

Regarding need to establish a GST Office in Balurghat, West Bengal-laid

DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR (BALURGHAT): I want to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister of Finance towards a serious matter which has been affecting business community, tax professionals, and overall economic landscape of Balurghat. Unlike others, Balurghat lacks its own GST office and is currently attached to Malda, creating a significant inconvenience for the local stakeholders. Balurghat, despite being the second-largest land port in West Bengal, is devoid of a dedicated GST office. This is particularly disheartening given the district's economic significance, with numerous rice mills and growing business volumes in various sectors. The absence of a local GST office has resulted in considerable challenges for businesspersons and tax professionals who struggle with the distance to access essential facilities. The imprudent decision of the West Bengal circle authority has not only inconvenienced the local stakeholders but has also led to increased expenses for the GST department. The necessity for frequent tours and travels, especially for raids and personal monitoring, imposes financial burdens on both the department and the taxpayers. In light of these pressing issues and in consideration of serious lapses and negligence exhibited by the GST authorities in West Bengal, I kindly seek your support and approval for the establishment of a GST office in Balurghat at the earliest.