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GUYANA NEWS

Mocha Arcadia residents air grievances during WIN visit

WIN Leader Azruddin Mohamed in Mocha addressing the residents

By Stabroek News February 16, 2026

Residents of Mocha Arcadia yesterday recited a litany of grievances ranging from land displacement threats to the neglect of disabled residents and crumbling infrastructure during a visit to the community by Members of Parliament of We Invest in Nationhood (WIN) party.

In Arcadia, an area currently home to approximately 375 households, they spoke with families who have squatted on the land for 12 to 16 years. The MPs warned that new infrastructure projects were putting these vulnerable citizens at risk of losing their homes. According to the visiting MPs Andre Lewis and Nandranie Singh, the government's new road project connecting to the Heroes Highway has turned the area into "prime state land," sparking fears that the current occupants will be forcibly removed to benefit those with political connections.

"We are calling on the President and the Minister of Housing to give these people first preference. They have lived here for years; they deserve a birthright, not to be looked down upon as just poor squatters," Singh said.

The party is demanding that the Ministry of Housing immediately identify alternative land or regularize the current holdings to ensure these families can live with dignity.

The visit also highlighted the plight of a 51-year-old disabled resident who has reportedly been left behind by the social safety net. Despite being born with a disability, the resident claimed he has applied for the disability fund three times, most recently in February, with no response.

Nandranie Singh

"He is entitled to that help," Singh stressed. "The budget specifically caters to the disabled, yet he has received nothing. We are calling on the Ministry [of Human Services and Social Security] to look into his application immediately."

The WIN delegation expressed sharp criticism regarding the disparity in infrastructure development. While the government has moved quickly to pave sections of the new highway, internal community roads in Mocha Arcadia have remained neglected for up to 30 years.

Furthermore, the state of the local recreational space drew ire. Despite a $10.9 billion allocation to the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport, with $6 billion earmarked for sports programmes, the community's ball field remains in a state of total disrepair.

"Minister Ramson stood up in Parliament and said they would be upgrading grounds all over the country," Leader of the Opposition and of WIN Azruddin Mohamed said. "We need him to come here and see this ball field. The youths in this community have nowhere for recreation. It needs to be fixed immediately."

The WIN MPs concluded the visit by promising residents that their concerns would not be ignored. The party intends to draft a formal document to track the specific cases mentioned, particularly ensuring the disabled resident