

Regarding non-operation of NTC Textile Mill in Trivandrum

**DR. SHASHI THAROOR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM):** Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Textiles to the severe crisis being faced by the workers of Vijayamohini Mills, a unit under the National Textile Corporation (NTC), in Tiruvannamalai.

The mill has been non-operational for around five years now. It was shut down in March 2020 first because of COVID-19, and then failed to reopen despite Government directives. Then, there was a brief resumption following worker protests which I supported. But that was short-lived. There is systematic mismanagement by the NTC. The closure has left workers in grave financial distress. Wages have remained unpaid for the last four months. Permanent employees have awaited back wages for 18 months. ....*(Interruptions)*

I, therefore, urge the hon. Minister to take immediate action to disburse the pending wages and benefits, resume the mills' operations, and address the raw material shortages. The Ministry must also investigate NTC's mismanagement and develop a comprehensive plan to ensure the long-term sustainability of Vijayamohini Mills to protect workers' livelihoods.