

Title: Need to extend the period of exemption of excise duty on cement and steel being used for reconstruction of damaged houses due to earthquake in Gujarat. – Laid.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (KUTCH) : Devastating earthquake on 26.01.2001, damaged and completely ruined Kutch District, Gujarat. For reconstruction of the houses and buildings, the Union Government granted Excise Duty exemption on cement and steel to be used in such reconstruction of houses damaged by earthquake. The time limit of such exemption expired on 31.12.2003 which requires to be extended for further period of two years as fifty per cent of reconstruction has not yet even started.