

Humans for Humanity

Kathputli Colony Redevelopment

It all started when , The Delhi Development Authority's (DDA) plan to provide permanent housing to residents of slums at Kathputli Colony got under way on 24th April, 2018. The Union Minister of State Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri and Lieutenant Governor of Delhi Anil Baijal laid the foundation stone of an in-situ development project at Kathputli Colony. Apart from the residential units, the project includes community spaces for a heritage museum, an amphitheatre, retail outlets, a police post, religious site, weekly market, a children's park and an area for wedding ceremonies, said the developer. The colony is one of the biggest and oldest slums located in Shadipur Depot, housing puppeteers, acrobats, storytellers, folk dancers and painters, who had been under threat of losing their art and livelihoods as the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) had proposed to rehabilitate them by relocating the residents temporarily to the place is redeveloped. The colony is the only such place that is a home to street performers from 14 states including Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh belonging to diverse communities such as Adivasis, Muslims, Yadavs, Nats and Bagris, among others.

Kathputli is home to 2,800 families and the biggest street artist community in Delhi. When they existed, Our Organization Humans for Humanity worked for four years with Kathputli and kathputliwalas. Our team joined together to teach them new skills and upgrade their existing skills. The volunteers that were eager to help taught them about color coordination and new designs . Our organization helped them to promote themselves and gain exposure of events such as for birthday parties, events, stalls for weddings, etc. It was a great source of income for them and experience for both. We were able to make a great impact on the colony