

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. - 1093

ANSWERED ON – 09/02/2026

HIGH KEROSENE CONSUMPTION IN WEST BENGAL

1093 SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA:

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

- (a) the actual consumption and allocation of PDS kerosene (SKO) in the State of West Bengal during FY 2024–25 and the allocation made so far in FY 2025–26, along with its percentage share of national kerosene allocation;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the State of West Bengal continues to account for the single largest share of kerosene consumption in the country, even after near-saturation of LPG and PNG coverage; and
- (c) whether Government has examined the reasons for such abnormally high dependence on kerosene in the State, including issues of leakages, diversion, misuse, delayed transition to clean fuels, or State-level distribution policies?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a) and (b) Government, under Public Distribution Superior Kerosene Oil (PDS SKO) Allocation Policy, makes allocation of PDS Kerosene to States/UTs on quarterly basis for cooking & lighting and for special needs (fisheries, mela, exhibitions, pandemic, calamity etc.). The States have liberty to sub-allocate PDS SKO based on their specific requirement. Owing to consistent efforts of the Government of India and with the support of States Governments/UT Administrations, there has been a substantial reduction in PDS SKO allocation from 1.12 crore KL in 2010-11 to 3.82 lakh KL in 2024-25. Presently, 21 States/UTs are PDS SKO Free.

The details of total allocation of PDS SKO made to States/UTs and West Bengal during FY 2024- 25 and 2025-26 along with its upliftment and not lifted by State of West Bengal are as under:

Fig. In KL

| FY | Total PDS SKO Allocation to States/UTs | PDS SKO Allocation to West Bengal | W.B % Share in total PDS SKO allocation to States/UTs | Upliftment of PDS SKO by West Bengal | Not lifted by West Bengal |
|---------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2024-25 | 4,64,112 | 3,26,160 | 70.28% | 2,42,039 | 84121 (25.79%) |
| 2025-26 | 4,71,870 | 2,48,304 | 52.62% | 1,79,463 (Out of Allocation of 1,86,228 till Q3) | 6765 (3.63%) (till Q3) |

Source: PPAC

(c) Allocation of PDS Kerosene is made as per PDS SKO Allocation Policy. Thereafter, distribution of PDS Kerosene within the State/UT under PDS network is carried out by the concerned State/UT. Scale and criteria of the distribution is, accordingly, also decided by the respective State/UT. State Governments are required to ensure that the allocated quantity of PDS SKO is not diverted for adulteration of petrol/diesel or for any other unintended use.
