Title: Need to increase floor area ratio of dwelling units and regularise need based additions to buildings in Chandigarh.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): Sir, to meet the growing need for more space necessitated by increase in the sizes of families and unable to afford bigger houses, over ninety per cent of the owners of different categories of houses in Chandigarh have, over the years, added some extra construction on their own plots without encroachment on Government land.

The sudden issuance of notices by the authorities to such persons requiring them to either demolish such construction or face resumption of their built-up plots has led to widespread anxiety and panic. Most of the affected persons, belonging to middle income group, are retired employees or low income groups who have spent life-long savings on their modest dwellings. Demolition on a massive scale is both impractical and undesirable. What is needed is an amendment of the floor-area ratio (FAR) commensurate with the present day standards of urban land utilisation.

I urge the Government to increase FAR appropriately and regularise the need based addition to buildings in Chandigarh subject to approval of plans from architectural and structural view points.