

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3155
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31st DECEMBER, 2018

Subsidy on Kerosene

3155. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to take steps to reduce or eliminate the subsidy on Kerosene;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the fact that subsidized kerosene is essential for the livelihood of fishermen, especially in coastal States like Kerala and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of measures taken/ proposed to be taken to ensure that fishermen will not be adversely affected by cutting subsidy on for kerosene?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

(श्री धर्मन्द्र प्रधान)

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

- (a) & (b) The Government continues to modulate the Retail Selling Price of PDS Kerosene. Currently Government is providing subsidy of ₹ 15.03/ litre on PDS Kerosene. Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has launched Direct Benefit Transfer in PDS Kerosene (DBTK) Scheme with effect from 01.04.2016 to initiate reforms in Allocation and Distribution of Public Distribution System (PDS) Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) distribution system, to stop pilferage of subsidy and to reduce the outflow of Central subsidy on kerosene to States / Union Territories (UTs) to a realistic level. Further, the allocation of PDS Kerosene of the States/UTs is being rationalized after taking into account factors such as increase in domestic LPG/PNG connections, increase in electricity coverage, non-lifting of PDS Kerosene quota by the concerned States/UTs etc.
- (c) & (d) Government makes quarterly allocation of Public Distribution (PDS) Kerosene to States/UTs for cooking and lighting purposes.

Further, distribution of PDS Kerosene within the States/UTs under PDS network to various categories of ration card holders/consumers is the responsibility of the concerned States/UTs. Further for special needs, this Ministry has already issued Order dated 21st August, 2012 whereby each State/Union Territory can draw an allocation of one month's quota of Kerosene at non-subsidized rates during each financial year. In the year 2018-19, the allocation of PDS SKO for the State of Kerala is maintained at 13908 KL in each quarter.

X-X-X-X-X