

Title: Need to take steps to revive the Tumkur unit of H.M.T Ltd.

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ (TUMKUR): Many public enterprises, which were once the nation's pride, have become victims of liberalisation whereby they are exposed to competition from multi-nationals. Most of them are on sick-bed. Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd. (HMT) which has many units across the country has also become sick.

The HMT Tumkur unit, like any other HMT units was in the forefront both in productivity and profitability consistently for many years. Due to management's policy of clubbing it with Ranibagh unit, it fell into bad times. From the Public Enterprises' Survey for 1998-99, it is observed that the low capacity utilisation in HMT was due to the constraint of finance for working capital.

The fate of HMT Tumkur unit is hanging in balance, threatening the livelihood of hundreds of workmen and their families. Not only for the workmen's sake, but also for salvaging the prestige of national enterprise and honour, HMT, Tumkur unit should be revived and put back on rails. Whatever the funds required to be put into this revival package, I can assure the Government that it will be repaid many times in a short span of time, both in terms of increased productivity and resultant profitability. I request the Government to consider this seriously.