

**Indian Express    27.08.2009**

## **DDA to build 65,000 houses; prefabricated units in offing**

The Delhi Development Authority has proposed to build 65,000 houses for people from across varied income groups over the next four years.

The proposal for this scheme was submitted to the Ministry of Urban Development about a month back, according to a senior DDA official.

The plan was part of Urban Development minister Jaipal Reddy's 100-day agenda, announced in June.

Often pulled up for delay in meeting deadlines, DDA plans to use new technology to ensure construction of these 65,000 houses. "Nearly 50,000 of these houses will be constructed with prefabricated technology, which is a faster mode of construction," the DDA official told Newslite. "The other 15,000 will be built with conventional technology."

Prefabricated houses are manufactured in standard sizes but off the site; they are then transported to the location and assembled. The advantage lies in that they can be put up much faster than standard, on-location construction.

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The remaining 15,000 houses, to be constructed with conventional technology, will be ready by 2011 and will cater to various income groups. "These flats will be for the lower income group (LIG), middle income group (MIG) and the higher income group (HIG)," the official

said. "Construction has already begun on many of these houses."

Other than these 65,000 houses, the land agency is also building 47,500 houses for rehabilitation of 23 slum clusters across the Capital. DDA has informed the Ministry of Urban Development that these units would be constructed within the next five years.