

Critique of planning in Delhi

- **Large scale violations of the plan**

Many constructions, usually large-scale development projects catering to elite classes have been allowed by the state in the name of public interest. Such encroachments use up public land and have even encroached on green land.

- **Plans made without considering ground realities**

New plans are made without studies and mapping of what exists and how the city is actually functioning. Both the previous and the current master plan were made and passed without conducting survey of Existing Land Use.

- **Lack of space allocation for the urban poor and other marginalised identities**

The lack of proper space allocation for the urban poor has led to their increasing criminalisation. In livelihood, this manifests as eviction of street vendors, penalisation of work at home and harassment by government officials and other citizens who see them as encroaching on public space. In housing, non-implementation of the plan and lack of affordable public housing has resulted in extensive organic growth of informal settlements by people. The 'unauthorised' proliferated because of the shortage of 'authorised', but the plan has no road map for how to address this through regularisation and legalisation. It is also a fact that our city is not inclusive of women, disabled, sexual minorities, religious minorities and other marginalised sections.

- **Lack of public participation in planning**

According to DDA Act, every new plan should be on the basis of wide public consultations, but there is only a narrow window of opportunity after the whole draft plan is prepared for the public to give suggestions or raise objections. This process too is not accessible or known to people and can accommodate only small cosmetic changes. No independent or transparent process is there for public participation or to hold the agencies accountable for the implementation of the plan.