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Ttial: Regarding 100 years old dilapidated buildings in south Mumbai posing threat to residents.

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT (MUMBAI SOUTH): Madam, Speaker, Mumbai South is considered to be one of the most high profile constituencies in the country. It is inhabited by rich and eminent people. It is one side of the coin. The other side of the coin is that this place is inhabited even by the most poor people as well. Of late, the hon. Minister, Shri Venkaiah Naidu has stated in the Parliament that the Government is much concerned about the rehabilitation of the people who are staying in slums. I congratulate the Government for showing their concern. But at the same time I would like to bring to the notice of the House that, in my constituency particularly, there are nearly 16,104 old buildings, out of which 13,366 buildings had been constructed prior to 1940. Some of them are even more than 100 years old. The Minister mentioned of some models which are there in the State of Gujarat and Maharashtra known as Slum Rehabilitation Schemes but those schemes do not apply in respect of the old buildings which are there.

Madam, through you, I would like to bring it to the notice of the Government as also to the Minister that I express my serious concern over this issue. Out of these numbers, about 5000 buildings are in dilapidated condition. The Government has declared that it is dangerous to live in these buildings, but people are living in those houses putting their lives at stake. Therefore, I would like to request the Government that while preparing a Plan for the rehabilitation of the slums, they should incorporate in that the old buildings of the Mumbai also for rehabilitation.

Madam, I thank you for permitting me to raise this issue before the Government. While rehabilitating them, I urge upon the Government to incorporate the old buildings and construct new houses for them under the Pucca Ghar Scheme which is the dream of our hon. Prime Minister.

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. Pritam Gopinath Munde is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Arvind Sawant.