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Chief Executive Officer

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Sub: General Condition of CIDCO Towns- Their Upkeep & Maintenance!

Dear

First of all let me congratulate you for launching the first group of Smart Cities in Navi Mumbai in the country and the State. It is a great news for not only the residents of Maharashtra but also for the people like us who are living in Navi Mumbai. May God strengthen your hands in making the dream a Reality - efficiently enjoyable for the people of that area! We all appreciate that CIDCO towns are an excellent examples of a very well planned, open, fresh and enjoyable 21st century city. It was not supposed to have the age old problems of any old city, which is haphazard, over populated, lacking many necessary civic amenities, but was to be a growth center with an elevated standard of living for the various strata of people.

It also reminds me to once again bring to your kind notice some of the pending issues and difficulties for the general upkeep and maintenance in CIDCO area, particularly Kharghar, where I am placed.

I have been discussing the various issues with you, writing letters and talking to Joint MD - Ms. Radha, Chief Engineer - Mr. Chaudhary, the Secretary of CIDCO Mr. Rath and the specially appointed administrator for Kharghar, Mr. Dahake. The so called ideal township appears to have no administrative presence. The cleanliness, the parking on both the sides of the lane, haphazard double parking etc. (I don't understand how high rises were sanctioned without making any provision for the requisite parking for the society members), unauthorized mushrooming of Taparies and hawkers, shortage of drinking water in Kharghar, Kamothe, Kalamboli etc and unchecked dumping of debris into the drains. Moreover, since it is free for all situation, every evening (more so on Saturdays/Sundays) the footpath and the roads in Kharghar are changed into Khaugallies and people are seen crowding the roads with 2, 3 lines of Parking, as if they are in Girgaon Chawpatty, with no sense of parking and no check on it.

In this connection I also request you please take out the booklet for the bungalow plots scheme of Sector 21 in Kharghar Node in 2003-2004. Many things were promised and committed for this ideal township. However, much needs to be desired and done. You will notice that the bungalow plot scheme was declared with much funfair having the ideal location near Golf Course, Sprawling Central Park opposite the lines of the bungalows etc. What we have is that within the 4 feet wire

fencing, wild grass growth is there where buffaloes come for grazing, with a full fledged slum created by CIDCO officials itself and the underdeveloped Park Space is used for their conveniences. Already one corner of Park is being used for ISKON Temple and some Developers. I hope no more park land is being sold for building purposes, as it would amount to going back on CIDCO commitments which is not desirable for a Government Authority!

The road and lane leading towards our houses are full of construction material as well as dump of rags collected bundles, taparies, car repair taparies etc. The storm water drainages are full of dumped garbage which may create flooding sometime. I wish some senior and sensitive officers were staying in these areas to see the day to day torturous entry which we have to make to reach our houses. The green island near our houses is not yet developed and is full of wild growth of grass. Everyday, poor senior citizens, sit there after their walk, endangering their lives, because Kharghar is full of snakes which sometimes visit our house also.

I wish that portion of Central Park, which is abandoned and left untouched and the neighboring island is developed into the green patch and no developments of concrete structures are allowed as promised in the Scheme Booklet. Recently, I have noticed that a huge mobile Telecom, tower has been erected diagonally opposite our houses near the Rotary island. It seems that the CIDCO officials are ensuring that if we survive the attack of malaria, dengue, dirty nallahs and surroundings, then the radiations and electrical waves will definitely take us down with serious diseases!

Security of the city, your officials may claim that has nothing to do with CIDCO as that is the responsibility of the Police. The Hon'ble Chief Minister had already declared recently that the smart Cities concept will work only "if the security of the city is fool proof". You may find out the difficulties of extortion threats, various day to day crimes which are happening pose serious threats to the citizens, particularly in isolated areas like ours. CIDCO could coordinate with the other relevant Agencies.

The dreaming for smart cities including 24 hours water supply, regular electricity (which has now frequent loadshedding), improve Road connectivity, collection and recycling of waste, creation and maintenance of Green Islands may help in kick starting the smart cities project, which is a dream project of Hon'ble Prime Minister. Incidentally the MTNL has not yet laid cables, so the area suffers with no Internet Connection - such a relevant must for any smart city!! I will finally request you to direct the concerned officials to look into the poor condition of the internal roads inside the township, proper diversion of roads due to Metro construction, regular garbage collection, sweeping and disposal of garbage, taking care of slums, encroachment and illegal hoardings. Incidentally, I will just point out that after Diwali celebrations for whole one month, no sweeping or collection of

garbage was done which was left over by the enthusiastic celebrating public on the main road near our houses. The so called educated and cosmopolitan society people come near our houses leaving their own Society Safe and Pollution free, to make use of wide road to have their rockets, crackers launched and leave their debris behind without realizing that the sound and smoke is straight away going into our houses. Diwali was celebrated between 11th to 13th of November and first sweeping was done after almost one month i.e. in December, that too when I requested Mr. Dahake personally.

I regret why are we compelled to request personally to the concerned officers and bother them to do the needful, which should be the routine matter, as part of their normal duties?

Please see and do the needful. Expectations are high!

Yours



(S. S. Hussain)

To,
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