LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 952
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08 February, 2024

Supply of Kerosene at Subsidised Rate

952. MS. DEBASREE CHAUDHURI:
SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to consider fishermen’s plea to resume the supply of kerosene at subsidised rate and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government is aware that the non-subsidised kerosene supplied through Public Distribution System (PDS) is insufficient to meet the demand of fishermen who use outboard motor boats and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government is ready to increase the allocation of non-subsidised kerosene to the States like West Bengal and Maharashtra for fishing purpose and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(श्री रामेश्वर तेली)

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

(a) to (c): Government makes allocation of Public Distribution System (PDS) Kerosene for cooking and lighting purpose only. 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. The allocation of SKO under PDS has been rationalized considering the polluting nature of Kerosene. Annual allocation of Non-subsidized 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. Further, distribution plan of non-subsidized PDS Kerosene is decided and controlled by respective State/UT.

Effective 1st March, 2020, the retail selling price of PDS Kerosene is being maintained at NIL under-recovery level on pan India basis.
No requests have been received so far from the State of West Bengal and Maharashtra to increase the allocation of non-subsidised PDS SKO for fishing purposes for the year 2023-24. However, whenever such requests are received, same are processed after considering the factors as mentioned above.

The annual allocation and lapsed quantity of Non-subsidized PDS Kerosene to the State of West Bengal and Maharashtra for the year 2022-23 is as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Non Subsidized PDS Kerosene</th>
<th>Allocation</th>
<th>Lapsed Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022-23</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td></td>
<td>2328</td>
<td>2328</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td></td>
<td>58668</td>
<td>58668</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC)