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Title: Request to withdraw the closure notice of four State Owned sick textile units in Puducherry and approve the voluntary retirement scheme.

SHRI VE. VAITHILINGAM (PUDUCHERRY): Hon. Speaker, Sir, there are four State-owned sick textile units in Puducherry called AFT, Swadeshi, Bharati, and Cooperative Spinning Mills. The Puducherry Government wanted to introduce a voluntary retirement scheme for 1,500 workers in these companies. At the same time, the Government wanted to develop a skill development centre in those units. For this purpose, the Puducherry Government wanted to sell off some of the properties of those companies. They had sent a proposal to the Home Ministry for approval, which is pending since 2014. In the meantime, the hon. Lt. Governor of Puducherry has issued a closure notice to the mill workers. This has created unrest among the mill workers. I request the hon. Home Minister to give a direction to the hon. Lt. Governor of Puducherry to withdraw the closure notice and approve the voluntary retirement scheme. I also request the hon. Home Minister to give permission to sell of the properties of the company since it will help the workers to get the amount under the voluntary retirement scheme.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Ve. Vaithilingam.