

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



ACTIVITIES AND IMPACTS OVER THE YEAR 2021

Introduction

In 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to ravage and disrupt the lives of people living in poverty in India, who were barely reeling from its severe impacts in the previous year. The country experienced, a more potent, second wave of Covid this year, which was accompanied with the reimposition of curfews and lockdowns, breakdown of healthcare infrastructure and services, a severe hunger crisis, and long term impacts on the livelihood of people, among others. The pandemic continued to prove that emergencies disproportionately affect those living in already marginalized conditions and particularly impacted people living without shelter or adequate housing – the constituencies that HLRN works most closely with. Through its work during the year, HLRN continuously emphasized that housing is a key determinant of health and of life. Our focus this year was to address the immediate humanitarian crisis created by the second wave of the pandemic through various relief and advocacy measures, as well as on intensifying efforts to bring about the realization of the human right to adequate housing for all, in order to ensure the protection of health and life, without discrimination for all.

Over the last two decades, HLRN has consistently worked on mainstreaming the human rights approach to housing and land issues across India and at international levels. Our work has spanned a wide spectrum from local communities to international forums. This report presents an overview of the main activities and impacts of our work over the year 2021.

I. Building Stronger Grassroots Housing Rights Leadership in India

Housing Rights Fellowship Programme

In 2016, HLRN initiated a housing rights fellowship programme with the objective of developing the capacity of residents of low-income settlements and persons living in homelessness, in order to strengthen their communities and work for the realization of housing and related human rights. Over the years, the work of the fellows has become integral to the struggles for housing rights in their areas. Presently, HLRN is supporting six fellows in five states: Delhi, Karnataka, Manipur, Odisha, and Tamil Nadu. Each fellow is working with an HLRN partner organization.

Highlights of the Work of the Housing Rights Fellows

Bengaluru: Community mobilization was carried out in informal settlements across Bengaluru to prevent forced evictions. Legal interventions, including petitions were filed in the High Court of Karnataka, to uphold housing rights of marginalized communities in multiple settlements, including Neelagirithopu and Laggere. Advocacy is also ongoing for titles over land and housing in these settlements. Access to housing was ensured for persons living in homelessness in Bhuvaneshwari Nagar. Beneficiary identity certificates were secured from the Slum Development Board for 145 families in Kacharkanally. During the second wave of the pandemic, relief was provided to residents of informal settlements, migrant workers, and workers in the unorganized sector who had lost their livelihoods.



Community meeting in Bengaluru

Delhi: In close collaboration with other organizations and lawyers, demolition of homes was prevented in over six informal settlements in Delhi. Meetings were conducted with affected communities to provide information on their rights and available options for relief and redress after evictions. Work continued on strengthening the collective of homeless women in Delhi, advancing their rights, spreading awareness on legal provisions, and helping amplify their voices for improved living conditions and social justice. A survey was also conducted to assess the needs of women living in homelessness in different parts of Delhi. Emergency relief was provided to persons in need during the Covid-19 lockdown in April and May 2021. Relief was also provided to persons affected by fire and floods and to persons living on the streets, especially during the winter months.



Survey of women living on the streets



Relief provided to flood-affected families

Madurai: HLRN fellow from Madurai was selected as one of the non-official members of the Tamil Nadu Welfare Board for Cleanliness Workers. Compound walls and cremation ground construction work was completed in the Soolapuram Settlement. Formation of community groups in Karumbalay Conservation Workers' Quarters was facilitated to demand *in situ* permanent housing. 'Housing for All' Programme was approved in Kalmedu LKB Nagar and construction work was started (land titles were obtained for 20 families last year). COVID relief was provided to 800 individuals (200 families), flood relief provided to 480 individuals (120 families). COVID-19 vaccination was facilitated for around 200 homeless persons.



Construction of cremation ground in the settlement of Soolapuram, Madurai

Manipur: Ongoing advocacy, documentation, and research was conducted/carried out in six areas across the state to prevent forced evictions and displacement of indigenous communities. An awareness and human rights education programme was organized in April 2021 at Taodaijang Village, Tamenglong District. Regular monitoring of evictions and displacement threats, and advocacy with the state government was carried out.



International Rivers' Day event

Odisha: Petitions were filed with the state human rights institutions on cases related to housing and land rights, directly impacting around 2,000 persons. Successful awareness-building workshops were organized in three districts of Odisha—Keonjhar (5 villages), Sundergarh (3 villages) and Jajpur (3 villages). Relief was provided to over 3,500 residents of informal settlements across the state of Odisha and migrant workers and other needy families in Bhubaneswar during the Covid-19 lockdown. In addition, the vaccination of people was also facilitated.



Community legal awareness workshop

Human Rights Education and Publication

Throughout the year, sessions on human rights education and training were conducted in several settlements across Delhi, including in Shakur Basti, Yamuna Khadar, Y-Block Nangloi, and Akshardham Temple. These were well-attended by residents of the settlements. All Covid safety protocols of physical distancing, masking, and other precautions were taken.

II. Addressing Forced Evictions and Displacement

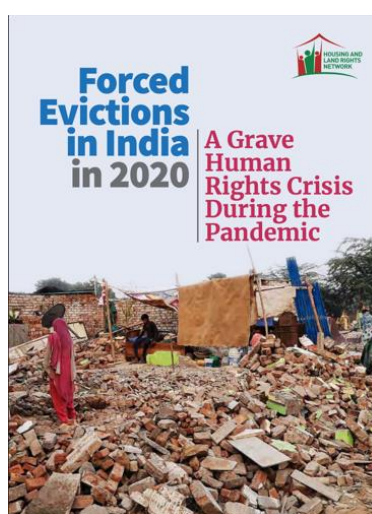
National Eviction and Displacement Observatory

In the absence of any official or non-government data on evictions in India, HLRN set up the National Eviction and Displacement Observatory in 2016 to document, highlight, monitor, and address the serious issue of forced evictions and displacement across India. The HLRN Observatory is the only source of data on forced evictions and displacement in India.

Through the Observatory, HLRN has been collecting data on the largely underreported crisis of forced evictions in the country. Since 2017, HLRN has been publishing an annual report on forced evictions in India. These reports have become the authoritative source of data on forced evictions in India and have been very well received, widely cited in leading newspapers and online media portals, and used for advocacy by various stakeholders.

The 2020 HLRN report titled, *Forced Evictions in India in 2020: A Grave Human Rights Crisis During the Pandemic*, was launched in September 2021. The report presents comprehensive data and an analysis of forced evictions and demolitions of homes of the urban and rural poor across the country in 2020. It also presents an overview of incidents of eviction carried out by the state between 1 January and 31 July 2021, while proposing detailed recommendations to end this serious and rapidly-worsening crisis.

The report reveals that during the COVID-19 pandemic (March 2020 to July 2021), over 43,600 homes were demolished and over 257,700 people were forcibly evicted, as a result of direct state action, while nearly 16 million people currently live under the threat of eviction and displacement. The findings of the report have been used to advocate for a national moratorium on forced evictions and have been cited extensively by the media and civil society.



HLRN report on forced evictions in 2020

Preventing Forced Evictions

During the year, HLRN undertook several measures to prevent forced evictions, including through advocacy with the government and working with partner organizations and lawyers to seek legal remedies. As a result of timely and effective intervention by HLRN and facilitation of close coordination with lawyers and communities, we were able to prevent the demolition of **more than 2,000 houses** in Delhi, including in the settlements of Azadpur, Priyanka Gandhi Camp, Yamuna Khadar, Mansarovar Park, Pant Nagar, Shakur Basti, Nehru Place and in the resettlement colony at Dwarka. We also collected data and information on the number of houses demolished and where eviction threats were reported. This information was used to assist with court cases to prevent evictions.

Emergency Response for Victims of Forced Eviction

As part of our human rights approach to housing, HLRN also assists communities in the aftermath of forced evictions and loss of housing from fire/arson, as people face multiple human rights violations, lose all their belongings, and are generally rendered homeless without any basic shelter or food or clothing. During the year, HLRN carried out many such interventions including in Sultanpuri, where HLRN facilitated the provision of cooked meals for 150 evicted families, and in Khori Gaon, where HLRN, with the help of other organizations, helped to secure tents and food for over 3,000 persons whose houses were demolished.

Through our timely intervention, HLRN was also able to secure compensation of Rs 6,50,000 each for two families in Mahatma Gandhi Camp, Punjabi Bagh whose houses were demolished by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi without due process.

‘Eviction Impact Assessment Tool’

The Eviction Impact Assessment tool (EvIA) developed by HLRN aims to assess and document the real costs and losses resulting from forced evictions and displacement. The Tool is based on the premise that any attempt to calculate the impact of forced evictions on affected communities would have to include the loss of both, material and non-material belongings. The Tool is the only existing human rights-based mechanism to assess the impacts of forced evictions globally.



Discussion with residents of the Gadia Lohar community in Mansarovar Park

In 2021, HLRN worked on updating its report on a Gender-based Eviction Impact Assessment in Mansarovar Park, Delhi. The team also conducted a Focus Group Discussion with the community to document the distress of the Gadia Lohar community, especially women, during the pandemic.

III. Improving Living Conditions in ‘Informal’ Settlements and Resettlement Sites

Sustained efforts with affected communities and advocacy with the government resulted in significant improvements in the resettlement sites of Baprola, Dwarka, and Savda Ghevra in Delhi. For instance, regular cleaning and garbage collection is being done at the resettlement site in Dwarka. Families with ration cards in the three sites received food grains as a part of relief measures announced by the government. For children living in Baprola, arrangements have been made through the *anganwadi*/crèche to provide them with improved nutrition, including broken wheat, chickpeas, and jaggery.

Our successful interventions in informal settlements led to the provision of electricity connections in Shahabad Dairy; repair of public toilets and water pipes as well as provision of electricity connections in Bhim Nagar; repair of sewage lines in Mahatma Gandhi Camp and Punjabi Bagh; provision of ration card to residents, and maintenance of toilets and sewage lines at Kali Bari; among others.

In collaboration with Information and Resource Centre for the Deprived Urban Communities, HLRN published a report of a rapid assessment survey to assess the impacts of the pandemic on livelihoods of persons living in the resettlement site of Perumbakkam in Chennai. The study revealed that 48 per cent of people relocated to the site over the last three years had lost their livelihoods.



Meeting with women residents of Savda Ghevra to discuss challenges and strategic interventions

Working with the Gadia Lohar Community in Delhi

Since 2017, HLRN has actively engaged with the erstwhile nomadic Gadia Lohar community settled in Delhi. The community has suffered persistent neglect and exclusion from state schemes and policies. Our initiatives with the Gadia Lohar community have focused on documentation, research, advocacy, mobilization, training, and leadership building, among others. Through this association, HLRN has assisted the community in preventing forced evictions, accessing entitlements and benefits, improving living conditions, and most importantly, highlighting challenges faced by this community that has been historically invisibilized. The pandemic-related lockdowns and resultant loss of livelihoods have adversely affected the community and led to increased impoverishment and marginalization.



Meeting with residents of the Gadia Lohar community to assess impacts of the pandemic

In 2021, HLRN conducted a rapid assessment survey of 40 Gadia Lohar settlements across Delhi to document the impacts of the pandemic on the community and their concerns. The survey was conducted by trained community members and the HLRN staff in January and February 2021, through telephonic interviews and focus group discussions. The survey revealed that the pandemic-induced lockdowns have severely affected the community's traditional livelihood and income, their ability to purchase adequate food and afford healthcare, and the education of children. The survey also highlighted that despite being settled in Delhi for decades, residents of the Gadia Lohar settlements continue to live in constant fear of eviction. The findings of the survey and demands of the community were disseminated widely through a press release and also communicated to the Government of Delhi. As a result of the survey, several prominent national dailies and media portals published stories citing HLRN's findings and highlighting the plight of the Gadia Lohar community during the pandemic. Since the struggles of the community remain largely undocumented and hence unaddressed, HLRN's survey helped to highlight the grave injustice being continually meted to the community, even during the pandemic.

During the second wave, HLRN distributed ration kits to 346 Gadia Lohar families across 10 settlements in Delhi, thus benefitting over 1,775 people, including women, children, and older persons.

Through our intervention, HLRN was also able to prevent the forced eviction of 33 families living in Azadpur by officials from the Public Works Department by obtaining a stay order from the High Court of Delhi.

IV. Reducing the Degree and Extent of Homelessness across India, and Strengthening the National Movement Working on Homelessness

Homelessness constitutes a gross violation of multiple human rights, including the right to adequate housing and the right to live with dignity. The issue of homelessness continues to affect over 4 million people across India. Just in Delhi, HLRN estimates that about 150,000–200,000 persons are homeless. HLRN has always addressed the issue of homelessness with a strong human rights lens believing that all those living in homelessness must be prioritized in order to enable to realize their right to adequate housing. Over 2021, we intensified our efforts to work for the rights of people living in homelessness, who were disproportionately impacted by the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Campaign on ‘Adequate Housing for Persons Living in Homelessness’

Building on our long-term engagement with the homeless community, HLRN launched the ‘The Campaign on Adequate Housing for Persons Living in Homelessness’ on 2 October 2019 (the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi). The main aim of the Campaign has been to consolidate their demands for permanent housing and to strengthen their struggle to live with dignity. The Campaign focuses on advocating for a shift in state policy from shelters to adequate housing for all homeless persons.

Through this Campaign, HLRN has worked to inform homeless people about their human rights and sought their suggestions towards developing durable policy solutions to end homelessness. With this two-way communication, HLRN has advanced its advocacy work for priority housing for people living in homelessness, emphasizing the need for a ‘Housing First’ approach in India.

In March 2021, HLRN published a first-of-its-kind newsletter for and by people living in homelessness in Delhi titled, ‘Avaas Adhikaar: Humaari Awaaz’ (The Right to Housing: Our Voices). The inaugural issue was launched on International Women’s Day (8 March 2021) with a focus on homeless women and the importance of adequate housing for them. A list of important helplines is also included in the newsletter. The newsletter was distributed in shelters and on streets and was very well received by homeless persons who were eager to read the experiences of others living in homelessness. The newsletter has provided a community platform for people to raise their issues and concerns in their own voices and has served as an important tool to mobilize the community and raise awareness about the human right to adequate housing.



The inaugural issue of the newsletter ‘The Right to Housing: Our Voices’



Distribution of the newsletter to homeless persons

Outreach and Assistance

In the absence of adequate housing, income, clothes, food, and other amenities, homeless persons suffer miserably from the bitter cold during Delhi's harsh winter. HLRN distributed 850 blankets, 500 sweaters, 2,500 masks, 250 units of sanitizers, and 300 t-shirts to people living in homelessness to protect them from the cold and the pandemic.

The large majority of Delhi's homeless community lives on the streets, and thus, is unable to access the two daily free meals distributed in government shelters. The second wave of the pandemic and related night curfews and strict lockdowns caused extensive loss of livelihoods and income, as a result of which people living on the streets suffered an acute hunger crisis. HLRN distributed ration kits to 120 homeless families at various sites in Delhi, to help them overcome the food crisis during the second wave.



Distribution of blankets and clothes to persons living on the streets



HLRN also conducted regular night vigils and **reached out to over 6,000 people living in homelessness** while monitoring their living conditions and providing immediate relief and first-aid, where required. All immediate issues and challenges faced by homeless person were also documented during the night vigils and conveyed to DUSIB and officials of the Delhi government.



Relief provided during regular night vigils to persons in need

Research and Advocacy to Promote the Human Rights of People Living in Homelessness

This year 2021 was extremely challenging for homeless people because of the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting strict lockdown. While facing challenges resulting from extreme weather, especially the bitterly cold conditions in January and February and the extreme heat of May and June, homeless people also face increased health risks. During the pandemic and resulting lockdown, HLRN worked relentlessly for the protection of the human rights of persons living in homelessness.

Even before the onset of the pandemic, HLRN was actively involved in monitoring living conditions of homeless persons in Delhi. With the public health emergency and pandemic-induced recession, HLRN has played a more proactive role in monitoring and advocacy to promote and defend their human rights. The pandemic has exacerbated the challenges of people living in homelessness, particularly their access to food and work.

During the year, HLRN continuously assessed the situation of those living in homelessness in shelters and on the streets of Delhi and highlighted their issues with the Government of Delhi and other state authorities. In particular, HLRN monitored the living conditions of homeless persons in over 200 shelters in Delhi as well as in more than 100 tents set up during the winter months. Through regular updates and visits, HLRN evaluated the provision of food, access to essential amenities, and adherence to Covid protocols.

As a result of our consistent advocacy, our recommendations have been included in interventions and plans prepared by various government agencies, including the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB). Suggestions presented in HLRN's 'Winter Plan' to the Delhi government resulted in an increase in the number of winter tents to 250, in order to accommodate additional people while ensuring adequate physical distancing and adherence to Covid protocols. Our efforts and sustained engagement with the government were also responsible for improved facilities in shelters. For instance, mattresses were replaced with beds in all shelters and curtained cubicles were introduced in family shelters to provide some privacy.

As a result of HLRN's sustained advocacy, the Delhi government has indefinitely extended its provision of providing two daily free meals in shelters that would benefit over 6,000 people living in these shelters.

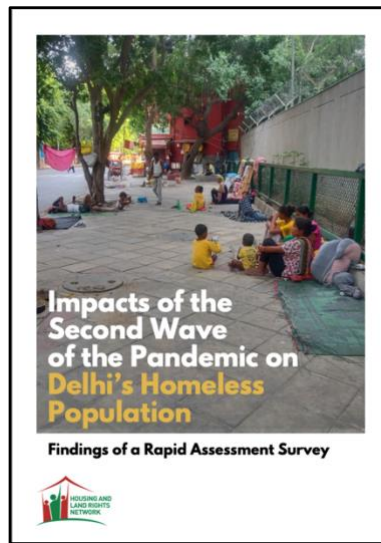
The mandatory requirement of identity cards and the lack of sufficient information on vaccines led to very low levels of COVID-19 vaccination among Delhi's homeless community. Housing and Land Rights Network, therefore, urged the Delhi government to remove these barriers and ensure that people living in homelessness had equal and unhindered access to the vaccine. Consequently, **the government announced that special vaccination camps would be conducted for homeless people without the requirement of identity documents.** We have been monitoring these camps and have been also suggesting where they should be held.

On International Day for Street Children 2021, HLRN sent a letter to the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and the Delhi Commission on Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) with recommendations related to the protection of the rights of homeless children, especially amidst this grave pandemic.

To highlight the need for adequate relief measures during summer months and to address this lacuna in state policy, HLRN prepared a comprehensive 'summer plan' for the Government of Delhi based on the demands of homeless persons and best practices regarding the protection of homeless people from high temperatures. This summer plan was submitted to officials from the Government of Delhi and the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board. It was also released on HLRN's website and sent to prominent journalists. HLRN's summer plan was cited in news articles to highlight the need for protection of homeless persons from the intense heat amidst the pandemic

In August 2021, HLRN released the findings of the rapid assessment survey conducted with 115 persons living in homelessness in Delhi which was carried out telephonically from 23 June to 1 July 2021. The main aim of the survey was to assess the impact of India's second wave on homeless persons, particularly their access to food, livelihood, and healthcare. The findings of the study

revealed that homeless persons in the city experienced severe violations of their human rights during the second wave of the pandemic (April and May 2021). Due to lack of adequate state support, they continued to suffer from loss of livelihoods, severe food insecurity, adverse health impacts, and multiple forms of deprivation and destitution.



HLRN report on the impact of the second wave of pandemic on homeless persons

As a part of ongoing advocacy, in November and December 2021, HLRN team members closely monitored and followed-up the implementation of the Winter Plan submitted to the Delhi government, to ensure that the specific challenges faced by homeless persons living on the streets were addressed. The team also identified multiple locations where temporary tents could be set up, and informed officials from DUSIB about the same.

Throughout the year, HLRN continued to focus on the specific marginalization and human rights violations experienced by women and children living in homelessness. Women especially fear for their safety and privacy on the streets. We have thus been working with the government to help those living outdoors to live in safer and more dignified conditions.



World Homeless Day program at the Sarai Kale Khan shelter, Delhi

Election Cards for Homeless People in Delhi

As part of its efforts to ensure voter cards and the right to political participation for homeless persons, HLRN in collaboration with the Delhi Election Commission, facilitated the organization of camps across Delhi, where 2,300 forms of homeless persons were filed, including that of 700 women. The HLRN team is currently working to reduce the political, social, and economic invisibility faced by homeless persons and to also build social accountability.

V. Using the Human Rights Approach to Influence and Monitor Law and Policy Development at the National and International Level

In 2021, HLRN continued to engage in sustained mechanisms of advocacy with the government at multiple levels, with the aim of effectively informing the implementation of current laws and policies and influencing future laws and policies that seek to improve housing and living conditions of the rural and urban poor.

Over the years, HLRN has also assisted several Members of Parliament through preparation of information briefs and proposing questions and issues to be raised during parliamentary sessions. Taking this work forward, in the Budget Session 2021, HLRN prepared a repository of questions on issues related to forced evictions, homelessness, migrant workers, informal settlements, and government schemes, among others which were sent to several Members of Parliament. As a result of this initiative, Mr Sanjay Singh, Member of Parliament, tabled a question in the Rajya Sabha (Upper House) on 'Forced Evictions and Demolitions of Homes' which cited HLRN and our eviction data.

VI. HLRN Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Lockdown

1) Advocacy

During the second wave, including throughout the lockdown, HLRN closely monitored the health conditions of people living in homelessness as well as their access to food and emergency aid. Based on inputs collected by our team from people living in shelters and on the streets, we sent regular letters to the Government of Delhi and its agencies highlighting the grave humanitarian crisis and need for urgent and targeted intervention. These included specific recommendations proposed by homeless persons.

2) Relief and Humanitarian Assistance

In response to the large-scale crisis caused by the shortage of beds and oxygen in Delhi during the second wave of the pandemic, HLRN worked to link persons living in 'informal settlements' with hospitals. The team closely monitored people's requirements and made calls to verify availability of beds in hospitals and provide timely information to people in need.

During the lockdown, HLRN received multiple calls from our constituencies for food assistance. In response, we worked to coordinate the provision, supply, and delivery of emergency food grains, cooked meals, and essential items to families that had lost their livelihoods and were in dire need of support.

In collaboration with other relief and voluntary organizations, **HLRN succeeded in providing food assistance, including cooked meals and dry ration, to nearly 3,000 marginalized families in Delhi.** We also collected and distributed masks to over 500 persons in need.



Emergency food aid provided by HLRN to families in need

For families that did not have requisite documents to access ration from the state, HLRN made arrangements to provide them with ration and food grains. Multiple families living in Bheem Nagar, Shakur Basti, Sultanpuri, Nehru Place, and Ambedkar Camp benefited from our intervention. For instance, in Shakur Basti, 25 families received ration kits consisting of 10 kilogrammes of wheat and 5 kilogrammes of rice. Families engaged in ragpicking were also given 10 kilogrammes of wheat, 5 kilogrammes of rice, 1 kilogramme each of pulses, chickpeas, and salt, and oil and turmeric. Specific interventions were made to address the vulnerabilities of women, including in five households in Bheem Nagar consisting of single and older women.

In collaboration with philanthropic organizations, HLRN ran a community kitchen in Mori Gate, Delhi from June to August 2021 – through which three meals a day was provided to homeless persons. In two months, 19,621 people benefitted from the meals provided through the community kitchen.

To assess the effectiveness of government interventions, including the provision of free ration and food grains to the most marginalized, audits of local ration shops were conducted in collaboration with Delhi Rozi Roti Abhiyan. As persons without ration cards were not eligible to benefit from this intervention, a case was filed in the High Court of Delhi, for which HLRN provided information and assistance.

We also worked to spread awareness and promote access to relief measures announced by the central and Delhi governments for families living in informal settlements. Additionally, work was done to monitor the timely disbursement of existing social security payments, including widow pensions and disability pensions. **Advocacy by HLRN resulted in rickshaw pullers receiving the financial assistance of Rs 5,000 announced by the Delhi government.** Families living in Y-Block Nangloi and Shakur Basti were provided with information about the scheme; they also received the aid.

HLRN also worked to facilitate access to COVID-19 vaccines by spreading awareness, reducing vaccine hesitancy, and streamlining access to vaccination centres/camps – benefitting 7,143 homeless persons across Delhi.

3) Research and Publication of Reports

To assess the impact of India's second wave on homeless persons, particularly their access to food, livelihood, and healthcare, HLRN conducted a **rapid assessment survey of 115 homeless persons**

in Delhi. The survey was conducted telephonically from 23 June to 1 July 2021. The findings of the study revealed that homeless persons in the city experienced severe violations of their human rights during the second wave of the pandemic (April and May 2021).

4) Monitoring

During the second wave, including throughout the lockdown, HLRN closely monitored the health conditions of people living in homelessness as well as their access to food and emergency aid. Based on inputs collected by our team from people living in shelters and on the streets, we sent regular letters to the Government of Delhi and its agencies highlighting the grave humanitarian crisis and need for urgent and targeted intervention. These included specific recommendations proposed by homeless persons.

Additionally, HLRN also regularly monitored the human rights of affected people as well as the facilities and services being provided by the government for low-income and marginalized groups and communities during the pandemic-induced lockdown. We also documented challenges related to forced relocation of homeless persons from streets to temporary shelters created in schools and community centres as well as deaths of homeless persons during the lockdown.

Housing and Land Rights Network hopes to continue its work for the most marginalized communities, particularly those living without housing and land, and to promote the human rights to adequate housing and land in India, in the forthcoming year.

ANNEXURE

HLRN Publications, Press Releases, and Press Citations in 2021

A. HLRN Publications

1. *Assessing the Impact of Resettlement on Livelihoods of Families in Perumbakkam, Chennai* [in collaboration with Information and Resource Centre for Deprived Urban Communities] (February 2021)
https://www.hlrn.org.in/documents/Perumbakkam_Livelihood_Impact_Assessment.pdf
2. *Aavas Adhikaar: Humari Avaaz* [Right to Housing: Our Voice] Newsletter in Hindi by and for Women Living in Homelessness in Delhi (March 2021)
https://www.hlrn.org.in/documents/Newsletter_Homelessness_Delhi_March_2021.pdf
3. *Impacts of the Second Wave of the Pandemic on Delhi's Homeless Population [Findings of a Rapid Assessment Survey]* (August 2021)
https://www.hlrn.org.in/documents/Homelessness_Delhi_Pandemic_Second_Wave.pdf
4. *Forced Evictions in India in 2020: A Grave Human Rights Crisis During the Pandemic* (September 2021)
https://www.hlrn.org.in/documents/Forced_Evictions_2020.pdf

B. Press Releases Issued by HLRN in 2021

1. *Despite Experiencing Acute Distress During the Pandemic, Delhi's Gadia Lohar Community Continues to Face Exclusion* [February 2021]
https://www.hlrn.org.in/documents/Press_Release_Gadia_Lohar_Delhi_February_2021.pdf
2. *Summer Plan for Persons Living in Homelessness in Delhi* [April 2021]:
https://www.hlrn.org.in/documents/Summer_Plan_Homelessness_Delhi_April_2021.pdf
3. *Letter to the Chairperson of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights* [April 2021]:
https://www.hlrn.org.in/documents/HLRN_Letter_NCPCR_April_2021.pdf
4. *Homeless Persons Experienced Severe Hunger, Destitution, and State Apathy During India's Second Wave of the Pandemic: Survey* [August 2021]
https://www.hlrn.org.in/documents/Press_Release_Homelessness_Delhi_Survey_August_2021.pdf
5. *Over a Quarter Million People (2.57 Lakh) Evicted in India During the Pandemic; 21 People Evicted from their Homes Every Hour* [September 2021]
https://www.hlrn.org.in/documents/Press_Release_Forced_Evictions_2020_21.pdf

C. Citations of HLRN in the Media: 2021

2021: The year of evictions

28 December 2021 – **Sabrang India**

<https://sabrangindia.in/article/2021-year-evictions>

Delhi: Not just cold, 33 families on GT Road also battle eviction scare

23 December 2021 – **The Times of India**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/not-just-cold-33-families-on-gt-road-also-battle-eviction-scare/articleshow/88441318.cms>

DCPCR advises stay on forced eviction in Azadpur

23 December 2021 – **The Hindu**

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Delhi/dcpcr-advises-stay-on-forced-eviction-in-azadpur/article38016302.ece>

Why Homeless People in Delhi Opt to Sleep Rough Over Shelter Homes Despite Cold Weather?

9 December 2021 – **Sputnik News**

<https://sputniknews.com/20211209/as-temperature-drops-homeless-people-in-delhi-demand-govt-improves-conditions-in-shelter-homes-1091374176.html>

Behind the “Green” Rationale of Evictions

12 October 2021 – **The Bastion**

<https://thebastion.co.in/politics-and/behind-the-green-rationale-of-evictions/>

21 People Evicted in India Every Hour During COVID Pandemic: Report

24 September 2021 – **The Quint**

<https://www.thequint.com/news/india/21-people-evicted-in-india-every-hour-during-covid-pandemic-report>

महामारी में ऐसी बेरहमी!

17 September 2021 – **Nayi India**

<https://www.nayaindia.com/editors-column/editorial/corona-crisis-india-at-least-20000-people-evicted-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-lockdown-187425.html>

CRAM, HLRN seek probe into forced evictions

15 September 2021 – **E-Pao**

<http://e-pao.net/GP.asp?src=43..160921.sep21>

43,600 houses demolished, 2.57 lakh people forcibly evicted during Covid-19: Report

13 September 2021 – **Deccan Herald**

<https://www.deccanherald.com/national/43600-houses-demolished-257-lakh-people-forcibly-evicted-during-covid-19-report-1029822.html>

Over 60,000 families displaced, forcibly evicted from homes amid COVID-19 Pandemic: Report

11 September 2021 – **The Logical Indian**

<https://thelogicalindian.com/trending/over-60000-families-displaced-forcibly-evicted-from-homes-in-covid-19-pandemic-report-30650>

Every hour, 21 people evicted from their homes in India amid pandemic: Report
10 September 2021 – **Down to Earth**

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/governance/every-hour-21-people-evicted-from-their-homes-in-india-amid-pandemic-report-78937>

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10 September 2021 – **The Telegraph**

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