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SC raps Punjab govt for allowing housing project for MLAs

DH 6/11/19

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Tuesday castigated the Punjab government for allowing a housing project in eco-sensitive zone around Sukhna Lake and Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary in which 95 MLAs of the Assembly were to be allotted a flat each.

The apex court expressed its concern at the "most potent threat faced by the earth and human civilization" in the form of environmental degradation and wildlife degeneration.

"The need to protect flora and fauna which constitutes a major portion of our ecosystem is immediate. Development and urbanization coming at the cost of adversely affecting our natural surroundings will in turn impact and be the cause of human devastation as was seen in the 2013 floods in Uttarakhand and in 2018 in Kerala," it said.

A bench of Justices Arun Mishra, M R Shah and B R Gavai dismissed a plea by Tata Housing Development Company against a Delhi HC's 2017 judgment for rejecting its project.

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