

The Times of India 12.09.2014

Key priorities identified for Delhi beautification drive

Focus on removing pavement squatters, illegal parking and anti-waterlogging measures

NEW DELHI: Delhi government and other civic agencies will undertake joint drive to remove encroachment from roads and footpaths. At a review meeting taken by the urban development minister Venkaiah Naidu on Thursday, it was also decided that the agencies concerned would remove debris from these stretches besides undertaking repair and painting work.

These have been identified as some of the priorities for beautification of Delhi. A ministry spokesperson said that the general perception of management of public places and utilities in the national capital is very poor and this needs to be changed through a special drive.

The actions that have been firmed up for immediate action include taking anti-waterlogging measures, managing drains and removal of roadside vegetation, removal of illegal parking slots to enable working of mechanical sweepers. "All the

agencies concerned have committed to remove waste littered in industrial areas, green waste and litter from parks and gardens. They will also undertake cleanliness drive at bus terminals, hospitals and educational institutions," a ministry official said.

He added that the first phase on interceptor sewer would be commissioned soon and the city government would launch decentralized water treatment plant with dispensing units (water ATMs) at Shabad Daulatpur. Moreover, more number of municipal magistrates would be deployed to challan violations relating to sanitation.

Officials said that each government agencies concerned would take medium-term measures within the next six months. These include notification of sanitation by-laws, outsourcing the maintenance and management of toilets and urinals, introduction of door-to-door waste collection service to move towards doing away with dhaloas.

Ministry sources said that segregation of wastes at household level would also be introduced in the next few months and waste processing and waste-to-energy plants would be set up at Ghazipur, Narela and Bawana.

Delhi Development Authority (DDA) will also undertake upgrading of 25 children's parks, play fields in 80 parks, open gyms in 20 parks, shelters, food kiosks, solar lighting, open spaces and plazas. It will develop park for differently abled children at Sector-21 in Dwarka with Rs 14 crore investment.

DDA would also generate 1 MW of solar energy in the next six months for which an MoU has already been signed with Solar Power Corporation of India.