



# VARANASI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

27th December '2024



## VDA Hosts Workshop on Careers in Fashion Designing

On 26/12/2024, the Varanasi Development Authority (VDA) organized a special workshop in its auditorium, chaired by Vice Chairman Pulkit Garg. The event, led by Dr Smriti Yadav (Professor, NIFT) and Rishikant Kumar (Assistant Professor), aimed to inspire over 100 students to explore career opportunities in fashion design.

**Vice Chairman Garg highlighted the diverse career paths in the fashion and lifestyle industry, emphasizing courses like:**

- Fashion Communication Design Graduate Program: Equipping students with skills to connect brands with customers.
- Fashion Design Graduate Program: Blending Indian and global fashion trends.





- Textile Design Program: Covering weaving, print design, and surface ornamentation from thread to fabric.
  - Fashion Interior Program: Promoting sustainable and innovative design solutions.
- Additional insights were provided on knitwear design, leather design, and fashion technology programs at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

The workshop emphasized the growing opportunities in the fashion industry and encouraged students to specialize in these fields to secure a bright future. Authority officials, employees, and students actively participated in the event.



### Contractors to Face Fines for KPI Breaches

At a meeting led by VDA Vice Chairman Pulkit Garg and the Divisional Food Controller, contractors from Varanasi, Chandauli, Jaunpur, and Ghazipur districts were warned about poor compliance with KPIs like route deviations and unauthorized stoppages. Daily violation reports, including detailed KML files, were mandated, with fines of ₹500-₹2,000 per breach. The Vice Chairman emphasized strict action against repeated violations and tasked the DFMO with ensuring compliance. Officials, including RMO Pradeep Kumar Kushwaha and DC Food Rajan Goyal, were present to address these issues.



### VDA and NBCC Ink MoU for 12-storey Jawaharlal Nehru Commercial Complex

The Jawaharlal Nehru Commercial Complex near Varanasi Cantt station is set for a significant revamp. VDA signed an MoU with NBCC to rebuild the 45-year-old structure into a 12-storey ultra-modern facility. The new 6,600-square-meter complex will cater to residents, tourists, and devotees, offering diverse amenities under one roof while addressing congestion in the Cantt area.

VDA Vice Chairman Pulkit Garg assured that existing shop allottees will retain space in the revamped structure, with their consent sought before





reconstruction. NBCC CMD Mahadeva Swamy and GM Anil Yadav pledged quality and timely project completion.

Officials were also present, including Additional Secretary Dr. Gudakesh Sharma, City Planner Prabhat Kumar, and Superintending Engineer Ajay Pawar.



## VDA Resolves Long-Standing Possession Issues in Lalpur Housing Scheme

With focused efforts from the Varanasi Development Authority (VDA), possession disputes for two plots in the Lalpur Awasiya Yojana (Phase 1) were resolved after years of delay.

\* Plot A-89 (121 sqm): Allotted in 2020 to Smt. Chandramukhi Singh, possession was delayed due to a site dispute. On 20.12.2024, Vice Chairman Pulkit Garg facilitated its handover.

\* Plot A-100 (345 sqm): Though registered to Shri Hiralal Singh in 2007, possession was pending due to site issues. This was also resolved on 20.12.2024.



A committee led by Additional Secretary Dr. Gudakesh Sharma has been established to address similar concerns, holding weekly meetings to prioritize solutions. Vice Chairman Pulkit Garg praised Planning Advisor Prabhakar Pandey, Property Officer A.P. Tiwari, and the Property Section team for their diligent efforts.



## Foundation Stone Laid for Garhwasi Tola Development

Varanasi Development Authority (VDA) initiated development works in Garhwasi Tola with a foundation stone laying ceremony led by Hon'ble South MLA Shri Neelkanth Tiwari.

### The project includes:

- \* 423 meters of drinking water lines
- \* 80 meters of sewer lines
- \* 373 meters of CC roads
- \* Stone flooring
- \* Estimated cost: ₹72.32 lakh

The initiative aims to enhance local infrastructure and improve living conditions for residents. VDA officials, including the Executive Engineer, Assistant Engineer, Junior Engineer, and developers, attended the event.



MLA Neelkanth Tiwari emphasized the project's significance in boosting area amenities, with locals applauding the timely initiative and hoping for quality execution.





## VDA Hosts Workshop to Promote Solar Energy in Multi-Storey Housing

On 20/12/2024, Varanasi Development Authority (VDA) Vice Chairman Pulkit Garg and Chief Development Officer Himanshu Nagpal led a workshop encouraging solar energy adoption in multi-storey housing under the PM Surya Ghar Free Electricity Scheme. UPNEDA's Shashi Kumar explained the government's subsidy of ₹18,000 per kWp, up to 500 kWp.

Builders were directed to display QR-coded map approval certificates at building entrances to enhance transparency. The initiative aims to boost sustainability and modernize housing infrastructure. City Planner Prabhat Kumar and Assistant Engineers Ramchandra and Gaurav Kumar attended the event.



## Field Inspection Conducted for Assi River Restoration Project

On 19/12/2024, VDA Vice Chairman Pulkit Garg led a field inspection for the Assi River Restoration Project, covering areas such as Karmeshwar, Kandwan, and Karmajitpur. This initiative, undertaken with IIT-BHU, aims to restore the river through detailed drawings, designs, and DPRs. Key directives included demarcation of land ownership around affected ponds, immediate tendering for cleaning and desilting four key ponds and installing flow meters at Kanchanpur STP to monitor water treatment. Illegal constructions around the river were flagged for legal action. Emphasis was placed on starting restoration work promptly, with public awareness boards to be installed in the area. The inspection team included IIT-BHU experts, VDA officials, and local authorities.







## Review Meeting Held for Zone-1 and Zone-2 at VDA

Additional Secretary Dr. Gudakesh Sharma chaired a review meeting for Zone-1 and Zone-2 at the Varanasi Development Authority. Pending mitigation maps were examined, and early resolution instructions were issued. Zone-1 reported a compounding fee collection of ₹6.5 lakh from 08/12/2024 to 14/12/2024, bringing the fiscal year total to ₹6.92 crore. Zone-2 collected ₹16.48 lakh during the same period, with a cumulative total of ₹6.63 crore this year.

The Additional Secretary directed strict action against builders with unpaid fees and mandated clearing basements for parking in sealed cases. Public complaints were to be resolved within a week, and illegal developments were identified for enforcement or demolition. Officers were warned against negligence in their duties.

Key attendees included Zonal Officers Singh Gaurav Jaiprakash (Zone-1) and Sanjeev Kumar (Zone-2), Junior Engineers, building clerks, and field staff.



## VDA Vice Chairman Inspects Rathyatra-Gurubagh Road Expansion Project

On 16.12.2024, the Vice Chairman of the Varanasi Development Authority conducted a site inspection of the ongoing expansion work on the Rathyatra-Gurubagh road. Instructions were issued to the Zonal Officer to identify and take legal action against illegal constructions within 9 meters from the road's centerline, as per the expansion plan for the 18-meter-wide road.

The project aims to alleviate heavy traffic congestion, improve travel speed towards Lanka and BHU, reduce pollution levels, and enhance overall traffic flow. The Zonal Officer, Junior Engineer, Planning Advisor, VDA Acquisition Section staff, and local dignitaries attended the inspection.







## VDA to Rejuvenate Shivpur Mini Stadium

The Varanasi Development Authority (VDA) has unveiled plans to rejuvenate the Shivpur Mini Stadium, aiming to provide the community with state-of-the-art sports and fitness facilities. The stadium, a hub for local sports and exercise, will feature upgraded hockey and football fields, a volleyball court, cricket practice nets, an indoor games hall, and an open gym.

New facilities will include separate changing rooms and toilets for male and female players, a 358-meter walking track, a yoga pavilion for 50 people, a senior citizens' area, and a canteen offering healthy food options. For spectators, a stand accommodating 250 people will be constructed to enhance the experience of sports competitions.



Under the leadership of VDA Vice Chairman Pulkit Garg and inspired by Minister Ravindra Jaiswal, this project aims to foster sports enthusiasm, health awareness, and regional sports talent. The rejuvenation of Shivpur Mini Stadium is set to be a transformative gift for Varanasi's citizens, promoting fitness and community development.



## VDA Organizes Public Service Camp at Ramnagar

Following the directives of Pulkit Garg, Vice Chairman of the Varanasi Development Authority (VDA), a public service camp was held on December 11-12 at the Ramnagar Municipal Corporation office. The camp aimed to address development-related issues, process proposed and mitigation map approvals, and resolve map amendments.

Discussions were held with public representatives and the local business board on buildings impacted by road widening, emphasizing the importance of obtaining VDA-approved maps for new constructions or modifications.



Cantt MLA Saurav Srivastava attended as the chief guest. The camp addressed 17 notice cases, accepted 3 new mitigation map filings, and resolved objections for 9 previously filed maps. A total of 173 people participated in the event, supported by VDA's Zone-05 Zonal Officer and Junior Engineer.





## VDA Reviews Map Approvals and Mitigation Fee Collection

On December 11, 2024, Secretary Ved Prakash Mishra chaired a meeting in the Varanasi Development Authority (VDA) auditorium to review map approvals and mitigation fee deposits for November.

### Zone-wise highlights:

- Zone-1: ₹42.25 lakhs collected, 19 maps approved.
- Zone-2: ₹89.24 lakhs collected, 25 maps approved.
- Zone-3: ₹85.65 lakhs collected, 31 maps approved (highest).
- Zone-4: ₹44.02 lakhs collected, 11 maps approved.
- Zone-5: ₹24.93 lakh collected, 7 maps approved.



Certificates of appreciation were awarded to Zonal Officers Saurabh Dev Prajapati (Zone-3) for maximum maps submitted, Sanjeev Kumar (Zone-2) for maximum fee deposited, and Pramod Tiwari (Zone-4) alongside Junior Engineers Vartika Dubey and Rakesh Singh for exemplary performance.

The Secretary prioritised map approvals, timely mitigation fee deposits, and quality grievance redressal under the IGRS system through on-site inspections. Senior officials, including Additional Secretary Dr. Gudakesh Sharma and City Planner Prabhat Kumar, attended the meeting.



## Zone-1 Review Highlights Progress and Enforcement

At a review meeting on December 7, 2024, Additional Secretary Dr Gudakesh Sharma reported ₹15.32 lakh in mitigation fees collected for Zone-1 in a week, totalling ₹4.98 crores this fiscal year. Officers were instructed to expedite map approvals, clear basements for parking, and address public complaints within a week. Strict action was directed against builders with unpaid fees and illegal constructions. Negligence in duties was warned against, with accountability emphasized.







## VDA and Municipal Corporation Plan Modern Bus Shelters in Varanasi

On December 12, 2024, Vice Chairman of VDA Pulkit Garg and Municipal Commissioner Akshat Verma inspected sites for modern bus shelters in Varanasi. Proposed locations include J.P. Mehta, Chaikaghat, Vidyapeeth, Bhelupur, Ravindrapuri, and Lanka. Key features of the shelters will consist of real-time bus tracking displays, mobile and two-wheeler charging stations, and CCTV cameras.

VDA will fund construction, with advertisement revenue shared between VDA and the Municipal Corporation. These modern shelters aim to enhance convenience for the 9,000–10,000 daily city bus passengers, encouraging greater ridership.



## VDA Seals Illegal Construction in Zone-5

On December 21, 2024, the Varanasi Development Authority's Zone-5 enforcement team sealed unauthorized construction in Ward-Mughalsarai, Mauja-Rema Mod Canal (Manoharpur). Builder Sanjay had erected pillars and started shuttering work without map approval, violating sections 27 and 28 of the UP Town Planning and Development Act, 1973.

The site was sealed and placed under the custody of Thana-Alinagar for monitoring. Zonal Officer Shri Prakash and Junior Engineers P.A. Dubey and Ashok Kumar Yadav supervised the proceedings. Vice Chairman Pulkit Garg has urged the public to obtain necessary approvals before construction to avoid strict enforcement actions.







## VDA Seals Illegal Constructions in Zone-1

On December 13, 2024, the Varanasi Development Authority's Zone-1 enforcement team sealed two unauthorized constructions. Sunil Kumar constructed a G+1 structure in Ward-Shivpur, Mauza-Ganeshpur, while Saeed conducted shuttering work on BG+1 in Ward-Sikraul, Mauza-Khajuri, both without map approval. The sealing actions were executed under the UP Town Planning and Development Act of 1973.

Zonal Officer Shri Singh Gaurav Jaiprakash, Junior Engineers Vijay Singh and Priya Agrahari, and the enforcement team oversaw the proceedings.



## VDA Demolishes Unauthorized Plotting in Zone-2

On December 24, 2024, the Varanasi Development Authority's Zone-2 enforcement team demolished illegal plotting in Ward-Sarnath, Mauja-Damodarpur. Led by the Additional Secretary and Zonal Officer Sanjeev Kumar, the action targeted approximately 2 bighas of unauthorized development by Ashok Gupta. The demolition was executed with assistance from the enforcement team and police force.

Junior Engineer Vinod Kumar, supervisors, and enforcement personnel were present during the proceedings.







## VDA Demolishes Unauthorized Plotting in Zone-4

On December 23, 2024, the Varanasi Development Authority's Zone-4 enforcement team demolished illegal plotting spread over 4 bighas in Koirajpur, Ward-Shivpur, under Police Station-Badagaon. The unauthorized development carried out without approved layouts was removed under the provisions of the UP Town Planning and Development Act of 1973.

The action was led by Zonal Officer Singh Gaurav Jaiprakash and Junior Engineer Vijay Singh, with support from supervisors, the enforcement team, and police personnel.



**IMPORTANT ADVISORY:** Varanasi Development Authority VDA urges all the citizens of Varanasi to refrain from buying or selling properties with illegal constructions or plotting. All citizens are also advised to secure mandatory map approvals before any construction activity to avoid engaging in illegal construction practices.

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