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Title: Regarding privatization of Salem Steel Plant -laid.

SHRI S.R. PARTHIBAN (SALEM): Salem Steel Plant, a unit of Steel Authority of India Ltd was established in the year 1981 to promote the industrial development of the state and economic development of the region. Salem Steel Plant is having state-of-art technology with an asset-base of around Rs.15,000 crores including 4000 acres of land. Around 3000 farmers parted with their precious lands for the sole purpose of the Steel Plant. It generated 2000 direct and 3000 indirect employment opportunities.

Salem Steel Plant has contributed so far more than Rs. 2700 Crores to the Government exchequer in the form of indirect taxes and also earned more than Rs 3000 crores foreign exchange. Since the commissioning of the expansion facilities in the year 2010, the plant is loaded with an interest burden of around Rs 120 crores per annum.

I request the Hon'ble Minister to explore the possibilities for the growth, by waiving the interest burden of the plant, setting up a captive power plant & establishing a stainless steel industrial park in the unutilized land. The Union Government should ponder over the idea of privatizing the Salem Steel plant for the welfare of the workers and development of the region.

