



Title: Re: Exemption of Handloom Sector from GST.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Sir, I rise to raise a matter relating to handloom industry. As you all know, handloom industry plays a key role in the Indian economy for providing employment to rural population. Also, it is a carrier of India's rich cultural heritage to other countries.

In Odisha, it is an ancient industry which has been the primary source of income in rural and semi-urban areas for women and other economically disadvantaged people, for centuries. This industry has a large capacity to absorb labour which is essentially beneficial for Odisha which is a labour surplus State or economy.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to exempt the handloom sector from the Goods and Services Tax because it is raising the cost of the products of this industry, having an adverse impact on all those who depend on it for their livelihood as well as places barriers on the expansion of the industry.

Thank you.