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CDA Moves to Crack Down on Unlawful Housing Schemes in Islamabad

July 20, 2025

— Categories: Real Estate



In a decisive move to restore order and transparency in the real estate sector, the Capital Development Authority (CDA) has announced a sweeping crackdown on illegal housing societies operating within Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT). Under the direction of Muhammad Ali Randhawa, Chairman of CDA and Chief Commissioner of Islamabad officials have been tasked with compiling a complete record of housing and cooperative societies, with a specific focus on unauthorized developments and improper land allotments.

Chairing a recent high-level meeting, Randhawa called for a detailed audit of all societies functioning under CDA's jurisdiction. This includes the verification of layout plans, issuance of No-Objection Certificates (NOCs), and the number of plots allotted. A key area of concern raised was the widespread practice of issuing plot files that far exceed the actual land ownership, a practice that not only deceives buyers but also undermines urban planning and development in the capital.

The CDA's Member Planning briefed the meeting on ongoing enforcement actions already initiated across various zones. Randhawa underscored the urgency of documenting the names, zones, and legal status of every society, warning that illegal and unregistered societies regardless of their political or financial backing will be subjected to strict legal consequences. The directive calls for the coordination of all relevant departments to act swiftly and without discrimination, signaling a rare but necessary show of bureaucratic resolve in tackling deep-rooted irregularities in land administration.



This move comes amid growing public concern over fraudulent land dealings and the unchecked sprawl of unauthorized housing schemes. It also presents an opportunity for the government to reinforce regulatory governance and build trust among genuine investors. In a real estate sector long marred by loopholes and lax oversight, CDA's action could become a turning point if followed through with transparency, consistency, and legal rigor. The time has come for Islamabad's land development to be brought in line with the law, and this clampdown, if sustained, could pave the way for a more disciplined and investor-friendly urban environment.