

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to take steps to revive screw industry in Amritsar.

**\*SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA (AMRITSAR):** I thank you, Hon. Speaker Sir, for giving me the opportunity to raise an important matter of urgent public importance.

Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Central Government towards the screw industry existing in Amritsar since pre-independence times. Till 2010, this industry had 500 to 600 units in Amritsar. However, China is dumping their screws in our market. Due to Chinese imports, Amritsar now has only 100 screw units. In China, raw material is cheap, labour is cheap and the Chinese Government encourages its screw industry. However, our raw material is expensive. So, we have not been able to successfully compete with China in this sector. We had to import raw material. But big industrial houses got these imports cancelled.

Sir, in 2014, the 'Make in India' slogan gave some hope to this industry. But GST was increased from 6.8% to 18%. Whatever was being manufactured, shut its shop. So, I urge upon the Central Government that import duty on screws imported from China should be either increased or imports of Chinese screws should be banned. Or else, the GST on Ch-83 items should be reduced to 5% so that this industry can be revived and saved. This screw industry of Amritsar had been set-up in pre-independence times and it supplies screws to entire India. So, the need of the hour is to save this industry from closure and extinction. Thank you.

