

Need for comprehensive urban reform policy to ensure sustainable and inclusive development in towns and cities of the country.-laid

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (SARAN): I wish to raise a serious concern regarding the rapid but unregulated urbanisation in India leading to a virtual collapse of urban planning and infrastructure in several cities and towns. There is a disturbing trend of haphazard construction of houses, especially along roadsides, without any adherence to town planning norms. There is little coordination among authorities, resulting in scattered construction, encroachment on public land, traffic chaos, and poor civic amenities. Urban projects are often sanctioned without adequate planning, environmental assessment, or infrastructure capacity. Municipal bodies are either under-resourced or negligent in enforcing building codes, zoning regulations, and master plans. This has led to unliveable urban spaces with waterlogging, waste mismanagement, and pollution. I urge the Government to address this serious issue through a comprehensive national urban reform policy that enforces planning norms, and ensures sustainable and inclusive urban development.