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भारत का स्थायी मिशन, जेनेवा

PERMANENT MISSION OF INDIA  
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01 July 2011

The Permanent Mission of India to the Office of the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and, with reference to communication no. AL Housing (2000-9) IND 7/2010 dated 10 June 2010 signed by Ms. Raquel Rolnik, Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, has the honour to inform that the Government of India has examined the communication and found the allegation to be partially inaccurate.

The investigation into the matter has shown that in the run up to the Commonwealth Games, the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi re-drafted the Policy Guidelines for relocation/rehabilitation of slum and *jhuggi* dwellers. These Guidelines are comprehensive in nature and elucidate all necessary details such as joint survey and biometric identification of affected families, eligibility conditions, financial assistance pattern and allotment and maintenance of flats. With regard to the specific concerns raised by the Special Rapporteur, the Permanent Mission of India would like to present the following information:

### **A. Displacement of families living along the bank of river Yamuna in 2004**

The families living in the *jhuggis* along the bank of river Yamuna were removed in compliance with the directions issued by the Hon'ble High Court and Hon'ble Supreme Court as they were found to be causing acute pollution in the river Yamuna according to the joint survey conducted by the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB). Those found eligible for relocation have already been rehabilitated at Bawana, Narela, Holambi Kalan and Savda Ghevra.

### **B. Demolition of Settlements at Banuwal Nagar and Vikas Puri in 2006**

The Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) had not carried out any demolition of the settlements. The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) had demolished these settlements and information regarding the same is being sought from them.

### **C. Demolition of Gadia Lohar Basti in 2009**

About 17-18 settlements in the vicinity of Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium were removed by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, the land owning agency, since they were situated on the 'right of way' of a road construction project. According to the relocation/rehabilitation policy, none of them was found eligible for relocation/rehabilitation as per the survey conducted by DUSIB.

### **D. Demolition of Settlement of leprosy camp near Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in 2009**

The entire cluster of 50 *jhuggis* families was removed by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi in the year 2009. As per relocation/rehabilitation policy, they were found non-eligible for relocation/rehabilitation. However, as a special dispensation, the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, Delhi approved their relocation/rehabilitation, which is under consideration at present.

### **E. Demolition of Settlement in J. Prabhu Market and Prabhu Market Extn. Near Lodhi Colony**

About 1000 *jhuggis* were removed from this location as they were situated on the 'right of way' of a road construction project. As per the policy of the Govt. none of them was found eligible for relocation/re-habilitation.

### **F. Demolition of Settlement of Dalit Tamils at Jangpura's Brapullah Nala**

The Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) did not remove the *jhuggis* settled on the railway lines. The *jhuggi* dwellers voluntarily shifted to a nearby location. A joint bio-metric survey was conducted by the DUSIB and only 37 *jhuggi* dwellers were found eligible for relocation/rehabilitation.

The Permanent Mission of India requests that the response of the Government of India be presented in full to the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context.

The Permanent Mission of India to the Office of the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

### **Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights**

**(Attn: the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context)**

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