड़ियों और पेड़ों की छंटाई हो।

साइनेज

- खराब और टूटे-फटे साइनेज को हटाया जाए और उसका सुधार किया जाए
- अवैध विज्ञापन और साइनेज को

समिति में जिला अधिकारी के साथ डीसीपी, एमसीडी जोन उपायुक्त और डीडीए का मुख्य अभियंता शामिल होगा। समिति प्रतिदिन के आधार पर प्रतिनिधियों के स्वागत से संबंधित तैयारी की निगरानी और उसकी समीक्षा करेगी। साथ ही कमियों व लिए जाने वाले एक्शन 48 घंटे के भीतर निगरानी के लिए बने



जी 20 शिखर सम्मेलन के मद्देनजर कनाट प्लेस में सड़क किनारे ऐसे फव्वारे लगाए गए हैं। जिन्हें लाइटिंग के जरिये आकर्षक बनाया जाना है • जागरण

हटाया जाए

- जी-20 से संबंधित ब्राडिंग कार्य किया जाए

अतिक्रमण के विरुद्ध कार्य

- प्लाईओवर, अंडरपास और सड़क के बीचों बीच किसी भी प्रकार के अतिक्रमण को हटाया जाए
- अवैध पार्किंग और रेहड़ी-पटरी वालों द्वारा अतिक्रमण किए गए स्थान से हटाया जाएगा

जलभराव

- जलभराव वाले स्थानों पर होने वाली समस्या को खत्म किया जाए
- पर्याप्त मात्रा में जलभराव को रोकने

ई-मानीटरिंग एप पर इसको अपलोड करेगी। एप पर अपलोड प्रत्येक समस्या की एक्शन टेकन रिपोर्ट (एटीआर) राजनिवास के साथ ही मुख्य सचिव को प्रतिदिन करनी होगी। कमेटी के समन्वय के लिए 11 जिलों में आइएएस अधिकारी की तैनाती भी की गई है। इनके साथ प्रोबेशनर दानिक्स अधिकारी भी 11

के लिए पंप सेट होने चाहिए

सड़क

- पैदल चलने और वाहन चलाने के लिए अच्छी स्थिति में सड़क होनी चाहिए
- फुटपाथ पर गड़ड़ों और टूट फुट को ठीक किया जाएगा
- सभी स्ट्रीट लाइट पूरी तरह से संचालित होनी चाहिए
- सेंट्रल वर्ज की ग्रिल एक ही तरह से रंगरोगन की गई हो
- सड़क पर मार्किंग एक की तरह से की गई हो

जिलों में लगाए गए हैं।

जिन अधिकारियों को समन्वय की जिम्मेदारी दी गई है, उनमें मध्य दिल्ली में कृष्ण मोहन उप्पू, पूर्वी दिल्ली में के. महेश, नई दिल्ली जिले में रवि धवन, उत्तरी जिले में विक्रम सिंह मलिक, उत्तर-पूर्वी जिले में दिलराज कौर, उत्तर-पश्चिमी दिल्ली में भूपेश चौधरी,

शाहदरा जिले में राहुल सिंह, दक्षिणी जिले में अशोक कुमार, दक्षिणी-पूर्वी दिल्ली में मोनिका प्रियदर्शनी, दक्षिण-पश्चिमी जिले में हिमांशु गुप्ता और पश्चिमी दिल्ली में सीआर गर्ग शामिल हैं। राजनिवास के आदेश के बाद लुटियंस दिल्ली में नामी होटलों, जिनमें जी-20 शिखर सम्मेलन के मेहमान ठहरेंगे, उसके लिए एनडीएमसी ने नोडल अधिकारी भी नियुक्त कर दी है। इन होटलों में द लीला पैलेस, अशोक होटल, आइटीसी मौर्या, ताज पैलेस होटल, होटल ललित, ली मेरीडियन, इंपीरियल, ताजमहल होटल, संगरी ला होटल और ओबेराय होटल के आसपास स्वच्छता, सुंदरता और सुरक्षा के पर्याप्त प्रबंध करने के निर्देश दिए गए हैं। लाल किला, राजघाट, अक्षरधाम, लोटस टेंपल और स्मारकों के आसपास की सड़कों को स्वच्छ रखना होगा।

वहीं, दिल्ली पुलिस को बैरिकेड भी अच्छी स्थिति में व एक ही रंग व डिजाइन में होने चाहिए। मार्केट और सड़कों पर बिजली के लटके तारों को हटाना होगा। फुटपाथ और सड़कों की मरम्मत करनी होगी। वहीं, राजनिवास के आदेश के बाद एमसीडी ने भी काम शुरू कर दिया है। महिलापुर गोलचक्कर का सुंदरीकरण किया जा रहा है। शहीदी पार्क को भी शुरू किया जाएगा। ग्रेटर कैलाश-2 एम-ब्लाक में जी-20 पार्क बनाया जा रहा है। साथ ही अतिरिक्त कूड़ेदान की व्यवस्था भी संबंधित स्थानों पर की जा रही है।

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Hindustan Times

NEW DELHI
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NA

LG sets up 11 monitoring panels for G20 projects

Alok KN Mishra

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NEW DELHI: Delhi's lieutenant governor (LG) VK Saxena has formed 11 monitoring committees headed by Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers to oversee work related to the G20 Summit in each of the city's 11 districts, according to documents seen by HT.

The Capital is scheduled to host the G20 leaders' summit from September 9-10, which is expected to include the heads of states of the world's 20 largest economies. A massive exercise is underway to tidy up the city, with roads being relaid, urban greenery being spruced up, and civic infrastructure being fixed and overhauled.

The committees will review and address shortcomings in these areas, with a focus on cleanliness, sanitation, and civic utility upkeep. Each committee comprises an IAS officer, who will be the coordinator, a district magistrate (DM), a deputy commissioner of police, a deputy commissioner of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) or a secretary of the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), and a chief engineer of the Delhi Development Authority (DDA). The decision was taken after a meeting chaired by the LG on Tuesday. The panels were directed to submit action-taken reports on the Delhi e-monitoring app within 48 hours of the order. The coordinators have also been asked to submit reports every Monday and Thursday on the app, after site visits, the order issued on Wednesday said.

Special secretary (planning) Ravi Dhawan was tasked with compiling these reports and submitting them to the LG and the chief secretary every Tuesday and Friday. It remains unclear what role the elected Aam Aadmi Party government will play in these committees, given the ongoing tussle between the LG and the government over control of services in the Capital. The panels largely comprise IAS officers who will be supported by DANICS officers.

Representatives of the Delhi government did not respond to



The panels will review and address shortcomings in various aspects of the city's infrastructure.

SANCHIT KHANNA/HT

requests for a comment.

The order said that the committees will monitor the cleanliness of roads, footpaths, underpasses, overbridges, streets, parks, public spaces, commercial areas, etc. A number of these affairs fall under the Public Works Department, an agency under the Delhi government, and the MCD, controlled by AAP.

"The committees have to check potholes, damaged footpaths, green cover, damaged central verge, road paints, road reflectors, street lights, signages, electricity poles, electrical boxes on utility poles, removal of weeds, landscaping, police facilitation booths, public utilities available on that road like public toilets, water ATMs, etc. The committees will work to get the issues fixed in coordination with the departments concerned," said a government official, requesting anonymity.

A second official, who asked not to be named, said that preparations for G20 were going on for a long time and the work was on track. "The committees have been asked to complete tasks by July 31. Work is being monitored every day at the level of the chief secretary and the LG. After the work is completed by July 31, regular maintenance work and supervision will continue," the official said.

A senior bureaucrat added that the execution of the work is

done by officers irrespective of whether the work was being monitored by the elected government or the LG. "LG has a key role to play in the G20 preparations because the preparations involve Delhi Police, NDMC, DDA, MCD besides PWD," said the officer.

All departments have been directed to nominate one officer not below the rank of executive engineer to ensure the compliance of directions. The order said that the departments will also furnish the details of such officers to the LG office and the chief secretary's office.

MCD officials did not respond to requests for comment.

According to the order, the IAS officers who will be the coordinators for the committees are: Krishna Mohan Uppu for Central district, K Mahesh for East Delhi, Ravi Dhawan for New Delhi, Vikram Singh Malik for North Delhi, Dilraj Kaur for North East Delhi, Bhupesh Chaudhary for North West Delhi, Rahul Singh for Shahdara, Ashok Kumar for South Delhi, Monica Priyadarshini for South East Delhi, Himanshu Gupta for South West Delhi, CR Garg for West Delhi. "Failure to adhere to the timeline shall attract disciplinary action, including suspension, against the responsible officers. LG and chief secretary may inspect the progress from time to time," the order added.

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THE INDIAN EXPRESS, SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2023

DATED

G20 prep to be done by July 31, committees to monitor work

GAYATHRI MANI
NEW DELHI, JULY 21

WITH THE G-20 Summit a month away, the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat has set timelines for beautification and infrastructure projects and directed departments concerned to implement it by July 31.

Delhi will be hosting the Summit from September 8 to 10. To strengthen monitoring at the ground level, the L-G Secretariat also formed monitoring committees for each revenue district to ensure Delhi is well prepared to welcome foreign delegates.

Each committee will comprise the district magistrate, DCP, deputy commissioner of MCD or NDMC, as the case may be, and DDA chief engineer. Eleven senior officers, including Excise commissioner Krishna Mohan Uppu; DOE director Himanshu

Gupta; Power special secretary Ravi Dhawan; and others have been made committee coordinators.

These committees will do a gap analysis of shortcomings in general cleanliness and sanitation in their jurisdiction along with district coordinators. "Monitoring committees shall update action taken reports daily and submit a PDF to the L-G Secretariat and office of Chief Secretary, Delhi, on the e-monitoring mobile app after undertaking site visits," read the order issued by the Secretariat on July 19.

These decisions were taken during a meeting held on July 18 under the chairmanship of L-G Vinai Kumar Saxena. During the meeting, timelines for key projects were set and key tasks highlighted. These include:

■ **Sanitation:** Overall cleaning of roads and markets, to be done, no open garbage dumps to

be found by the roadside, drains to be cleaned.

■ **Horticulture:** Pots and flower beds to be ready, trees and shrubs to be pruned.

■ **Illegal encroachment** to be removed from below flyovers/underpasses.

■ **Waterlogging** to be prevented by accessing and fixing vulnerable points. Sufficient arrangements to be made for pumping sets.

■ **Roads:** Repair of potholes, streetlights, kerbstones, central verge.

■ **Removal of hanging wires** from roads and markets, cleaning defaced flyovers, metro pillars, subways, toilets, walls.

■ **Red Fort, Qutub Minar, Rajghat, Lotus temple** and other monuments and its surrounding areas and access roads to be clean at all times.

■ **Power:** Electrical supply in hotels in NDMC area to be checked.

नवभारत टाइम्स | नई दिल्ली |
शनिवार, 22 जुलाई 2023

द्वारका : सड़कों पर अंधेरा, कोर्ट में गुहार

■ विशेष संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली

पिछले एक महीने से भी अधिक समय से द्वारका की सड़कें पूरी तरह से अंधेरे में डूबी हैं। इस पर लोगों ने हाई कोर्ट का रुख किया है। कोर्ट ने इस मामले में डीडीए और एमसीडी को नोटिस जारी करते हुए 26 जुलाई को एक मीटिंग करने को कहा है। मीटिंग का मकसद स्ट्रीट लाइट की समस्या का हल निकालना है।

दरअसल इस समय डीडीए और एमसीडी के बीच द्वारका को हैडओवर करने की प्रक्रिया चल रही है।

ऑल द्वारका रेजिडेंट फेडरेशन (ADRF) ने स्ट्रीट लाइट की इस समस्या को लेकर हाई कोर्ट में रिट

पिटिशन दाखिल की है। कोर्ट ने कहा है कि इस मामले में अगली सुनवाई सितंबर में होगी। जब तक समस्या का समाधान नहीं निकला तो कोर्ट आदेश जारी करेगा।

एडीआरएफ के प्रेजिडेंट अजीत स्वामी ने बताया कि हमें परेशान होकर हाई कोर्ट का रुख करना पड़ा।

डीडीए के अनुसार वह एस्टिमेंट का भुगतान एमसीडी को कर चुका है। वहीं

एमसीडी का तर्क है कि अभी हैडओवर की प्रक्रिया पूरी नहीं हुई है। एडीआरएफ के सीनियर वाइस प्रेजिडेंट अमन भंडारी के अनुसार डीडीए के एक पत्र के अनुसार डीडीए इलेक्ट्रिक वर्क्स के लिए करीब 57 करोड़ का डिफिशियंसी एस्टिमेंट करीब 57 करोड़ एमसीडी को दे चुका है। इसमें

31 करोड़ इलेक्ट्रिक वर्क्स के लिए भी थे।

वहीं इस मामले में एमसीडी ने डीडीए को पांच जुलाई को एक पत्र लिखा गया था। इसमें कहा गया है कि डीडीए ने चार सेक्टरों 5, 7, 8, और 16 सेक्टर के लिए पूरा डिफिशियंसी चार्ज दिया है। अभी भी पांच पॉकेट्स जिसमें सेक्टर-10, 17, 18, 23 और 23 बी शामिल हैं की हैडओवर प्रक्रिया चल रही है। बाकी 43 पॉकेट के लिए डीडीए ने इलेक्ट्रिक वर्क के लिए तो डिफिशियंसी अमाउंट दिया है लेकिन अन्य चार सर्विसेज का डिफिशियंसी चार्ज मिलना बाकी है। इस पत्र में उन्होंने डीडीए से कहा है कि वह एमसीडी को सभी सर्विसेज का डिफिशियंसी अमाउंट सात दिनों में जमा करवाए अन्यथा इलेक्ट्रिक वर्क का डिफिशियंसी चार्ज वापस कर दिया जाएगा।

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दैनिक जागरण | 5

NAME OF NEWSPAPER नई दिल्ली, 22 जुलाई, 2023

-----DATED-----

बाढ़ से नुकसान के आकलन को डीडीए ने शुरू किया यमुना तटों का ड्रोन सर्वे

राज्य ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली : बाढ़ से डूब क्षेत्र में चल रही डीडीए की योजनाओं को सर्वाधिक नुकसान हुआ है। जी-20 शिखर सम्मेलन के लिए की जा रही सारी तैयारी पर पानी फिर गया। दोबारा इसकी तैयारी में जुटने से पूर्व डीडीए बाढ़ के नुकसान का आकलन करना चाहता है। इसी के मद्देनजर यमुना के बाढ़ क्षेत्र में डीडीए ने बायोडायवर्सिटी पार्कों और अन्य परियोजनाओं का ड्रोन के जरिये सर्वेक्षण शुरू कर दिया है।

यमुना पल्ला से प्रवेश करती है और जैतपुर के पास बाहर निकलती है। इस बीच यह लगभग 52 किमी की दूरी तय करती है। डीडीए के पास नदी के बाढ़ क्षेत्र में 10 बायोडायवर्सिटी पार्क और पुनर्स्थापन परियोजनाएं हैं, जो विकास के विभिन्न चरणों में हैं। इनमें असिता पूर्व, कालिंदी बायोडायवर्सिटी पार्क, कालिंदी अविरल, असिता पश्चिम, अमृत बायोडायवर्सिटी पार्क, यमुना वनस्थली, गीता कालोनी से आइटीओ बैराज तक इको

अभी यह है हाल

- अधिकारियों के मुताबिक, अभी भी डूब क्षेत्र में एक-एक फीट तक भरा है पानी
- नुकसान की सही तस्वीर पानी सूखने पर ही आएगी सामने, लगेगा कुछ समय
- डीडीए के पास बाढ़ क्षेत्र में 10 बायोडायवर्सिटी पार्क व पुनर्स्थापन परियोजनाएं

टूरिज्म क्षेत्र, डीएनडी फ्लाइव्हे के पास मयूर प्रकृति पार्क, हिंडन सरोवर और वजीराबाद बैराज से ओल्ड रेलवे ब्रिज घाट तक शामिल हैं। अधिकारियों ने कहा कि बाढ़ के मैदानों के कुछ क्षेत्रों में अभी भी एक-एक फीट तक पानी भरा है। ऐसे में इन पार्कों और परियोजनाओं को हुए नुकसान की गणना पानी के और कम होने के बाद ही की जा सकती है। अधिकारियों के मुताबिक अभी कुछ भी कह पाना बहुत मुश्किल है। हम अपनी अंगुलियां क्रास करके रख रहे हैं। इस वर्ष हमने

खूब पौधारोपण किया, लेकिन पानी का स्तर जिस स्तर तक पहुंच गया है, उसे देखते हुए पौधों के जीवित रहने की संभावना बहुत अधिक नहीं है। फिर भी पानी के और कम होने के बाद हम नुकसान का आकलन करेंगे। हम बाढ़ क्षेत्र का ड्रोन सर्वेक्षण करवा रहे हैं, जिससे हमें आकलन में मदद मिलेगी। अधिकारी ने कहा कि जलस्तर धीरे-धीरे कम हो रहा है, लेकिन यह अपने पीछे दलदली भूमि छोड़ जाएगा। इससे पौधारोपण अभियान चलाने के लिए पर्याप्त रूप से जमीन सूखने में कई महीने लग जाएंगे। डीडीए अधिकारियों के अनुसार, इस वर्ष केवल यमुना के बाढ़ प्रभावित मैदानों पर विभिन्न अभियानों के दौरान 79,130 पौधे और 2,930,990 नदी घास लगाई गई। पौधे लंबे समय तक पानी में डूबे रहने से बच नहीं सकते हैं। लेकिन, यमुना की घास पानी को खींच सकती है, क्योंकि ये बाढ़ की स्थिति में जीवित रहने के लिए होती हैं।

आकलन जरूरी » संपादकीय

MCD may modify plan to build skyscraper near ITO

Paras Singh

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NEW DELHI: The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) is amending a plan to build Delhi's tallest skyscraper on Indraprastha Marg in central Delhi in view of objections raised by various agencies to the project, senior municipal officials said.

A senior municipal official aware of the development said that the civic body has also told Delhi Development Authority, which allocated the land for the project to be implemented by the erstwhile South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC), that it intends to keep the land for pursuing the project with suitable amendments.

The South MCD cleared the project to develop 145-metre-high Atal Bihari Civic Centre, near Pragati Maidan in 2017-18, and a memorandum of understanding was signed between south civic body and the National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC) for developing two towers on a 8.75 acre plot adjacent to the Indraprastha DTC bus depot, near Pragati Maidan. Then, the project's cost was estimated at ₹559 crore, and it was to be finished by 2020. The SDMC planned the building as its headquarters.

Currently, MCD headquarters, Civic Centre, on Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg is the tallest building in the Capital, standing at 101 metres high with 28 stories.

However, the project was mired in controversy with agencies, including the India Trade Promotion Organisation, which was redeveloping Pragati Maidan in close vicinity, raising objections.

"The primary objection to the project was that the building was coming up close to the Pragati Maidan tunnel, and it would add to the congestion on this route. Some security challenges also flagged safety concerns due to the height of the proposed building. We have now decided to alter the plans. A fresh traffic survey will be carried out to assess the impact of the project, and the proposed height will also be reduced," an official overseeing the project said.

In March 2019, HT reported that India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO), objected to the

Another high-rise for Delhi

PLANNED FOR ERSTWHILE SDMC

After the trifurcation of the MCD in 2012, the North Delhi Municipal Corporation was allocated the 28-storey Civic Centre in central Delhi as its headquarters

The South Delhi Municipal Corporation also shifted its headquarters to the building, which is the tallest in the city, but as a tenant

The East Delhi Municipal Corporation got office space in a building at Patparganj Industrial area

The SDMC, however, planned to build the 33-storey high Atal Civic Centre in 2017-18, touted to be the tallest building in Delhi, as its headquarters

PROJECT DETAILS

8.75 ACRE **33** STOREYS **₹559** CRORE **125** METRES
plot size storeys Estimated cost height, 2 blocks fixed at 2020

LOCATION: Adjacent to the Indraprastha DTC bus depot

SDMC signed a memorandum with the National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC) for developing the project.

SEVERAL HURDLES

CHANGE IN LAND USE: RWAs opposed the land use change from district park to office space

EAST WEST CORRIDOR: PWD said the land falls in the route of its proposed East-West corridor

PRAGATI MAIDAN REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT: ITPO said the project may cause congestion, hit the tunnel road being built underneath Pragati Maidan

SECURITY CONCERNS: Police raised concerns over the location as it witnesses VIP movement

WHAT NOW?

MCD is amending its plans and reducing the height of proposed skyscraper in a bid to retain the prime office space. MCD officials say that a fresh traffic impact study will be

carried out to include measures to reduce congestion



plan citing its possible adverse impact on traffic in the neighbourhood, and also on the ₹2,700-crore Pragati Maidan redevelopment project. ITPO also said that the proposed building was planned to come up near one end of a 1.2km-long tunnel (towards Ring Road) between Purana Qila Road and Ring Road via Pragati Maidan, which was "lifeline" of the Pragati Maidan exhibition cum convention centre.

Later that year, the Public Works Department of the Delhi government also flagged objections to the proposed structure, saying that the 38.6-km-long East-West corridor starting from Anand Vihar will also pass through the same site.

A second official associated with the project said that MCD may keep fewer public dealing offices in the proposed building in order to cut congestion in the area due to the building.

"A new traffic survey will indicate all these points and the changes needed to be incorporated in the plan," the official said.

A 5-acre section of the 8.75-acre plot was earlier earmarked as "district park" in the Master Plan of Delhi (2021). However, the land use was modified to "government (G2)" office space category to implement the project. This attracted criticism from several citizen groups and RWAs who objected to the change in land use, citing shrinking green space and deteriorating air quality in Delhi.

There was no specific response by the MCD to the charge. The change in land use was cleared by DDA.

After the civic body was trifurcated in 2012, the North Delhi Municipal Corporation was allocated the 28-storey Civic Centre as its headquarters and the South MCD also shifted its headquarters to the building, as a tenant. The

East MCD got office space in a building at Patparganj Industrial area. After the MCD was unified in May 2022 all senior headquarter-level officials shifted their offices to the Civic Centre.

In June last year, the civic officials were planning to hand over the land citing financial constraints, but MCD has now said that it intends to keep the land parcel and amend the project plan.

DDA did not respond to repeated queries seeking comment.

The Public Works Department also flagged objections to the proposed structure, saying that the East-West corridor starting from Anand Vihar will also pass through the same site.

An MCD official said that since the plan is being amended, the concerns raised by all agencies will be looked into again to accommodate their concerns.

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दैनिक जागरण नई दिल्ली, 23 जुलाई, 2023

ED

'कागजी कार्रवाई' से यमुना के डूब क्षेत्र को बचाने में जुटा दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण

संजीव गुप्ता • नई दिल्ली

मास्टर प्लान-2041 में यमुना के डूब क्षेत्र में 'नियोजित विकास' को लेकर तो दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण (डीडीए) कठघरे में है ही, इस क्षेत्र में नियमों का उल्लंघन करने वालों को रोकने में भी उसकी लापरवाही स्पष्ट नजर आ रही है। आलम यह है कि नियमों का उल्लंघन करने वाले इन लोगों के खिलाफ चालान काटने की प्रक्रिया भी रस्म अदायगी बनकर रह गई है। चालान तो कट जाते हैं, लेकिन उनकी वसूली नहीं हो पाती। इसकी एक प्रमुख वजह यह भी सामने आ रही है कि चालानों को वसूली को लेकर यही स्पष्ट नहीं है कि इसकी जिम्मेदारी किस विभाग की है।

- मलबा डालने, पार्किंग करने व कूड़ा फैलाने पर एक जनवरी से 31 मई तक जारी हुए 692 चालान
- चालानों की राशि की वसूली को लेकर अब तक यह स्पष्ट नहीं कि किस विभाग की है यह जिम्मेदारी

71,85,000

राशि है चालानों की, लेकिन प्राधिकरण अब तक एक रुपया वसूल नहीं पाया

दिल्ली प्रदूषण नियंत्रण समिति (डीपीसीसी) की मई 2023 की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार इस वर्ष एक जनवरी से 31 मई तक यमुना किनारे मलबा डालने, अवैध पार्किंग करने एवं कूड़ा फैलाने वालों के

2018 से मई 2023 तक कितने कटे चालान, कितनी हुई वसूली

वर्ष	चालान	राशि	वसूली
2018	1	50,000	शून्य
2019	186	90,40,000	22,92,500
2020	54	21,30,000	5,95,000
2021	776	1,22,95,000	21,10,000
2022	1,167	2,75,25,000	15,25,000
2023	692	71,85,000	-----
कुल	2,876	5,82,25,000	65,22,500

खिलाफ डीडीए द्वारा कुल 692 चालान किए गए हैं। इनकी कुल राशि 71,85,000 रुपये है, लेकिन इनमें से एक रुपये की भी वसूली नहीं हो सकी है। विचारणीय पहलू यह भी है कि पिछले वर्षों की तुलना

में इस वर्ष के शुरुआती पांच माह में ही इन चालानों की संख्या काफी अधिक हो गई है। मालूम हो कि वर्ष 2018 में पूरे साल में एक, 2019 में 186, 2020 में 54, 2021 में 776 एवं 2022 में 1167 चालान हुए थे।

यमुना के किनारे मलबा डालने वालों के चालान तो हम करते हैं, लेकिन वसूली नहीं करते। सीसीटीवी कैमरों की फुटेज के आधार पर मलबा डाल रहे वाहनों के बारे में परिवहन विभाग को सूचना दे दी जाती है। राजीव तिवारी, प्रधान आयुक्त (उद्यान), डीडीए

मेरी जानकारी में ऐसी कोई प्रक्रिया नहीं है। यमुना के किनारे मलबा डालने वालों के खिलाफ अगर चालान डीडीए कर रहा है, तो उसकी वसूली भला परिवहन विभाग क्यों करेगा? - आशीष कुंद्रा, परिवहन आयुक्त, दिल्ली सरकार

चालान की रिकवरी को लेकर उलझन है। अगर डीडीए चालान कर रहा है, तो रिकवरी भी उसी की बनती है। चूंकि सारी कार्रवाई एनजीटी के आदेश पर हो रही है, तो एसडीएम की ड्यूटी भी लगाई जा सकती है।

- अश्विनी कुमार, चैयरमन, डीपीसीसी

रिपोर्ट के अनुसार वर्ष 2018 से मई 2023 तक 2876 चालान किए गए हैं।

इन चालानों की राशि 5,82,25,000 रुपये है। इनमें से भी सिर्फ 65,22,500 रुपये की वसूली

हो सकी है। रिपोर्ट के अनुसार बाढ़ एवं सिंचाई नियंत्रण विभाग ने यमुना बाढ़ क्षेत्र से 50,860 मीट्रिक टन मलबा उठाया है, वहीं डीडीए ने नदी किनारे मलबा डालने वालों के खिलाफ चालान किए हैं।

हिन्दुस्तान

नई दिल्ली, रविवार, 23 जुलाई 2023

डीडीए बाढ़ क्षेत्रों में करेगा पौधरोपण

नई दिल्ली, व.सं.। यमुना की बाढ़ का पानी अभी भी कई निचले इलाकों में मौजूद है। यह वह इलाके हैं, जहां पर दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण (डीडीए) की तरफ से यमुना के बाढ़ क्षेत्रों के पुनर्स्थापना और कायाकल्प के प्रोजेक्ट पर काम किया जा रहा है।

असिता पूर्वी, कालिंदी अवरल, यमुना वाटिका, कालिंदी बायोडायवर्सिटी पार्क, अमृत बायोडायवर्सिटी पार्क, यमुना वाटिका, यमुना वनस्थली, - घाट इलाका - वासुदेव घाट व अन्य जैसे बाढ़ क्षेत्रों के पुनर्स्थापना और कायाकल्प प्रोजेक्ट पर काम करते हुए डीडीए ने हजारों पेड़ व पौधे लगाए थे। अब डीडीए द्वारा क्षति का आकलन करने के बाद फिर से पौधरोपण करने की रणनीति बनाई जा रही है।

DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY LIBRARY PRESS CLIPPING SERVICE

नवभारत टाइम्स | नई दिल्ली | सोमवार, 24 जुलाई 2023

DATED

जसोला : डीडीए फ्लैट में दरारें, खतरों में लोग लोगों का आरोप, 13 साल में कभी नहीं हुई मेटिनेंस

■ राम त्रिपाठी, जसोला

डीडीए फ्लैट में रहने वाले लोग लंबे समय से खुद को बेहद खतरों में महसूस कर रहे हैं। यहां कई फ्लैटों की बीम में कई साल पहले दरारें आ चुकी हैं। कई बिल्डिंग कमजोर हो गई हैं। 500 से अधिक फ्लैटों के मेटिनेंस की जिम्मेदारी डीडीए की है। आरोप है कि पिछले 4 साल से डीडीए को लगातार शिकायतें करने के बावजूद कोई एक्शन नहीं हुआ है।

प्रभावित लोगों ने बताया कि कॉमनवेलथ गेम्स के बाद 2010 में डीडीए फ्लैट आवंटित हुए थे। तब डीडीए ने मेटिनेंस चार्ज नहीं लिया था। एमआईजी, एलआईजी श्रेणी के पॉकेट-10बी (330 फ्लैट) और पॉकेट-12 (187 फ्लैट) आदि के फ्लैट मालिकों से मेटिनेंस चार्ज लिया गया था।

पॉकेट 10 बी आरडब्ल्यूए के महासचिव बीके पिल्लई ने बताया कि पिछले 13 साल में डीडीए ने मेटिनेंस भी नहीं कराई है। आवंटन के कुछ साल बाद ही फ्लैट की दीवारों के प्लास्टर झड़ने लगे थे। कई फ्लैटों के छज्जे टूट गए हैं। आरडब्ल्यूए ने 2019 से पहले से डीडीए को लिखित रूप में शिकायत भेजना शुरू किया था। कई फ्लैटों के लेंटर तक कमजोर हो चुके हैं।

500 से अधिक फ्लैटों के मेटिनेंस का जिम्मा डीडीए का है, लोग चार साल से कर रहे हैं शिकायत



आवंटन के कुछ साल बाद ही फ्लैट की दीवारों के प्लास्टर झड़ने लगे थे

अब की गई प्लानिंग : डीडीए के प्रवक्ता के अनुसार, पहली नजर में देखने पर लगता है कि फ्लैट की बिल्डिंगों को नुकसान उनकी छतों से पानी के ओवरफ्लो होने के कारण हुआ है। स्थिति की गंभीरता को देखते हुए इस पर तुरंत ध्यान दिए जाने की जरूरत है। बिल्डिंगों के नुकसान और संभावित खतरों को रोकने के लिए डीडीए ने मरम्मत कार्य की योजना बनाई है।

ऐसे होनी थी मेटिनेंस
फ्लैट खरीदारों से हुए समझौते के तहत 30 साल तक डीडीए फ्लैटों की मेटिनेंस करेगा, जो इस प्रकार है - 2 साल में एक बार मडफसका (छत + मगटी)। 3 साल में एक बार स्फेदी, प्लास्टर, रेलिंग। 5 साल में एक बार फर्श (सीढ़ियां और संयुक्त क्षेत्र)। 10 साल में एक बार ग्रिट वॉश करना है।

* THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI
MONDAY, JULY 24, 2023

Saket tree felling: NGT asks DDA to act against guilty

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Addressing a case of illegal tree felling in Saket, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) to identify the ownership of land where the felling took place and take action against the guilty. A joint committee had informed the NGT that trees were illegally felled on the land, where plastic waste was also dumped.

The bench observed that the DDA has submitted that the ownership of the land mentioned in the complaint could not be identified. During the hearing, the NGT

was informed that, due to a law and order problem, the order has not been complied with.

"Delhi Development Authority is directed to identify the land and ensure to take action against the persons who are violators of the law and further to calculate the compensation/cost of the trees and plantation at its 10 times and submit a report within two months," said the NGT bench in an order passed on July 21.

A plea filed in the tribunal alleged that 11 persons have encroached upon land behind a graveyard in Saket and that they have cut neem, babool, peepal and other trees.

DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY LIBRARY PRESS CLIPPING SERVICE

NAME C **Hindustan Times**

NEW DELHI
MONDAY
JULY 24, 2023

DATED

Act against encroachers at Saket forest, DDA told

Jasjeev Gandhiok

jasjeev.gandhiok@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has given the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) two months to take action against the encroachments on a 6-hectare forest patch along Press Enclave Marg in south Delhi's Saket, according to an order dated July 21.

The order said that not only have trees been felled, but the area was also being used to store scrap material and burn plastic and other solid waste. NGT asked DDA to identify the land-owning agency for the patch, which does not fall under the forest department or DDA's jurisdiction.

"DDA is directed to identify the land and ensure action against the violators of the law and further, to calculate the compensation and cost of the trees felled and ensure its plantation (by 10 times) and submit

**NGT ASKED DDA
TO IDENTIFY THE
LAND-OWNING
AGENCY FOR
THE 6-HECTARE
FOREST PATCH
ALONG PRESS
ENCLAVE MARG**

a report within two months, by e-mail," said a bench headed by NGT acting chairperson Sheo Kumar Singh through the order.

"A report was called from DDA and in its reply, it has submitted that the ownership of the land mentioned in the complaint could not be identified," the order added.

NGT had in May 2022 formed a joint committee comprising the Delhi Pollution Control Committee, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, and the forest and wildlife department, asking

them to look into a plea by a Delhi resident who alleged illegal felling of trees in this patch, along with encroachments.

The department, in a submission to NGT in April, had said that it found encroachments in the patch. The report submitted said it found plastic and scrap material were being dumped in the open. "Some jhuggis were present near the Kadeem Zari Muslim Eidgah in Hauz Rani village. The survey found that scrap material shops were being operated by the people living in these jhuggis," the report said.

In another submission made by DDA to NGT on July 20, it said it found at least 11 people had encroached on the land behind the cemetery in the area.

Sonya Ghosh, an activist, said agencies need to ensure regular inspection within the ridge, with several patches being used to illegally dump waste.

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DATED-----

पंजाब केसरी

दैनिक जागरण नई दिल्ली, 22 जुलाई, 2023

नवभारत टाइम्स | नई दिल्ली | शनिवार, 22 जुलाई 2023

दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण

पीएम-उदय सैल
सार्वजनिक सूचना

दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण ने प्रधानमंत्री-उदय (प्रधानमंत्री - अनाधिकृत कॉलोनी दिल्ली आवास अधिकार योजना) स्कीम के अन्तर्गत दिल्ली की 1731 अनाधिकृत कॉलोनियों में सप्लियों / प्लॉटों के जियो कोऑर्डिनेट्स एवं की-प्लान तैयार और जारी करने के लिए निम्न लिखित-5 जीआईएस एजेंसियों को पैनलबद्ध किया है।

1. डीएसआर सर्वेज प्रा. लि.
2. एलआरएम कंसल्टेंट्स
3. राजपूताना कंसल्टेंट्स (प्रा.) लि.
4. सिद्धू सर्वे सर्विस
5. एसकेपी प्रोजेक्ट्स प्रा. लि.

उपर्युक्त जीआईएस एजेंसियों के बारे में विस्तृत जानकारी निम्नलिखित लिंक अर्थात् https://dda.gov.in/sites/default/files/pmuday/gis_agencies_details02062023.pdf पर उपलब्ध है।

हस्ता/-
आयुक्त (पीएम-उदय)

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कृपया डि.वि.प्रा. की वेबसाइट www.dda.gov.in देखें या टोल फ्री नं. 1800110332 आगत करें

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI
SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2023

DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

PM-UDAY CELL
PUBLIC NOTICE

The Delhi Development Authority has empanelled the following 5 GIS agencies under PM-UDAY (Pradhan Mantri-Unauthorized Colonies in Delhi Awas Adhikar Yojana) Scheme to prepare and issue Geo-coordinates & Key-plan of the properties/plots in the 1,731 unauthorised colonies of Delhi.

1. DSR Surveys Pvt. Ltd.
2. LRM Consultants
3. Rajputana Consultants (P) Ltd.
4. Sidhu Survey Service
5. SKP Projects Pvt. Ltd.

The detailed information about the above GIS agencies are available at the following link i.e. https://dda.gov.in/sites/default/files/pmuday/gis_agencies_details02062023.pdf

Sd/-
Commissioner (PM-UDAY)

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Please Visit DDA's website at www.dda.gov.in or Dial Toll Free No. 1800110332

When the river rose

Life came to a halt in several parts of Delhi as the Yamuna river, which was flowing at an all-time high, inundated many areas of the city. **Alisha Dutta** and **Nikhil M. Babu** report on how encroachments as well as official developmental works continue to take place along the river despite warnings by the National Green Tribunal

Every day, during the monsoon season, Rakhi Kumari, 18, checks the water levels of the Yamuna river near her house in Delhi. Her family of five, which lives in shuggis (shacks) on the floodplains of the river, has entrusted her with this responsibility.

In early July, when the monsoon was already well under way, Rakhi took a 20-minute walk from her house to the riverside to check if the water level had crossed the danger mark. "The monsoon season is always alarming for us," said Rakhi, who runs a vocational unit in the area and teaches children how to stitch clothes. "Every year, the floodwater inundates our houses. We have made marks on trees on the river bed. This helps us decide when to pick up our belongings and take them to an elevated area."

The Yamuna floodplains span nearly 10,000 hectares of land. They are cleared by the river, which flows for 54 kilometres across Delhi. The silt deposited by the Yamuna, the longest tributary of the Ganga, sustains many khadars or urban agricultural settlements such as Rakhi's. It enriches the soil and fosters crop production.

On that day, Rakhi saw the water level rise, but was relieved to find that it had not crossed the danger mark. However, on July 11, she and her neighbours began to panic as rains lashed the city and they found themselves in knee-deep water in just a few hours. Their shuggis had never been so inundated in at least a decade. "When water is released from the Hathnikund barrage, it usually enters our homes and is ankle-deep. But this time, we found ourselves knee-deep in water. Soon, our houses were completely submerged," Rakhi said while feeding her family's only remaining buffalo.

Two of the buffaloes had drowned and two were yet to be traced. Rakhi and her family were forced to move to a make-shift tent on a flyover near a metro station. The government has set up some tents on Pusta Road, while other tents have been put up by the residents of Yamuna Khadar.

Delhi saw the highest 24-hour rainfall in 41 years for the month of July on July 9 (153 mm). But while the Yamuna's floodwaters kept rising, and reached a peak on July 13, the city received only scattered rainfall. The spate of the Yamuna was due to heavy rainfall in Himachal Pradesh and other upper reaches, which are upstream of Delhi. While the government established relief camps in various areas, not all flood-affected people have received relief, she said.

Several states in north India received record rainfall in July. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), north-west India experienced 59% excess rainfall than what is normal in the first fortnight of July. This occurred due to active monsoon conditions and a passing 'Western Disturbance' or an extratropical storm originating in Central Asia. The excess rainfall resulted in flooding, water-logging, and loss of property, leaving some areas paralysed for days.

Magnitude of floods

On July 10, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said that taking into account various predictions by experts, a substantial increase in the water levels of the Yamuna was unlikely. But at 5 p.m. that day, the river breached the danger mark and continued to rise to an all-time high on July 13.

The Delhi Police asked the residents of Yamuna Khadar, and those in other areas along the river bank, to move to safer places. But many stayed back, fearing loss of property and cattle. Srinivas Sank, 35, was one of them. As his house flooded, he asked his wife and children to leave on a rescue boat on July 13. "Everyone knows that once you leave your shuggi, you lose it," he said. "And the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) anyway wants us to go."

Srinivas took his buffaloes and moved to a nearby stretch on higher ground for four days. From there, he kept an eye on his shuggi, which was fast disappearing under the rising muddy water. Soon, he realised that the ground on which he had sought refuge was also inundated. He was forced to move again.

Heretofore his possessions, Srinivas sat on a highway, mournfully staring at the plants that were once the source of his livelihood. "First the erratic rains partially destroyed our crops. Now, the floods have completely destroyed them. How are we supposed to make ends meet?" he said.

His neighbour, Rahul Kumar, rued that all the crops that got destroyed were on the verge of being harvested. "For the next 4-5 months, there will be no harvest and no earnings," he said.

Srinivas and Rahul are among the many who have leased land on the floodplains for cultivation. However, despite the losses, they will have to pay rent, said Srinivas. "The owners will demand the lease instalments and will also take any compensation that comes from the government. We will not get anything," lamented Rahul, a farmer whose father migrated to Delhi decades ago from Uttar Pradesh.

The magnitude of the floods in Delhi is prompting khadar settlers to rethink their traditional practice of farming in the floodplains. "If floods of this magnitude keep happening, we will have to move back to our home towns or find work in another city," said Rahul.

This, according to experts, is a high possibility. Torrential rains, and consequently floods, are expected to take place more often, they said. "The ongoing spell of extremely heavy rains is due to the alignment of three weather systems," said Mahesh Palawat, vice president, Meteorology and Climate Change, Skymet Weather. "One, the Western Disturbance over the Western Hima-



Water from the Yamuna enters Vikas Marg in New Delhi following the release of water from the Hathnikund barrage. BY MOHIT/PTI



If floods of this magnitude keep happening, we will have to move back to our home towns or find work in another city.

RAHUL KUMAR
Farmer

layas. Two, the cyclonic circulation over the north-western plains. And three, the Axis of Monsoon trough running across Indo-Gangetic plains. This giant belt of low pressure located in the east-west direction from north-west Rajasthan till the Bay of Bengal. Its movement influences the quantity of rainfall in monsoon."

"This alignment is not happening for the first time; it is the usual pattern during the monsoon. However, global warming led changes in monsoon patterns have made a difference. There has been a constant rise in both land and sea temperatures, which has increased the capacity of the air to hold moisture for a longer time. Thus, the role of climate change in the increasing extreme weather events in India has been strengthening with each passing year," he explained.

Encroachments on the floodplains

The journey of the Yamuna through Delhi is uneven. The width of the river can range from 800 metres to 3 km at various stretches. Experts have been saying for decades that the floodplains should be free of encroachments and large settlements, to aid the natural course of the river.

After the 1978 floods in Delhi, the biggest in the city before 2023, a Yamuna Standing Committee had recommended in 1979 that the "minimum spacing between future embankments on the banks of the river Yamuna be 5 km and the embankment aligned at a minimum distance of at least 600 m from the 'active river edge' at the time of construction of embankments."

In 2014, another committee constituted by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) observed that "unfortunately" the decision had not been followed and the maximum distance between the two embankments of the river was less than 2 km. As a result, "the floodwater-carrying capacity of the river had been greatly compromised." Delhi saw substantial floods in 2010 and 2013 and this, the committee warned, pointed to a "growing flood hazard".

Nine years later, the Yamuna has flooded Delhi again. This time, the flood waters reached the highest-ever recorded level (208.66 m), inundating houses and arterial roads, and forcing thousands to move to relief camps.

"The current situation of the Yamuna floodplains is worse than 2014, when the report highlighted the issue. More illegal encroachments on the floodplains have left less space for the river to flow and for the water to percolate," said A.K. Gosain, professor emeritus of the Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, and a member of a Principal Committee appointed by the NGT.

In 1987, a study by the Central Water and Pow-

er Research Station, Pune, warned that a reduction in the channel width, and construction of guide bunds on the floodplains, would increase the hazard of flooding on both sides of the river. In the years since, nearly 14 bridges have been constructed between the city's Wazirabad and Okhla barrages. These contribute to the city's flooding woes, said experts.

In 2015, in a landmark judgment in a case filed by Manoj Mishra, a former Indian Forest Service officer, the NGT formed the Mallya Se Nirmal Yamuna Revitalization Plan, 2017, to clean the Yamuna and restore the floodplains by March 31, 2017. The judgment warned of "grave environmental disasters". The NGT constituted a Principal Committee to identify all the existing structures in the floodplains and recommend which of them ought to be demolished.



"The current situation is worse than in 2014, when the NGT Committee report highlighted issues with the Yamuna floodplains"

A.K. GOSAIN
Professor emeritus, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Delhi

Eight years later, official documents show that this is yet to be done. "Nobody is interested. The DDA knows that if these structures are identified, they will have to take further action and even demolish these encroachments," Gosain said.

Apart from illegal encroachments, many official developmental works such as the Akshardham Temple, the Commonwealth Games Village, the Yamuna Bank Metro Station, and the Delhi Secretariat are built on the Yamuna floodplains.

The 2015 judgment had also directed the DDA, which is under the Central government, to physically demarcate the floodplains and prohibit construction activities in the demarcated region. "But when the Principal Committee visited the floodplains, it found that the demarcation was not done properly," Gosain said.

As per the DDA's Master Plan 2021, the floodplains are termed as "Zone O". But in the Draft Master Plan 2041, the floodplains have been divided into Zone O-I and O-II. While no construction would be permitted in Zone O-I or the 'river zone' (6,295 ha), regulated development will be allowed in Zone O-II (3,638.36 ha).

"Why should they allow construction in the floodplains by terming it as Zone O-II? The 2015 judgment is clear that there cannot be any construction unless it is extremely important and that too done after careful scrutiny," said Gosain.

A.K. Jain, former commissioner (Planning) of Delhi, also said that allowing construction in Zone O-II would be dangerous. When asked why encroachments still happen in floodplains, he said, "There is political pressure and authorities are not autonomous. There is a nexus of politicians, bureaucrats, and the land mafia."

Even the riverfront development project of the DDA includes pavements and permanent structures on the floodplains. "When we visited one of the river development sites, there were permanent constructions coming up on the riverfront. This will reduce the absorption capacity of the soil and reduce the area for the river to flow. And because of that, when the water level increases, the river will reclaim its natural flow area," said Bhim Singh Rawat, associate coordinator, South Asia Networks on Dams, Rivers and People.

"Whenever it comes to our notice that there is encroachment, it is removed," a DDA spokesper-

son said. But the DDA did not respond to specific questions on the other issues.

A political flashpoint

During the floods, the release of water from Hathnikund barrage in Haryana, which is upstream of Delhi, became a political flashpoint between the AAP, which is in power in Delhi, and the BJP, which governs Haryana. The water level of the Yamuna in Delhi depends heavily on the amount of water that is released from barrage.

After the Yamuna enters Delhi at Palla, it flows through Wazirabad to reach ITO, located at the heart of the city, before exiting from the Okhla barrage. The ITO barrage, though located in Delhi, is owned by the Haryana government. The Delhi government has alleged that five of the 32 gates of the barrage were "stuck," which caused the flooding in parts of Delhi.

Haryana government representatives said that the "required number of gates" were opened to their maximum limit for safe discharge of floodwater. Even the highest discharge passed without any hindrance, they said. Bhim Singh pointed out that though there are six flood monitoring stations between Hathnikund in Haryana and Old Railway Bridge in Delhi, the Yamuna waters breached the Highest Flood Level only in Delhi, which "showed" that the problem lay in Delhi.

While the floodplain dwellers are used to moving into tents during the monsoon, those living in the residential parts of the city which about the Yamuna were taken by surprise. Sandhya Raman, a resident of Civil Lines, said that in the past 30 years, she had never seen the area become so flooded. "From my first floor balcony I could see many cars 'swimming' on the main road," she said. Her family of four moved to a relative's place in Defence Colony for the next four days as electricity was cut off as a precautionary measure.

Even before the Yamuna flooded the city, there was heavy urban flooding due to rains on July 9. Several stretches of the city could not be navigated. Currently, if there is about 100 mm of rainfall in 24 hours, even if the Yamuna flows at normal levels, the city goes under water. Due to urban flooding, in July 2020, a driver, 56, died in a waterlogged stretch under Minto Bridge in the heart of the city. Similarly, in July 2021, a 27-year-old drowned in a waterlogged underpass in Pul Prahladpur.

On June 10, Kejriwal said that Delhi's system is not designed to handle "unprecedented" rainfall. At the core of this problem is the city's drainage master plan, made in 1976, when the population of the city was only about 60 lakh. Since then, the population has increased about four times, but a new drainage master plan is yet to be finalised and implemented by the Delhi government.

In 2011, the Delhi government signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IIT Delhi for a Drainage Master Plan to find a solution to water logging. Though IIT Delhi submitted the final draft to the Delhi government in 2018, a technical expert committee advised the Delhi government not to accept it. So, the government is now trying to get it done by private players and has floated tenders, but it has not made much headway.

Nishtha Gautam, a resident of Civil Lines, moved to a hotel when her area got flooded. Aware of the possibility of the increasing frequency and magnitude of flooding in the area, Nishtha said that she was pondering a big decision. "Given Delhi's air quality and its susceptibility to such calamities, I am thinking of moving back to my hometown near Mathura," she said.



The flood-affected people of Yamuna Khadar await food at a relief camp in Mayapuri in East Delhi. SHV KUMAR/PTI/ANSA

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संघीय
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ग्यारह दिन में बिके डीडीए के 1,415 फ्लैट

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण (डीडीए) की पहले आओ-पहले पाओ आवासीय योजना-4 की सफलता से अधिकारी खुश नजर आ रहे हैं। अधिकारियों ने दावा किया है कि शुक्रवार तक 1,415 फ्लैट की बुकिंग हो चुकी है। आंकड़ों के मुताबिक नरेला एवं रोहिणी के फ्लैटों में आवेदकों की खास रुचि देखने को मिल रही है, जबकि द्वारका और लोकनायक पुरम दूसरे नंबर पर हैं। डीडीए की इस योजना में कुल 5,623 फ्लैट शामिल हैं। डीडीए ने यह आवासीय योजना बीते महीने 30 जून को लांच की थी। हालांकि फ्लैटों की बुकिंग 10 जुलाई से शुरू हुई है।

डीडीए के मुताबिक 21 जुलाई तक द्वारका के 50, जसोला के 23, लोकनायक पुरम के 33, नरेला के

■ नरेला व रोहिणी के फ्लैटों में आवेदकों की खास रुचि

625, रोहिणी के 670 एवं सिरसपुर के 14 फ्लैटों की बुकिंग हो चुकी है। इसमें विभिन्न श्रेणियों के फ्लैट शामिल हैं। डीडीए ने वन बीएचके+ फ्लैट की बुकिंग के लिए पंजीकरण राशि 50,000 रुपए, वन बीएचके फ्लैट की पंजीकरण राशि 1,00,000 रुपए, टू बीएचके फ्लैट की पंजीकरण राशि 4,00,000 एवं श्री बीएचके फ्लैट की पंजीकरण राशि 10,00,000 रुपए रखी है। यह पूरी आवासीय योजना ऑनलाइन उपलब्ध है। आवेदन करने से लेकर आवंटन तक की प्रक्रिया ऑनलाइन ही संपन्न होगी।