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Title: Issue regarding economic slowdown affecting automobiles industry in the country.

DR. A. CHELLAKUMAR (KRISHNAGIRI): I would like to bring to the notice of the Government, through you, Sir, that the present economic slowdown has affected the automobile industry heavily in our country particularly Tamil Nadu industries and led to loss of thousands of jobs and also loss of crores of revenue to the Government.

Tamil Nadu is the 'Detroit of India' since 30 per cent of the automobile industries and 35 per cent of the auto components manufacturing industries are having the manufacturing facility in Tamil Nadu. The total automobile and auto components industries are employing more than 30 lakhs people and giving almost 25 per cent of the State revenue.

In Tamil Nadu, more than 25 automobile OEM's manufacturing plants and more than one lakh MSMEs involved in auto components manufacturing units are facing severe threat of financial losses that force the closure of units and it will lead to social unrest.

Hence, I would like to request the Union Government, through you, Sir, to save MSMEs by taking suitable measures like by reducing the GST for auto components to 18 per cent from 28 per cent; GST rates in engineering job works should be reduced to five per cent from 12 per cent; MSMEs to be declared as a priority sector like agriculture and the interest rates to be fixed between five per cent and six per cent; for the

imports of the latest technology machineries, all taxes should be exempted to improve the technology and productivity; and NPA norms for the MSME sector should be increased to 180 days from 90 days.

माननीय अध्यक्ष: श्री कुलदीप राय शर्मा को डॉ. ए. चैल्लाकुमार द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से संबद्ध करने की अनुमति प्रदान की जाती है ।