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Title: Need to resolve the problems being faced by the Textile Industries in the country.

*SHRI C. SIVASAMI (TIRUPPUR): Madam Speaker, I would like to bring to your notice a problem pertaining to Tiruppur town situated in my Tiruppur Lok Sabha constituency.

Tiruppur is famous for its knitting industry and earns foreign exchange to the tune of about Rs. 10,000 crore every year as an export industry. There are several ancillary industrial units in the form of dyeing units which are connected with knitting industry. As per the orders of the Madras High Court, about 700 dyeing units have been asked to be closed down and as such, power supply has been disconnected to these units. This has affected the entire knitting industry in a big way. There is a huge production loss resulting in rendering about 10 lakh industrial workers without job. This is an impending danger that looms large. It is insisted that only zero per cent salt content would be allowed in the effluent water discharged from these dyeing units. Zero per cent discharge is near impossible and impracticable as we find even drinking water drawn from wells contain 200 to 300 T.T.S. I would like to point out that in no other State in India this insistence is on. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to impress upon the Government of Tamil Nadu to approach the Madras High Court assuring the court that the Government itself will monitor and run these Effluent Treatment Plants and take the discharged water directly to the sea through pipeline after removing the toxic chemical contents in it. Hence I would like to insist that an effective action on a war footing must be taken to help save these 700 dyeing units that are facing closure. Through this, the knitting industry and the dependent labour force can be saved and at the same time, the cultivable lands of farmers must also be saved by

way of preventing ground water pollution. Even after an announcement made with fanfare in a function by the Union Textiles Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister

of Tamil Nadu, the grant that was to be extended to set up a comprehensive Effluent Treatment Plant has not been released as yet. The amount has been deposited in the bank and there is an insistence to give bank guarantee for the share of the industrial units. This is condemnable at a time when there is a serious threat to the continuance of the knitting industry that provides the livelihood to lakhs of industrial workers. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to ensure that the grants are extended to set up Effluent Treat Plants at the earliest on a war footing.