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Title: Need to bring Kerala Hi-Tech Industries Limited, Trivandrum under the control of Ministry of Defence.

SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM): Sir, I would like to raise an important matter regarding taking over of Kerala Hi-Tech Industries Limited (KELTEC), Trivandrum in my constituency by the Ministry of Defence.

KELTEC was specially set up to cater to the high-tech hardware needs of Defence and Space. It has performed well technically and the quality of the product has been appreciated. The technologies in the production of hardware were developed in-house by a team of engineers and technicians who can make up further complex jobs warranting high quality. However, due to various reasons, the company became sick and it was referred to BIFR.

However, considering the importance of this company in realising the hardware needs of defence and space, DRDO and ISRO came forward with help. Now, the company is free from all heavy burden and marching forward for achieving a coveted position amongst the aerospace industries. It had great potential for expansion and diversification and as a first step, the company has undertaken some strategic work at Defence Research and Development Lab at Hyderabad.

I, therefore, request the Government to take necessary action to merge this unit with any of the defence organisations.