

DLF residents at loggerheads over plot

Hindustan Times | By Himabindu Reddy, Gurgaon

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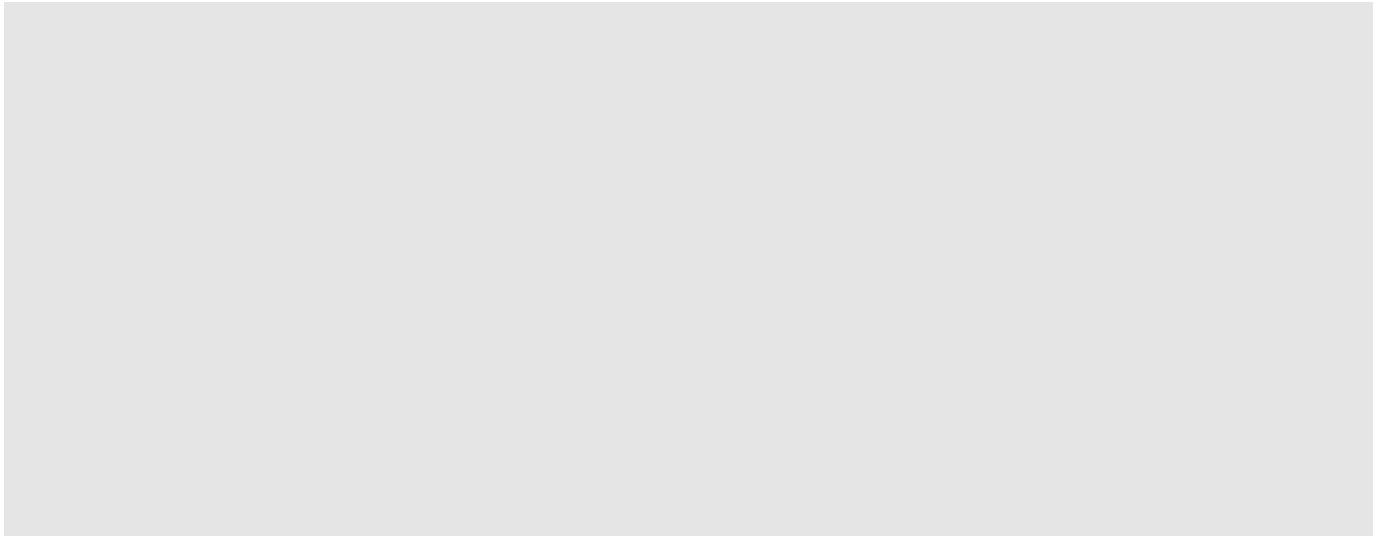
A vacant piece of land in DLF City Phase 2 has kicked up a row over ways to put it to use. Though the plot along streets N2, N11 and N12 has been earmarked for religious purposes, one group of residents (N Block) want a park there and another (Qutab Enclave) has been pushing for a community center with a meditation hall for several years.

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N Block residents say they have paid a 15% preferential charge to DLF at the time of purchase for the park facing plots here. “We do not want any building here, not even a temple,” said Rajnish Sharma, an N Block resident.

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Residents say they don't want to lose a green space as the Qutab Enclave Residents Welfare Association (QERWA) has been pushing for a community centre.

“If a community centre or meditation centre comes up here, it would defeat the purpose of purchasing park-facing plots at an extra cost,” said Deepak Haldankar, a resident of N2 block. According to N Block residents, a 3,000 sqm plot was marked as a green belt in the original layout. Out of that, 1,000 sqm was separated later by a boundary wall and developed as a park. The remaining 2,000 sqm has been lying vacant and the QERWA wants to usurp it, said an N Block resident.

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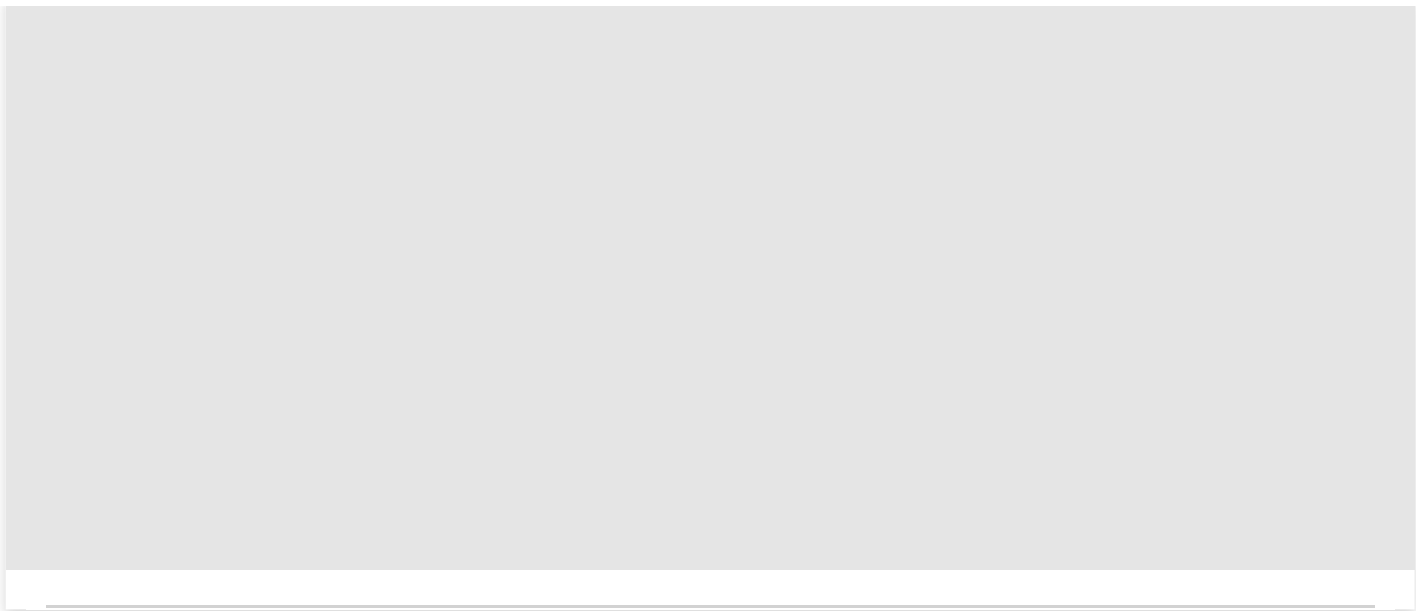
After a 1984 Haryana government notification, the 2,000 sqm plot was converted from a green belt to a religious space. Acting on it, the developer surrendered the site to the Huda which invited applications for construction and the QERWA bagged the invitation.

But N block residents say their park was chosen with malafide intentions. "We moved the high court but to no avail," said Sharma. Now, he added, they have no choice but oppose construction here.

Commenting on the issue, RS Rathee, QERWA president, said, there was no question of annoying N Block residents. "There is some confusion here and we will settle it shortly. There is no dispute. We all need greenery and public utility services," he said.

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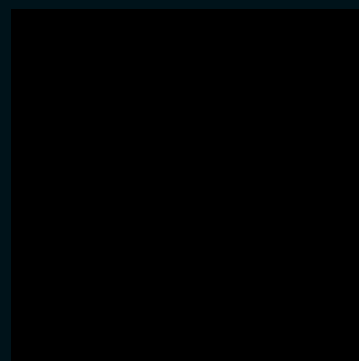
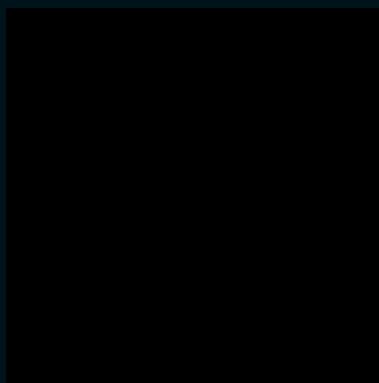
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