

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:446
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2005
SUPPLY OF KEROSENE
Karunakaran Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that fishermen in coastal areas suffer due to lack of adequate supply of Kerosene;
- (b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has received any representations from the State Governments, especially from Kerala to increase the quota of Kerosene; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) & (b): There is no separate allocation of Kerosene (SKO) for the fisheries Sector as the present Government guidelines limit the supply of SKO under the Public Distribution System to the purposes of cooking and illumination only. Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have been allowed to market free-sale Kerosene and fishermen can obtain such kerosene from the outlets of any of these companies.

(c): Yes, Sir. This Ministry has received representations from various State Governments/Union Territories (UTs) including Kerala for the enhancement of their Kerosene quotas.

(d) : Additional allocations have been made to various States/UTs to meet their demand and an additional allocation of 5,275 Metric Tonnes (MTs) of SKO for the period January to March, 2005 has been made to Kerala. The National Council of Applied Economic Research have been commissioned to undertake the first-ever detailed study of kerosene demand in the country, including demand in the fisheries sector.