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Title: Need to redress the grievances of contract employees of Neyveli Lignite Corporation India Limited, Tamil Nadu.

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**SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN (CUDDALORE):** Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC India Ltd) employs about 20,000 workers including 10,000 contract workers on a daily wage basis in the Mines. Most of them are working in NLC for the last 20 years with a hope that their employment will be regularized and they will be absorbed as permanent employees. During a prolonged agitation in 2014, an agreement was reached between the Contract Labour Union and the NLC Management to regularize them in a phased manner and also for extending the medical facilities to them. But till now, only 200 workers got regularized.

Meanwhile the NLC Management suddenly had reduced the shift of duty from 26 to 19 shifts in Mine 1A since 13th July 2017. This is completely against the interest of the lowly paid and long serving Contract Labourers. An agitation is going on to revert back to the original number of shifts that existed prior to 13-07-2017. The contract labourers are suffering a lot and thousands were arrested. As a result of this a serious law and order problem has arisen.

As a Member of Parliament of the concerned Parliamentary Constituency, I urge the Union Government to intervene immediately into this serious issue for starting reconciliation talks and persuade the Management to immediately enter into a negotiation with the agitating Contract Labour Unions to arrive at an amicable and acceptable solution for this long standing vexed issue.