

Save Us from Dust and Noise Pollution Dwarka, New Delhi, India

- The residents of Dwarka are facing an immediate threat from dust and noise pollution as group housing societies are planning extended construction in the inhabited societies.
- The extended construction activity will cause environmental hazard as dust pollution will increase air pollution in the entire region.
- The construction activity which will run for years in the housing complexes where people are already living will pose serious health risks to men, women, and children.
- The additional construction will disturb the sick and elderly residents (senior citizens) as well as students who will have to bear noise pollution because of the constant construction hammering.
- It will also disturb children as they will not be able to play in the internal parks because of the construction material and risky equipment in the buildings.
- The additional construction activity may cause accidents as the construction will happen in the same buildings where people - including children - are living. It will obviously put residents' lives to risk.
- Cost of extended construction is another issue, as many residents will not be able to bear the cost of additional construction.
- If some residents opt for extended construction and others don't accept it, the uniformity of the building structure will get deformed. Such a step will also violate the fundamental cooperative principles on which the group housing societies are formed.
- The hazardous effects of construction-related pollution will not only be on the residents of affected societies, but it will also harm the entire population of Dwarka.
- No activity can be legal if it poses a risk to even one person's life. The truth is that the extended construction will put to risk the lives of hundreds of thousands of people living in and around Dwarka. Thus, extended construction is an illegal activity.
- Even if the majority of the members in a group housing society agree for extended construction, their decision cannot be accepted because it will endanger the health and lives of others.
- The Article 21 of Indian Constitution assures the citizens of India the right to a healthy, pollution-free environment.
- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) of India has observed that one of the major sources of air pollution is dust emission from construction activities, which must be stopped to avoid pollution-related diseases and deaths.
- With these facts, we - the residents of Dwarka in New Delhi - request the government to save us from the dust and noise pollution in group housing societies so that we could live in a clean, pollution-free environment.
- The **government should not allow any such building extension projects** as they are going to be hazardous to human health and lives.

Rakesh Raman

463, DPS Apartments, Sector 4, Dwarka, New Delhi [www.ramanmedianetwork.com]

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