

## Coming up at Delhi's Najafgarh village: 'Om-shaped' MCD school

To be constructed on 19,380 sqm of land, the project is estimated to cost Rs 6 crore, the officials said

Public Works Department (PWD) Minister Parvesh Sahib Singh on Saturday announced the construction of a Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) school, in the shape of the 'Om' symbol, at Najafgarh's Ghumanhera village.

Also, a world-class cow shelter, estimated to cost Rs 47 crore, will come up at the village, which will be one of the largest facilities of its kind, he added.

Singh, who performed a bhumi puja (ground-breaking) ceremony for the school project, said, "The school complex (will be) an architectural choice deeply embedded in Indian spirituality and symbolism... It will offer modern education infused with traditional Indian values, serving as a nurturing ground for future generations."

Officials said a first-of-its-kind co-ed primary school, it will offer classes from Nursery to Class 5. To be constructed on 19,380 sqm of land, the project is estimated to cost Rs 6 crore, they added.

It will have six smart, hi-tech classrooms, a library, a computer room, a multi-purpose hall, a 2,400 mm-wide corridor, as well as open space and a big playground, which will be surrounded by a green area. Besides, the school will have other basic amenities like a water cooler and washrooms.

"Education is not just about textbooks. It's about building character, values, and identity. This school will be a space where students learn about their heritage with pride while preparing for the future," said Singh.

Addressing a large gathering of villagers, gau sevaks, community representatives, and local leaders, Singh said the cow shelter initiative reflects the government's commitment to safeguarding Indian traditions while ensuring that modern, sustainable infrastructure reaches the grassroots.

The shelter will be developed over around 20 acres, featuring modern infrastructure, including an automated fodder distribution system, solar power integration, rainwater harvesting set-up, and on-site veterinary care.

Officials said the project was announced during the Budget presentation, and the key objective is to protect cows and breed them in a safe and clean environment. Special emphasis will be placed on the use of byproducts for rural livelihood generation, they added.

"The cow shelter will not only provide a secure home for thousands of cows but will also be a hub for innovation in organic farming, gau-based industry, and rural entrepreneurship. We are working to ensure that development is rooted in our cultural identity," said Singh.

He added that such projects represent a synthesis of tradition and progress. The use of solar energy and rainwater harvesting will reduce the facility's environmental footprint, making it a model of green infrastructure, said Singh.