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Title: Need to establish a common facility centre at Salem, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI S. SEMMALAI (SALEM): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise an important issue pertaining to my constituency.

There is a long-pending demand for the establishment of a Common Facility Centre at Salem in the premises of Salem Steel Plant which is situated in my constituency where nearly 2,500 acres of land is kept vacant and not utilised by the SSP.

The MSME has already sanctioned a financial grant of Rs. 12.76 crore to this Common Facility Centre to install required plant and machineries. But this fund is not utilised so far and no action is taken till date. In Salem Steel Plant, the accumulated steel value of various products, right from raw materials to finished goods is about 60,000 metric tonnes, which is being kept idle. It is worth about Rs. 800 crore. The authorities are saying that it would be sent to various States on orders. But what the local Association, i.e. the Salem District Small Scale and Tiny Industries' Association says is, if the raw materials and products of the Salem Steel Plant are utilised in the district itself, a number of units will come up and more employment opportunities will be provided to the unemployed youth. And, more employment opportunities will be provided to the unemployed youth. But, so far, the SAIL has not taken any initiative in this regard.

So, I urge upon the Government, in particular, both the Ministry of MSME and the Ministry of Steel to start down-stream industries at the Salem Steel Plant by which the Salem Steel Plant can regularly market their products for the consumption of the proposed MSME units.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is your demand?

SHRI S. SEMMALAI : So, both the Ministries should take necessary action to solve the problems faced by the MSME units in Salem. Thank you.