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Title: Need to take appropriate Welfare measures for workers rendered jobless after the closure of unit of Nokia Company at Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI K.N. RAMACHANDRAN (SRIPERUMBUDUR): I would like to raise an issue pertaining to the livelihood of several thousand workers employed with the Nokia Company, directly and indirectly, which is in my parliamentary constituency of Sriperumbudur.

Nokia which had set up its unit in SEZ of Sriperumbudur, has suspended its operations from November 2014. The Nokia company was provided land and other infrastructural facilities by the Tamil Nadu Government with a view to facilitate employment of more than 10,000 workers from 'in and around Sriperumbudur'. Moreover, several thousand workers, who were indirectly employed and which other ancillary units which were supplying materials and products to Nokia, were dependent on this company.

When Microsoft acquired all other facilities of Nokia, only this unit at Sriperumbudur was excluded because the previous Govt. had slapped an income tax notice, leading to the exclusion of Nokia at Sriperumbudur from the deal between Nokia and Microsoft. Due to this, even the transfer of assets of Nokia is not possible. This is also preventing Nokia from exploring other possibilities for revival, for the sake of its employees.

Presently several thousand employees have lost their jobs. They are on the streets, even after the Tamil Nadu Govt. provided wages to about 900 workers, without work.

The closure of Nokia at Sriperumbudur has hit hard the workers of the company. This will be a huge setback to the PM's 'Make in India' Campaign.

Hence, I request the Prime Minister of India to intervene in the matter and make sincere efforts to ensure a better future for the employees and factory.