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Title:Need to add more industries in the list of Small Scale Industries.

SHRI M. UDHAYAKUMAR (DINDIGUL): Hon. Madam Speaker, Vanakkam! I would like to thank my Party Supremo and the hon. People Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Amma with immense gratitude for having given me this opportunity.

In my Dindigul constitutency, Dindigul city is very famous for traditional lock industry, that is called 'Dindigul *Poottu* . The classification of the industry unit as a micro, small or medium enterprise entitles them to avail certain concessions from the Government as well as from the banks. The proposed investment limit will be Rs.10 lakh for micro, Rs.5 crore for small industry and Rs.15 crores for medium enterprise in the service sector. Adoption of the latest technology, modernisation of production and cut in use of raw materials are essential not only to revive the Dindigul lock industry but also to face a stiff global competition, especially from China.

New technologies will enhance quality and production. Over 200 lock industries in Aligarh have shifted to pin cylindrical locks.

Modernisation and infusion of new technologies will change the face of any industry and pave the way for expansion and growth. But modernisation has signalled slow death of manual lock making skills, ultimately, the traditional lock industry, which is one of the highly labour-intensive industries and status symbol of Dindigul District.

Already, the industry, which produces the most popular mango-type iron and brass locks, is on the wane owing to poor market, change in production technology and sharp slump in skilled workforce. Now, only a few artisans make mango-type locks at Nallampatti and Nagal Nagar in my Dindigul Constituency. Only big jewellers and industries that need foolproof security, place orders for mango locks. Many makers have shifted to box-type locks.

Hence, I would urge upon the Central Government to allocate special financial assistance and special concession to improve the traditional Dindigul lock industry. Thank you.