

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1408
ANSWERED ON 19TH DECEMBER, 2022

Kerosene quota for fishing sector in Kerala

1408. Dr. John Brittas:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) The reasons for replacing the distribution of subsidized kerosene to fishing sector through PDS with non-subsidized PDS Kerosene;
- (b) Whether it is a fact that Government of Kerala has requested Union Government to allocate subsidised kerosene for fishing sector and also for increasing the quantity of non-subsidized PDS Kerosene for fishing sector;
- (c) If so, response thereto;
- (d) Whether it is a fact that non-subsidized PDS kerosene is currently distributed by private distributors; and
- (e) If so, whether Government will agree to the demand of State Government of Kerala to entrust Matsyafed, an apex federation of primary fisherman cooperative societies in Kerala, the distribution of non-subsidized PDS kerosene in the State for fishing sector?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

- (a) Government of India makes allocation of Public Distribution System (PDS) Kerosene to States/UTs on quarterly basis for cooking and lighting purpose. PDS Kerosene allocation to States/UTs have been rationalized since 2010- 11 taking into account, factors such as increase in domestic LPG/PNG connections, electricity coverage, non-lifting of PDS Kerosene quota by the concerned States/UTs etc.

Government vide order dated 21st August 2012, has empowered States/ UTs to draw an allocation of one month's quota of PDS Kerosene at Non- Subsidized rates during each financial year for special needs such as natural calamities, religious functions, fisheries, various yatras etc.. Annual allocation of Non-Subsidised PDS Kerosene is done by Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell (PPAC) in the beginning of each financial year. States/UTs may seek further additional allocation after exhausting available quota.

- (b)and (c) Government has received requests from Government of Kerala for additional allocation of PDS Kerosene and Non Subsidized PDS Kerosene. Considering the request of Government of Kerala, in addition to already allocated quota of 2160 KL, additional allocation of Non-

Subsidized PDS Kerosene has been done making an overall allocation of 7160 KL non subsidized PDS SKO for year 2022-23.

- (d) Non subsidized PDS kerosene is distributed through existing wholesale SKO dealers of Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). Further, Distribution plan of non-subsidised PDS kerosene is carried out by the respective State/UT.
- (e) No Sir. As per policy, there is no provision to award direct Kerosene dealership by OMCs.
