

ont>

Title: Need to roll back the CENVAT and Excise Duty levied on the powerloom and Garments Industry.

***SHRI P. MOHAN (MADURAI):** Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, in this year's Union Budget the Centre has levied excess excise duty on both power loom sector and garments. This has created a great hardship to the weavers of the power loom sector and the manufacturers especially the small scale manufacturers of garments. This seriously affects their livelihood. When this was raised in this august House recently, the hon. Minister for Textiles Shri Kanshiram Rana stated that he would take the issue to the attention of the Finance Minister and would take appropriate action. Next only to agriculture, it is weaving industry that provides job opportunity to youth from rural areas especially young women in large number. Additional burden of excise duty has been resisted and the weavers have gone on strike. In Tamil Nadu for the past 20 days almost all the units in the power loom sector and garments industry remain closed posing great problem to the weavers and their families. This sector could not get easily the loan assistance from banks. Most of these weavers run their looms and units borrowing money from the open market paying heavy interest through their nose. Madurai is among the worst hit place in Tamil Nadu where the power loom weavers and garment manufacturers suffer a lot due to this additional CENVAT and excise duty. Not only in Tamil Nadu but also in Sholapur and Pune for about 20 days now these units remain closed depriving the livelihood of young people. This is a very big social problem. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to roll back the CENVAT and excise duty on power loom and readymade garments the same way as they rolled back the tax on fertilizers like urea. Withdraw these taxes immediately without waiting for the passing of the Finance Bill.

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Muniyappa, please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

13.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.
