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Title: Need to boost Indian textile industry.

DR. T. R. PAARIVENDHAR (PERAMBALUR): The Indian textile industry is the second largest employment generating sector that is giving employment for both skilled and unskilled labourers. India's overall textile exports during financial year 2017-18 is US \$ 39.2 billion and is expected to increase to US \$ 82 billion by 2021. This industry contributed 2 per cent of country's GDP and employs more than 45 million people. The sector contributed 15 per cent to the export earnings of India. The Indian textile industry is expected to become a \$ 300 billion industry by 2030 and it can create additional job opportunities to 35 million people in the country. This can be achieved if the industry enhances its focus on exporting higher value-added products by modernizing with sustainable business practices. The Indian textile industry has the capacity to produce a wide variety of products suitable to different market segments, both within India and across the world.

I would urge upon the Union Ministry of Textiles, through you, Sir, to establish mega apparel cities in port cities of our country, particularly, in Tamil Nadu to increase the production of textiles to compete with the countries like China in textile exports and thereby millions of job opportunities will be created and giving boost to exports. In this respect the Union Ministry of Finance has to cooperate by reducing the GST on synthetic fibers from 18 per cent to 12 per cent, which may increase Indian textile sales in the US market.

