

उपराज्यपाल  
दिल्ली

DEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
DELHI



सत्यमेव जयते

राज निवास  
दिल्ली-११००५४  
RAJ NIWAS  
DELHI-110054

Director (Plg.) MPR/TC,  
D.D.A. Vikas Minar N. DELHI-2  
Dy.No. 122  
Dated: 22/2/12

289 /  
22-2-12

08 February, 2012

1439  
15-3-12

Corum (Plg) - II  
Diary No. I-127  
Date 16-2-12

Dear Shri A.H. Khan Chowdhury Ji,

I have received your letter dated 29 December, 2011 regarding amendment to Master Plan 2012 of Delhi and changing the provision regarding minimum land area required for establishment of Primary Schools.

I have referred the matter to Vice Chairman, DDA to look into the case and send me a report at an early date.

With Kind Regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Tejendra Khanna)

DD (MPYS Office)  
Diary No. 228  
Date 25/2/12

Director (Plg.) MPR-2021  
D.D.A. Vikas Minar N. Delhi

560-C  
14/2/12

Shri A.H. Khan Chowdhury  
Member of Parliament  
(Lok Sabha)  
C-1/6, Tilak Lane  
New Delhi-110001.

OFFICE OF THE DIR (Plg.)  
MPR/TC, D.D.A. N. DELHI-2  
Dy.No. 2402  
Dated 4/5

No.F. 100(5)/12/RM/138/737 Dated: 08 February, 2012

Copy along with the letter forwarded to Vice Chairman, DDA, with the request to kindly look into the matter and submit the matter on file for the perusal of Hon'ble Lt. Governor.

(S.N. Misra)  
Pvt. Secretary to Lt. Governor

on file  
Am/6/3-12  
19/2/12

OSD (Plg)  
16/2

Dis (MP)  
17/2  
Shri  
23/2  
OSD (MP)

This issue is to be enquired by Dir (MP).  
Pl. link with permission and pl. discuss on priority.  
24/2/2012  
DD (MP)  
27/02/12  
P.T.O.

**A.H. KHAN CHONDHURY**

Member of Parliament  
(Lok Sabha)



Member of Parliament  
Lok Sabha  
10, Jai Hind Road, New Delhi-110002  
Tel: 23732356, Fax: 23732365  
M. No. 9864170395  
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1, Sanyal Street, Kolkata-700011  
Tel: 033-2440902

**MEMBER:**

- Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce & Steel
- Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance
- Consultative Committee on Ministry of Urban Development
- Durgah Committee, Ajmer
- All India Congress Committee

**PRESIDENT:**

- Malda District Congress (West Bengal)

Handwritten notes and signatures: "2/2/12", "2/4/12", "2/4/12"

29 December, 2011

To  
**Shri Tejendra Khanna**  
Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Delhi  
&  
Chairman, Delhi Development Authority  
6, Raj Nivas Marg  
Delhi-110054

Dear Sir,

This has reference to my earlier letter to you dated 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2011, regarding amendment to Master Plan 2021 of Delhi and changing the provision regarding land for schools in Delhi.

Handwritten notes: "P. K. Singh", "ACK", "2/2/12", "2/4/12", "2/4/12"

I have a personal experience in this regard as my elder brother is the Chairman of a Trust in the name of his late wife Esther, called "Esther Education Trust", which runs two schools for underprivileged children in Delhi and Ghaziabad. These schools have been functional since 1999 and have been doing extremely good work with the disadvantaged groups. As a school run by an NGO, they never sought what is known as 'recognition' in the official parlance, but nonetheless they have been doing a lot of good work for the underprivileged children.

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi issued an advertisement in August 2008 saying that all the unrecognized schools operating in Delhi should apply for recognition and hundreds of unrecognized schools applied for the same. But three years have passed since then but nothing has been done in the matter till now. I spoke to the Additional Director (Education) in MCD and I was told that they are unable to take any step in the matter because they are bound by the Delhi Master Plan 2021, which specifies that a primary school in Delhi must have an area of 800 sq. mtrs of land in order to get recognition. In fact, he also informed me that MCD has been writing to the Central Government requesting them to relax this criteria and change the land requirement for Primary Schools from 800 sq. mtrs. to 400 sq. mtrs.

The new norms of 800 sq mtrs of land for recognition of private Primary schools according to Master Plan 2021, is a raise of 300% from the old norm of 200 sq. mtrs., in force till the year 2007, and is not only unjustified, but also discriminatory. The primary schools which have managed to get recognition in the past, before 2007, are running in 5 room structures, which was initially the norm in Delhi. Everyone knows how difficult it is to buy land in Delhi, given their high prices. If you want to improve the whole system of education then ask all the schools to provide for all the necessary facilities for their children as per the Right to Education Act, without putting the condition of 800 square metres of land. You may also think in terms of

allowing the schools which have smaller land area to allow them to develop vertically, and keep a portion of land in their possession as play space for children. Closing down even a single school is going to be a retrograde step, especially in the light of the fact that millions of our children are still unable to have access to basic education facilities, and the Right to Education Act seeks to make education accessible to all our children.

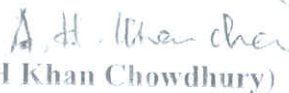
It is my earnest request to you to please take a holistic view in the matter, with regard to the land requirement for recognition of schools and take a decision which benefits the people at large, especially those who cannot afford to send their children to elite, expensive schools. I had also written to the Hon'ble Urban Development Minister Shri Kamal Nath ji, regarding allocation of requisite land for a Primary school, in favour of Esther Education Trust, C-40, Madanpur Khadar Extension, New Delhi-110076 by Delhi Development Authority. I have received a reply from him stating that DDA as a matter of policy does not allocate any land for schools anymore. The land for schools are only auctioned now. How many NGOs running schools for underprivileged children will be able to afford to buy land in DDA auctions?

It is therefore my earnest request to you to ensure that the condition regarding land for schools in the Master Plan of Delhi 2021 must be revised in a manner that schools which have the basic infrastructure are able to get recognition from appropriate authorities concerned, without the precondition of having 800 sq. mtrs. of land.

I shall be grateful if you could kindly take a sympathetic view of the matter and instruct/advise the DDA to do the needful in the matter.

Thanking you,

With regards,

  
(A H Khan Chowdhury)