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Title: Regarding problems of textile mill workers in Mumbai.

SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH CENTRAL): It is a matter of pride for Mumbaikar that Textile Mills have tremendously contributed in making Mumbai India's financial capital. We also cannot forget the great contributions made by the Textile mill workers for development of the Textile Industry in Mumbai. But it is very sad that the hundreds of hardworking mill workers have lost their lives waiting to get their legal dues. Thousands of mill workers are waiting to get their dues after closure of most of the mills long back in Mumbai. Dues of the workers are outstanding since 1982 which should be paid immediately.

In this connection, I would like to make some suggestions that all existing running mills in Mumbai including the joint ventures may be operated in Mumbai only in full capacity rather than shifting to other places. It is reported that NTC has agreed to give jobs to the children of the workmen who opted VRS as per agreement. But NTC is not abiding by the agreement. NTC should be instructed to give jobs to the children of workmen in its organization. I also suggest that the Bonus Act may be amended so that all the mill workers may get their bonus as they are now out of the purview of present Bonus Act.

National Textiles Corporation is getting Transfer of Development Right (TDR) on sale of mill land in Mumbai. My submission to the Government is that aforesaid TDR should be utilized for the benefit of the mill workers. I suggest that Government should build houses on the land of closed mills and allot the same to the workmen. I request the Textiles Minister that the dues of the mill workers may be cleared and paid to them immediately.