**AN EXHORTATION TO BUILD A MOVEMENT TO END HOMELESSNESS GLOBALLY**

**A CARING city is more important, than it being SMART!
*if it’s only SMART; it’s heartless, hopeless …***

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It's possible. And we shall do it.

We surely will put our minds and hearts together to give our work a push, globally. For i see all the activist, globally as animated and as committed, as we all are.

The CityMakers (homeless residents) in India, the CityMakers in the world are not prepared any longer to waste their lives to addiction, police brutality and death due to the vagaries of nature or death at the hands of mowing cars of Salman Khan (http://www.bollywoodlife.com/news-gossip/indu-prakash-singh-calls-for-boycott-of-sonakshi-sinha-varun-dhawan-and-arjun-kapoors-films-for-supporting-salman-khan-in-the-hit-and-run-case/), or other elite or other drunk drivers or the gargantuan bureaucratic insolence, indolence, indifference and arrogance.

The CityMakers see a hope and we are part of this hope. We are unstoppable and shall relentlessly pursue the dream of a HOME for ALL. A similar dream of which Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke of in 1950s. A dream that our freedom fighters saw in 1857, and made it a reality in 1947.

We can't waste the world and India, into the hands of few rich to exploit our nations and the countries world over.

It's our world too. And we can't rest until we have ushered equity, justice, dignity, prosperity, faith and love for All.

It's our universe. And we have to have all this in our lifetime. We can't fritter away our hope and this a great opportunity.

ActionAid in India has launched the People's Vision of the City (PVoC: https://www.facebook.com/pvoc2015), "as an attempt to address the urgent need to design and plan equitable and sustainable cities. It is a methodology to develop consensus and plans based on the aspirations and needs of the citizens, especially the most vulnerable, in order to build an imagination of an equitable and sustainable city in which they wish to live. It involves outreach, dialogue, research, campaigning and knowledge-creation on a vast scale in the cities which choose to be part of this programme." (PVoC Handbook, p.36.)

World Urban Campaign offers us the opportunity to have many PVoCs. or rather PVoCs on a scale, leading it to impact globally.

At ActionAid we, along with our partners have also unleashed an intervention called People Dependent on Informal Economy (PIE) in the area of labour, labour rights, collectivisation of the workers in the informal sector, livelihoods, skill building and enhancement, and an Urban Action School to bridge the gap between activism, academia, bureaucracy and policy formulation.

Time has come when a holistic approach is key to any urban development. If its growth oriented without equity, dignity, and justice then that paradigm of growth will be a burden to any economy with mushrooming poverty. And the elite moving into the gated communities of super rich with a gaping and perforated sense of community. Such a model can never be sustainable. The SDGs need to really spawn sustainable processes. Mere terms like smart cities, shining cities, will not make any city vibrant, until and unless all the stakeholders own the process of the development of cities. And model it according to their collective dreams.

We need caring cities. Collaborative, than competitive cities. Accessible to all, than gated cities. Open, than enclaved / engraved / encased cities. Welcoming, than cursing cities. Cities in which the following will be deeply valued respected and adhered to:

1. CityMakers (homeless residents) have a Right to the City
2. As per the norms of Master Plan for Delhi, 2021 (MPD 2021), for the shelters for the homeless (CityMakers), extended over the country by the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India (WP (C) 196 / 2001 and WP (C) 55 &572 / 2003), there has to be 24X7X365 days shelters to the tune of 1 shelter per 100,000 (Clause 4.3; MPD 2021)urban population. Each permanent shelter being of 1000 sq. mts. dimension (Clause 4.4.3 F; MPD 2021). And incorporating the National Urban Livelihood Mission’s (NULM) 2014 provisions per person space provision in shelters should be of 50 sq. ft.
3. The shelters for the CityMakers (homeless residents) has to be in the nature of: Children’s shelters, Women’s shelters, Family shelters, Men’s shelters, Recovery shelters (for the ill and ailing homeless to recover after hospitalisation), Shelters for De-addiction, etc. All this will be open to elderly, disabled too. Except Men, who are gainfully employed, who can pay nominal charges for their stay, all the shelters will be free of charge with amenities like drinking water, toilets, fans etc.
4. Indivisibility of all rights. All rights are of primacy: housing, health, food, work (livelihoods), drinking water, sanitation, education. Nothing can wait, all have to be there at the same time.
5. Care for each other: 24X7X365
6. All having homes or places to sleep. Housing for all, not in 2022, but today and now.
Than sleeping on footpaths and getting beaten by police, run over by vehicles, falling sick and getting added to the ever increasing numbers of unidentified/ unclaimed dead bodies.
7. No one sleeping hungry
8. All having undisturbed sleep in the night
9. No Cut-off dates
10. No evictions
11. No poverty
12. None with addictions and chemical dependence
13. In situ upgradations
14. Good accessible hospitals
15. Accountable governance
16. Humane bureaucracy
17. Helpful police
18. Just judiciary
19. Responsive media
20. Responsible citizens: youth, and retired
21. Inclusive authorities
22. Competent and corruption-free Municipalities
23. ENGAGING: Academia, Accountable People’s representatives (MPs, MLAs, Councillors etc.), Committed professionals: Advocates, doctors, healers, corporates, engineers, fashion designers, …; Well networked activists: committed and dedicated; Deep spiritual practitioners, beyond ossified religious practices and institutions: praying and doing good for all, just not for their believers
24. All *for* all, *with* all, *by* all, *to* all
25. Keep adding …
26. ...

The UNHABITAT III and under it the World Urban Campaign is a great opportunity to globally right the wrongs, done on the HABITAT agenda and the Habitat scenario.

Mere slogans will not deliver. We will need to ACT, collectively, as one WORLD. At peace with everyone, and not in shambles and pieces.

We need urban societies in sync with any other society, rural, tribal, coastal, hilly etc.

We need to build a world community of sharing our strategies, ideas, actions and campaigns.

Over to Our Movement to End Homelessness Globally!

Keep blessing friends. We need it all the more.

JOIN us! And i know you all part of our collective dream

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http://www.ngopost.in/human-rights/indian-activist-makes-a-pitch-for-indian-homeless-in-chicago-says-census-undercounts-them/

<http://www.globalpressjournal.com/asia/india/advocate-delhi%E2%80%99s-%E2%80%98city-makers%E2%80%99-calls-government-provide-adequate-homeless-shelters#main>

https://www.facebook.com/induprakashsingh

http://www.worldurbancampaign.org/indu-prakash-singh?utm\_content=buffer0d06d&utm\_medium=social&utm\_source=twitter.com&utm\_campaign=buffer#

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**ActionAid is a global movement of people working together to further human rights for all and defeat poverty.**

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 About indu prakash singh

ndu prakash singh, a human rights defender, poet, author, a feminist and a PRA / PLA (Participatory Reflection & Action / Participatory Learning & Action / Participatory Rural Appraisal) practitioner / facilitator, is currently the Leader of Urban Knowledge Activist Hub/ Citizens' Rights Collective, ActionAid, India. He is also the Executive Committee Member of Shahri Adhikar Manch: Begharon Ke Saath (SAM:BKS - Urban Right Forum: With the Homeless, a network of over 20 organisations in Delhi) and Convenor, National Forum for Housing Rights (NFHR). He has worked in the social sector for over 30 years.

In the category, *Save Your City* (for the film ‘No shelters for Homeless Women in Delhi’), indu was bestowed with the CNN- IBN (IBN 18 & Network 18)

**“Citizen Journalist Award”** on 15th Feb., 2010. The award was given away by the well-known Indian Cinema icon, Shri Amitabh Bachchan. indu was also chosen as “**Person of the Year, 2003**” by the ***First City*** magazine of Delhi.

He became part of the Women’s movement from 1982 onwards (after one of his friend’s sister was burnt to death in Delhi). He is an author of **four books on Women’s issues**: ***Women’s Oppression, Men Responsible; Women, Law and Social Change in India***(London & New Delhi);***Indian Women: The Captured Beings;* *Indian Women: The Power Trapped****.* He is the co-author of **Delhi: A Tale of Two Cities** and four other publications. He has written numerous articles in journals, magazines, newspapers etc. He also has edited over 50 publications (including training manuals) and been Editor of **Health for the Millions** magazine (1994-96), Co-traveller, Yaadein…

indu has done **BA** (**Pass**: with *English Literature, Economics, English* & *Hindi* from University of Delhi, 1980), **MA** in ***Philosophy*** (University of Delhi, 1982), **MA** in ***Sociology*** (Jamia Millia Islamia, 1984) and **M.Phil.** in ***Sociology*** (Jawaharlal Nehru University, 1986). He won the **gold medal** in Jamia and **topped** in JNU as well. He qualified the UGC JRF/ Lecturership Eligibility Test, in 1986. In 1989, he won the **Commendation** of International Sociological Association (President: Margaret Archer) in the *Worldwide Competition for Young Sociologists* for an academic paper entitled, *“****Beyond the Feminist Theories : Towards a Paradigm for Understanding / Ameliorating Women’s Situation.”***

indu, recently (2014) was honoured with a **DOCTORATE** in ***Social Work*** from Vishwakarama Open University for Self Employment, India.

Having volunteered, in voluntary organisations since 1987 he joined the voluntary sector from 1993, having taught earlier in DU, Jamia and Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU).

indu is a member of Campaign for Judicial Accountability & Reforms (CJAR – Co-founded by him, Prashant Bhushan and D. Leena), National Forum for Housing Rights, India (NFHR), and National Campaign for Right to Information (NCPRI). He is a life Member of Indian Sociological Society (ISS), Indian Association of Women’s Studies (IAWS), and Indian Society of Authors (INSA). He is the President of Jamghat Society (working with homeless children in Delhi), Forum Against Corruption & Threats (FACT) and Board Member of Aids Awareness Group (AAG)

In his work, indu is guided by Gandhi’s last person. He seeks sustenance through the writings of Rabindranath Tagore, Gandhi, Khalil Gibran, Rumi, Hazrat Inayatullah Khan, Buddha, Dr. (Rev.) Martin Luther King, Jr., Jiddu Krishnamurti, Richard Bach, Prem Chand, Kabir, Mira Bai, Simone de Beauvoir, Shaheed Ram Prasad Bismil, Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Ambedkar, Erich Fromm, Eknath Easwaran, Epictetus, Thich Nhat Hanh (Thay) ….