Commr. (Pig) - II Despatch 9 8 6 4 Date 9 7 / 08 / 19 44

RAJ Nove and Jake

Shahri Adhikar Manch: Begharon Ke Saath शहरी अधिकार मंचः बेघरों के साथ

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## DDA proposes only 33 shelters in Delhi

Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has proposed amendments in the Master Plan for Delhi 2021 in regard to the shelters for the CityMakers (homeless residents) in the city. According to reports, the DDA has recommended to amend clause 4.3 of the Master Plan for Delhi 2021 which states that there should be at least one shelter with complete facilities per one lac population. The DDA has now recommended to change it to one shelter per 5 lac population. If the centre government approves this recommendation, it will be catastrophic for the CityMakers (homeless residents) in the city as the number of shelters, which currently stands at 160, will go down to just 33.

Shahri Adhikar Manch: Begharon Ke Saath (SAM:BKS) strongly condemn this move of the DDA. SAM:BSK balieves that this is a ploy of DDA to drive out CityMakers (homeless residents) from the city.

Also DDA's recommendation is a gross violation of the orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. In the suo moto case W.P. (C) 29/2010 (the ongoing case), the High Court of Delhi in its orders dated 13.01.2010 and 10.02.2010 had observed that "... We find the aforesaid very disturbing. We had in our order dated 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 noted that as per paragraph 4.3 of the Master Plan, one shelter per 1,00,000 population has to be provided... We had again, referring to the Master Plan 2021, observed that night shelter for 1,00,000 to 1,50,000 homeless persons are to be provided. Inspite of our aforesaid categorical orders, we fail to understand as to how the DDA could in the meeting aforesaid take a stand that the Master Plan 2021 provide for night shelters for 15,000 persons only." In the same order the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi went on to observe that "The Master Plan visualizes one night shelter for 1,00,000 population. Even if table 13.18 is understood as providing for one night shelter of 1000 sq. meter for 10,00,000 population, the same cannot override the substantial provision in para 4.3 of the Master Plan. The interpretation of the DDA of the Master Plan is not found to be correct by us."

If the recommendation of the DDA is accepted, it will have far reaching effect not just in Delhi but across the country. According to a survey conducted by IGSSS in 2008, there were 1,50,000 homeless residents in Delhi. As such the 160 shelter homes are too less to completely cater to the needs of CityMakers (homeless residents), however, having just 33 shelters will push CityMakers further into deprivation and destitution.

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At the end of 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan there was a shortfall of 24.71 million houses in urban India. 99.9 percent of this shortfall affects the Economically Weaker Sections and Lower Income Groups. Instead of providing proper housing to the urban poor, the government through this new tactic of DDA is looking to suffocate CityMakers (homeless residents) further and further.

This is a gross violation of human rights of CityMakers (homeless residents). SAM:BKS strongly opposes this recommendation of DDA.