

## **Rodrigues visits ragpickers' colony**

CHANDIGARH: As part of the monitoring process of rehabilitation plans of disadvantaged sections of society, the UT administrator, Gen S.F. Rodrigues (retd), visited Sector 56 to take a stock of the progress of work and support structure created here under "The Chandigarh Allotment of Prefab Shelters for the Rehabilitation of Rag Pickers on License Basis Scheme 2008", here on Wednesday evening.

After listening to the problems of the rehabilitated ragpickers families, Rodrigues asked the chairman of the Chandigarh Housing Board, Deputy Commissioner R.K. Rao and Director, Social Welfare, Amandeep Kaur to set up a cell manned by responsible staff to monitor the facilities on regular basis and coordinate with the concerned department to find appropriate solution.

He also asked to set up a community hall, aaganwadi centre and other necessary support structure for enabling them to lead a decent life as a community. It may be recalled that the Chandigarh Housing Board was assigned the task of setting up 326 prefabricated structures to rehabilitate ragpickers.

Till date, physical possession of 60 prefabricated structures has already being given on a nominal rent of Rs 600 per month each for prefab shelter.

Accompanied by Jean Rodrigues and senior officers of the Chandigarh administration and Chandigarh Housing Board, the administrator inspected the work on prefabricated structures to rehabilitate the ragpickers in an area of around four acres.

Briefing about the project, Chandigarh Housing Board chairman Mohanjeet said the estimated cost of this prefab shelter is Rs 1.2 lakh with a size of 16 feet by 10 feet.

The cost is inclusive of infrastructural services cost on account of water supply, sewerage, street-lighting and horticulture development works.