

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** Yes; it has to be.

**Prof. Mavalankar.**

(iv) **CLOSURE OF AHMEDABAD LAKSHMI COTTON MILLS LTD. RESULTING IN UN-EMPLOYMENT TO OVER 1,700 WORKERS.**

**PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar):** I am grateful to you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, for permitting me to raise the state of affairs of one of the textile mills of Ahmedabad. The Ahmedabad Lakshmi Cotton Mill, which has been more or less closed for the last several months—practically since June this year. But the tragedy of the situation is that, from November 15, the mill is totally closed, and the result is that more than 1,700 workers and several members of clerical and administrative staff have been thrown completely out of job, and the situation has become very serious. All these families of more than 1,700 people are without any assistance because the dues in terms of salaries, wages, provident fund amount, insurance amount, etc., of all these workers, which have to go to the bank in a proper way, have not been credited by the management. Therefore, the problem has become more acute. I want to invite the attention of the Ministers of Industry and of Commerce to this grave matter and I want them to look into this matter urgently because so many hundreds of families are involved. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here, and I hope he will convey this to those Ministers.

My esteemed friend, the Finance Minister, if he was on my side, would have supported me; perhaps he may not do it now because he is in the Government. But the point is this. Coming as I do from Ahmedabad, I know the plight and lot of these unfortunate people who have been without jobs for several months and whose legitimate dues—provident fund and other dues—are not being credited to their account in the bank.

tionable. Therefore, my point is this. Unless the Government of India and the Government of Gujarat jointly, in a cooperative way, look into this matter and do something quickly, nothing will happen.

Lastly, the bonus has not been paid to the workers of this Mill this year. The workers of the other mills of Ahmedabad—there are more than 65 of them—have got this, but the workers of this particular mill did not get the bonus. Let the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs note this. I am not suggesting that you should immediately take over this mill under your care under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act of 1951. I know that it has been the practice for the last several years not to take over sick units under this Act. What I want is that the Government of India and the Gujarat Government should jointly look into the matter quickly with a view to restarting this mill. In view of the fact that the ATIRA and other groups have opined about the viability of the mill it is all the more necessary that this mill should be started very urgently. The mill has already got very good equipments and their building and machinery are reportedly in good conditions. If the mill is started very soon, the people of my constituency will get immediate and quick relief. Thank you.

15.11 hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

**EIGHT REPORT**

**SHRI YADVENDRA DUTT (Jaunpur):** I beg to move the following:

"That this House do agree with the Eighth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House of