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Title : Need to release sum due to Government of Gujarat collected as surcharge to finance relief and rehabilitation programme of Gujarat earthquake.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD): Government of India had levied 2% surcharge of Income Tax to finance the relief and rehabilitation programme of Gujarat earthquake for the financial year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002. It is understood that the collection of Income Tax by the GOI for the year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 was about Rs. 68,305 crores and Rs. 69,198 crores respectively. Thus the amount of surcharge at the rate of 2% on above collection comes to Rs. 1366.12 crores for the year 2000-2001 and rs. 1383.94 crores for the year 2001-2002, totaling to Rs. 2750.06 crores. Against the likely amount of Rs. 2750.06 crores understand to have been collected as surcharge only amounts of Rs. 500 crores and Rs. 967.37 crores were disbursed to the State Government during the financial year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 respectively on account of earthquake relief and rehabilitation from the NCCF. Thus, the total amount disbursed is Rs. 1467.37 crores against the collection on surcharge of Rs. 2750.06 crores. As a result, the amount of Rs. 1282.69 crores still stand due to the State Government of Gujarat even today. Now that accounts of Government of India have been finalized, actual collection would also be available. Sir, I would humbly plead the Hon'ble Finance Minister to kindly release the aforesaid pending amounts as early as possible.