

Justice Sudershan Kumar Misra : Find new site for bus depot

HC to DDA, govt

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NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court on Wednesday (29 Jan 2014) asked the Delhi Development Authority DDA and the city government to extend full cooperation to the Delhi Transport Department DTC in finding an alternative site for the Millennium Park bus depot.

“The DDA and Delhi government have to cooperate with the DTC to find them some other place,

” **Justice Sudershan Kumar Misra** said after he was told by senior counsel Gourab Banerji, appearing for DTC, that they did not have an alternative site to shift the depot built on 60 acres of land on the Yamuna riverbed at a cost of Rs60 crore.

Banerji told the court that the DTC had agreed to shift the depot by October 2014, but it was facing some “practical difficulty”. In an affidavit filed recently, the DTC had admitted that it was running into losses to the tune of R700 crore and the shifting of the depot will cost them another R300 crore.

On the other hand, advocate Rajiv Bansal who appeared for the DDA told the court that it was already hard pressed for land in the city. Bansal said it was already short of 400 acres of land for allotment to landfill sites and addition of another 50 acres for the depot will be an additional burden.

During the hearing, advocate Reena George, appearing for environmentalist Anand Arya, who has been seeking to remove the bus depot, said land for depot had already been allotted in the master plan 2021. The depot, which was built as a temporary structure to accommodate buses to ferry athletes during the 2010 Commonwealth Games, has been under continuous attack from environmentalist due to its location on an active floodplain.



Justice Sudershan Kumar Mishra is BA His Hons 1975 Hindu, LLB 1978