

Dr.Poonam Prakash, Associate Professor, Department of Physical Planning, School of Planning and Architecture, 4-B, I.P.Estate, New Delhi 2, 9716619999

51

OFFICE OF THE DIR (Pig.)
MPR/TC, D.D.A. N. DELHI-2
By No.....1413.....
dated.....18/11/11.....

16.11.2011

16/11

Sh. Nand Lal, Finance Member
Chairman, Board of Enquiry and Hearing
B-Block, Vikas Sadan
INA

Sub: Hearing Notice for Proposed modifications in MPD 2021 regarding parking standards for additional FAR in use premises

Sir,

This is with reference to the invitation letter dated 9/11/2011 received on 14/11/2011 for a hearing on 16/11/2011. Since the academic semester is ending in another few days, we are unable to attend this meeting at such a short notice.

Further, this is to request that as per the decision of the Board of Enquiry and Hearing on 3 November 2011 for D-Zone public notice which was not published in the 'public notice' section of the DDA website, this notice too should be reissued as it is in the same group of public notices not available on the website. Perhaps the MPR section is not aware of this decision and has routinely sent this hearing notice. I request that this hearing be rescheduled after republishing the public notice.

Yours Sincerely,

Poonam Prakash
Dr.Poonam Prakash
(Studio Coordinator,
on behalf of students and other faculty)

ADCPA

✓Cc: Director (MPR)
(with request as per the enclosed letter)

58

17.11.2011

The Director (Planning) MPR
Delhi Development Authority
Sixth Floor, Vikas Minar, I.P.Estate, New Delhi – 110002

Subject: Advertisement for 'Inviting Public Suggestions for Mid-Term Review for MPD 2021', dated 04/10/2011

Ref. Letter from Ms Gita Dewan Verma on the subject 'MPD -2021 review' dated 11/11/11

Sir,

In continuation with letter under reference with which I concur, I have following additional points:

The Board on 02/11/11 had to cancel the hearing for D Zone public notice as the public notice was not properly disseminated and directed republication of notice. Despite that decision, I received a short hearing notice for a hearing on 16/11/11 for parking norms which too was not published on the website. It seems quite a coincidence that while the decision for this advertisement for the Master Plan review process was underway, public notices were not being put up on the website and were not being disseminated as per the requirement of Section 44. *I hope this advertisement will not get republished as in case of D Zone and is issued as per the requirement of law u/s 44 of the DD Act and sec 4(1) of the RTI Act.*

The advertisement invites suggestions on policy, norms and implementation procedure. This nomenclature is ambiguously and loosely used in the document. I hope the information disclosure of monitoring data will make these distinctions clearly. *I expect that any revisions/modifications placed under section 11A process will use these subheads for the purpose of clarity.*

In addition to the statutory participatory process in the DD Act, MPD 2021 envisaged participation at the local area level. Present experience of area level participation through public notices for Layout level modifications in some zones and environment clearance public notices as in case of Local Area of Rangpuri does not build any confidence in these processes. The already unclear participatory process envisaged in the MPD 2021 through management action group on 'Local Level Participatory Planning Group' has become more ambiguous through

50

this advertisement on 'public participation' at pre-review stage at the Master Plan level obfuscating the statutory process of participation at the Master Plan/Zonal Plan level. I hope complete information disclosure of the functioning of 'Local Level Participatory Planning' group will be provided.

I completely disagree with DDA's view on information disclosure given in the matter of public notice for residential area norms including mix land use that 'public need not be spoon fed'.¹ I would rather have the raw material to cook a meal myself rather than be spoon fed on a burnt meal. *I hope that substantive information disclosure of the monitoring data will be available in public domain to justify the basis of any action arising out of review process including a response on already made request in the enclosed letter.*


(Poonam Prakash)

Enclosed:

Copy of the letter to Mr. P.V.Mahashabdey dated 03.11.11

Cc:

Mrs Gita Dewan Verma and others as in the endorsement of the letter dt. 11/11/11

¹ View taken by DDA's Counsel Sh. Ajay Verma in the matter WP(C) 13097-99/2006 Poonam Prakash and Ors vs MoUD and Ors.

58

3 November 2011

Sh.P.V.Mahashabdey
Additional Commissioner (Planning)
Delhi Development Authority
Vikas Minar, I.P.Estate
New Delhi -2

Subject : Accessibility of Arjun Camp Case Files WP(C) 5007/2002
Sir,

With reference to my previous correspondence dated 15.7.2011, I have so far been unable to access Arjun Camp case files. I would like to share the following information with you in this regard.

On 25th October, I attended a CSH-CPR workshop on Public Infrastructure Projects and Real Estate Development : Access to land and housing for slum dwellers in Delhi by Dr. Veronique Du Pont at the Centre for Policy Research, Chankyapuri. During the question answer session Dr. Du Pont referred to the Arjun Camp judgement (Jagdish and ors vs DDA) as one of the two progressive judgements that she is aware of.

On 29th October in a newsreport published in Tehlaka, "Remove the Poor" by Avalok Langer, on 29th October, one of the expert members of the High Level committee constituted for periodic review and monitoring of the Master Plan of Delhi 2021, "Professor" Dunu Roy (No. 23), Director, Hazards Centre (JNU), has been quoted as saying in the context of Delhi and Delhi Master Plan(copy enclosed):

"The Master Plan is legally binding but the state has failed in its duty. Slums are a result of this failure. ...The courts, instead of taking cognizance of this failure, have prosecuted the slum developers who have completed the work that the government did not"

It appears he is not aware of this judgement for implementation of Delhi master Plan for housing provisions. The DDA may like to consider inviting Dr. Du Pont as an expert. DDA should also consider wider dissemination of the case facts and related documents. In any case, these should definitely be made available to the high level monitoring committee as housing is the most important priority area of the Plan. I am sure these would also be of use in the SPA particularly to the National Resource Centre in the SPA set up by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty alleviation.

In any event, I would like to reiterate my request to make them available to me urgently for my academic and professional interest.


(Dr. Poonam Prakash)

Encl: Newsreport of 29th October 2011

Cc:

Ms Gita Dewan Verma (Planning Advisor in WP(c) 5007/2002)
Prof. Neelima Risbud (coordinator, National Resource Centre)
Dr. Veronique Du Pont (Senior Research fellow, IRD)