

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title Regarding withdrawal of excise duty on petroleum products-laid.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM) : Citizens have anguish and deep distress regarding the spiralling fuel and gas prices. India is witnessing systematic erosion of jobs, wages and household income. The middle class and those at the margins of our society are struggling. These challenges have been compounded by runaway inflation and an unprecedented rise in prices of almost all household items and essential commodities. 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, which shot above Rs 100-mark in some places in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh and is at an all-time high elsewhere in the country is made up of Central and state taxes. I request to withdraw the excise duty imposed by the government on petroleum products.