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NEW DELHI: Delhi government on Thursday told Supreme Court that over 6,000 industrial units running illegally from residential areas in Delhi would be sealed within 15 days after the court asked how they were allowed to operate for the last 14 years in violation of its order. The apex court had in 2004 appointed a committee headed by the Delhi chief secretary to take action against such industrial units which had not shifted out of residential colonies but the panel failed to take action against them. The committee comprised of heads of Delhi Police, three civic bodies and the DDA vice-chairman.

Facing ire of the apex court for not discharging its duty, the court-appointed committee sprung into action and convened a meeting on September 13 and charted out a plan of action against industrial units operating from residential colonies. Advocate D N Goburdhun, appearing for the Delhi government, placed the decision of the committee before a bench of Justices Madan B Lokur and Deepak Gupta and said all necessary action would be taken against those units including disconnecting water and electricity supply within 15 days.

Delhi government assured SC that all industrial operations in residential areas would be closed within two months after conducting a comprehensive survey by civic bodies.

As per the report filed by the Delhi government, it had received 51,837 application under relocation scheme for shifting out industrial units out of residential places and 21,960 applications were approved for getting alternative land. It said 15,888 illegal industrial units in residential/non-conforming areas had been sealed and closed till August which means that 6,072 units are still operating illegally.

“In the first step, the municipal corporations will ensure that the industrial units under their respective jurisdiction out of the list of the 21,960 industrial units which have been allotted alternative plots are closed ... Sealing of premises, disconnection of electricity and water supply should also be ensured wherever required,” the report said.

“In step 2, civic bodies are required to identify the premises of applicants numbering 29,877, which were not allotted alternative land to shift industries out of residential areas and will ensure that no impermissible industrial activity is carried out from such premises.

In step 3, the corporations and DDA will carry out a comprehensive mapping to find out details of industries functioning without obtaining proper municipal licences within two months and those shall be sealed forthwith,” the report said