

Shift to transit camp or face action, HC tells Kathputli Colony protesters

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NEW DELHI: Residents of Kathputli Colony, who have been protesting against their eviction and shifting to a transit camp in Anand Parbat, were on Thursday denied relief by the Delhi High Court.

The HC declined to stay the redevelopment project of the 40-year-old slum that houses artisan families.

Justice Hima Kohli told Bhule Bisre Kalalakar Co-operative Industrial Production Society Limited, the petitioner in the

case, to make all efforts to persuade the eligible residents to shift to the transit camp. Justice Kohli warned that the DDA can use all mode "permissible under the law" to evict the residents if they failed to comply with its direction.

The HC's order came after it was informed by the DDA that the names of bona fide household who are entitled to a flat under the 'in-situ slum rehabilitation scheme' had been made public.

Justice Kohli directed those residents of the slum colony whose names did not feature in the list prepared by the DDA for relocation

and shifting to transit camps, to approach the land authority with their representation.

The DDA's counsel Rajiv Bansal said 2,641 household residents have been identified who will be rehabilitated to the new flats that are going to be built over the colony. Under the proposed plan, eight towers will be built with a capacity of housing 2,800 families

Bansal said they still have a margin of about 160 flats and would welcome genuine households who have been left out in the survey to get flat allotments.