GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1167 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH FEBRUARY, 2025

Supply of Kerosene

1167. Shri Shafi Parambil:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the inadequate supply of kerosene through the PDS to the fishermen in Kerala;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the fact that, due to the insufficient supply of kerosene through the PDS, the fishing community in Kerala is in an acute financial crisis;

(c) whether the Government is planning to increase the PDS quota of kerosene to fishermen in Kerala; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoP&NG) being the nodal Ministry in the subject matter has informed that the Government of India makes allocation of "Public Distribution System (PDS) Kerosene" to States/UTs including Kerala on quarterly basis for cooking and lighting purpose. The PDS Kerosene allocation to States/UTs including Kerala have been rationalized since 2010-11 considering the polluting nature of Kerosene and 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. Till FY 2023-24, 13 States/UTs have declared themselves as Kerosene free.

The MoP&NG has further also stated that Government of India 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. States/UTs may seek further additional allocation after exhausting available quota. Scale, criteria, modalities etc. of distribution to end customers are also determined by the respective State/UT.

The MoP&NG has also informed that considering the request of Government of Kerala, in addition to already allocated Non-Subsidized PDS Kerosene quota of 648 KL, an additional allocation of 600 KL has also been made on 15th January, 2025 making an overall allocation of 1248 KL non subsidized PDS SKO for year 2024-25.