

'No revamp of Kathputli Colony so far'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi Dialogue Commission vice-chairperson Ashish Khetan wrote to Union urban development minister Venkaiah Naidu, drawing his attention to the slow pace of rehabilitation work at Kathputli Colony.

Khetan informed Naidu that Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board has prepared a protocol for steps to be followed during and after the removal of 'jhuggies' in the city, as per a high court order and asked the Union minister to instruct DDA to start rehabilitation of Kathputli Colony according to this policy.

"DDA has made a project for in-situ redevelopment and rehabilitation of this basti. The project was awarded to a private builder more than seven years ago. Since then, very little progress has been made. Even steps for in-situ improvement have not been taken. As a result, the living conditions in the basti have gone from bad to worse.

"Hundreds of families are living in conditions which are not fit for human habitation. Open drains overflowing with sewage, electricity wires hanging dangerously low, garbage scattered all around, entire area stinking with the smell of human faeces and municipal solid waste make the colony hell," Khetan says in his letter.