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'...I am hopeful...'

**Statement of RS MP Parimal Nathwani on
1st Anniversary of Islamnagar's Demolition**

April 6, 2012

The way in which the ruthless rulers and police demolished Islamnagar, right a year before on this day, will go as a black page in the history of the newly formed State of Jharkhand. Even after a year, there is hardly any evidence on the place of fulfillment of the so called noble purpose on pretext of which it was demolished. Those who never tire of talking about solving problems with mutual understanding and just means; and implemented in haste the court order, had no moral courage and patience to wait even for a day for the court's decision on review of the order. Now, despite the order of the court to resettle the displaced souls in a year; the destitute are on roads.

On the other side, aggrieved and affected people take out a peace-march instead of crying for their demolished dwellings; in a hope that very soon they would overcome their miseries and obtain the fresh nests. I admire their perseverance and hope that soon they would begin living a better life than now and resettle.

I am sure, the National Human Rights Commission which has this matter, will act fast and take firm steps. I also appeal to the State Government to consider the issue sympathetically, without making it an issue of prestige, restore the 'slum area' status to those areas which were declared so earlier, fund was earmarked and even the tender was issued for their development. They should resolve on this day to resettle these displaced people. Their vows to serve people will be fulfilled then in real terms.

I express my solidarity with the people of Islamnagar and those involved in the peace-march, pray for those who lost lives during demolition drive and hope that those were displaced would soon find the new dwellings.

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