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Title: Regarding inclusion of petroleum products under GST-laid.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): The petrol prices have crossed the Rs 100-a-litre-mark in sixteen states and union territories. These include Delhi, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Jammu and Kashmir, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Bihar, Punjab, Ladakh and Sikkim. The Centre and states have to “work together” to bring the retail prices under control. The government failed to bring down the high excise duties. As much as 60% of the retail price of petrol, is at an all-time high elsewhere in the country and is made up of Central and state taxes. The finance minister had increased central excise duty on petrol and diesel by a record margin last year to mop up gains arising from international oil prices plunging to two-decade low, remained non-committal on cutting taxes to give relief to consumers. I urge upon the government to bring petroleum products under the Goods and Services Tax (GST).