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Title: Need to take steps for revival of Hindustan Photo Films Limited in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI P. VISWANATHAN (KANCHEEPURAM): Hindustan Photo Films Ltd, is a Public Sector Undertaking having 687 employees including 132 SC and 40 ST employees. HPF Ltd. being a sick unit has been awaiting for its revival by the Government. The HPF Ltd. proved itself as an integrated manufacturer of sensitized goods in the whole of South East Asia. It is the only company with the technology for manufacture of Medical X-ray products, Graphic Arts, Black, White and industrial X-ray film products of international standards. HPF Ltd. is catering to the needs of health, defence, printing, education and entertainment. It provided employment to the residents of Nilgiri region of Tamil Nadu who were poor. Around 1975-76, the Company established its market for "INDU" brand photographic film products in the country and started earning profits. The company retained its top position in the industry and was making profits till 1991-92. However, the company turned to a loss making entity from 1992-93 onwards. The accumulated loss of the company stood at Rs.382.36 crore as on 31 March 1997, indicating complete erosion of the company's equity base (including Reserves of Rs.22.28 crore). HPF Ltd. was also referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in October 1995.

The Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) has recommended the need of Rs.302 crore for revival of HPF Ltd. The Government has released Rs.30 crores and the balance Rs.272 crore is yet to be released. I request the Minister for Heavy Industries to take immediate steps for the revival of HPF Ltd. by releasing the balance amount of Rs.272 crore and protect the interest of the workers and their families who are all dependent on HPF Ltd.