

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to take steps to replicate Samathuvapuram project in the country.

DR. D. RAVIKUMAR (VILUPPURAM): Hon. Speaker, Sir, Dr. Kalaaignar M. Karunanidhi, former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has created a unique scheme called Samathuvapuram, which means equality village. Under this scheme, model habitations were established with Government fund in rural areas where all the communities live with unity and brotherhood and share all basic infrastructure and amenities without any discrimination.

Each village has 100 houses and is subdivided into 40 houses for Scheduled Castes, 25 houses for Backward Castes, 25 houses for most Backward Castes, and 10 for other communities. To avoid caste discrimination, this village has one community hall for all communities, as well as a common burial ground. Now, there are 145 such equality villages in Tamil Nadu. It is an important model to end caste discrimination and to establish social justice. I request the Government, through you, Sir, to take steps to replicate this model in other parts of our country.

Thank you.