

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding policy to control the price of cotton yarn and increase cotton production-laid.

SHRI P.R. NATARAJAN (COIMBATORE): I wish to highlight serious crisis affecting Tirupur knitting Industry which is garnering lakhs of dollars for Indian economy and providing lakhs of job opportunities. It is facing serious challenges in meeting the price rise of cotton yarn at frequent intervals. Apart from this Hosiery units, power looms and handlooms in Tamil Nadu are reeling under severe crisis.

Tirupur in Tamil Nadu is well known for its knitting and cotton garment industries and is garnering dollars by exporting cotton garments throughout the world. In the past 2 years it is facing various challenges due to price rise of cotton yarn at the intervals of monthly, bi-monthly period, huge increase of logistic fares, and chemicals (DYESTUFFS) used for dyeing the knitting and cotton garments. The reasons for such increases is said to be mainly due to shortage in availability of cotton in the cotton market which is being controlled by the market forces and big business. It is not the only reason for such frequent increase of cotton yarn Prices but it also includes various price rise which are in the chain of production activities. I would like to state that this industry is already in severe crisis due to levying of high percent of Goods and Service taxes (GST) in all its activities., market contraction and lock down etc. Apart from this, knitting industry hosiery units, power looms and hand looms numbering more than 5.63 in other parts of Tamil Nadu are also under threat of closure or lowering the quantity of production. It is the second biggest job provider next to the Agriculture. So, this cotton price

yarn threat is not only affecting the industry and economy and GDP but also it is taking away the job opportunities and livelihoods of lakhs of workers. In the past, Industry bodies, trade unions and political parties, have been representing for remedial actions to the concerned authorities which have not been considered resulting in failure to control the price rise of cotton yarn.

Hence, I request our honourable textile minister for taking pro-Industry and Pro - worker industrial policy to control the prices of cotton yarn and increase cotton production. Apart from this, immediate action is also needed for the establishment of a price monitoring mechanism which is also the urgent need of the hour to save the textile Industry and the workers' livelihood.