

for immediate intervention by the Textile Minister.

The tension was developing since issuing of notice by the National Textile Corporation (NTC) on 7.9.91, on the demand for withdrawal of the arbitrary notice by which the composite character of the Manindra-B.T. Mills has been abandoned and a part of it (Manindra Nagar Weaving Mills) being abolished in the name of the so-called merger.

Eversince the nationalisation of the Textile Industry, the N.T.C. has done nothing significant towards modernisation, expansion and development to make Manindra-B.T. Mills viable; ignored the intention of the Sick Textile Undertaking (Nationalisation) Act, 1974; and moved contrary to the categorical assurance given in Parliament by the Indira Gandhi Government. The N.T.C. had closed, instead, to allow the loss being accumulated and thus prepare the ground for closure of these Mills in the long run.

The demand of the workers are: Save Manindra-B.T. Mills; retain its composite character; and adopt the policy of modernisation and expansion to make this mill viable. *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: You speak daily. Not in this way. Let chance be given to others.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record. Not in this manner. There are other Members, let them speak. Everytime not like this.

[*English*]

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Now, Dr. Soundaram.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record. *(Interruptions)* I will give you a chance later. *(Interruptions)* This is not correct. You are monopolising and it is not correct. You allow other Members also to speak. Dr. Soundaram.

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM (Tirsschengode): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I bring the following urgent matter to the kind notice of the Industries Minister.

Erode in Tamilnadu is a big centre for leather goods, having a number of tanneries. Number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people are dependent on this leather finishing centre for their livelihood. Due to this, the is a leather finishing centre at Erode functioning for a long time.

Sir, yesterday, I received a telegram from the members of the Erode Small Tanners Association regarding the closure of the leather finishing centre at Erode. They, in that telegram, requested to hand over the leather finishing centre to Erode Small Tanners Co-operative Society, organised by Erode Small Tanners Association.

Since the Government is very much interested in creating self-employment for SC;ST people, it is very essential that this centre should continue to function.

So, I request the hon. Minister not to close this leather finishing centre and if it has decided to close down, I request the Government to take steps to re-open it or hand over it to the Erode Small Tanners Co-operative Society. *(Interruptions)*