

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6316  
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2010  
DIESEL SUBSIDY TO FISHERMEN  
Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Vijayan Shri A.K.S.

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the fishermen having motorized boats are being provided diesel subsidy and have benefited from the scheme in the past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has restricted such subsidy only to fishermen below the poverty line and enhanced the subsidy to Rs. 3 per litre;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has received any demand for restoration of the diesel subsidy to all category of fishermen; and
- (f) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been providing financial assistance since 1990-91 to the coastal States and Union Territories for rebate on High Speed Diesel (HSD) used by the mechanized fishing boats. Details of financial assistance provided to the State Government and UTs during the past Plan periods including the current Plan are as below:

Plan period Amount (Rs. in lakh)

8th Plan 2913.36

9th Plan 4712.66

10th Plan 10803.90

11th Plan 3013.25  
(till 31.3.2010)

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Under the 11th Plan, the rebate on HSD used by mechanized fishing boats below 20 metre length has been enhanced from Rs. 1.50 per litre to Rs. 3.00 per litre. The rebate is equivalent to 50% of the sales tax relief granted by the State on HSD oil for the fishing purposes. The Central rebate is admissible to the boats registered before 10 Plan and owned by the fishers of below poverty line (BPL) categories. This is ensued to extend the maximum benefit to the needy poor fishermen.

(e) & (f): Yes, Madam. Due to fiscal deficit and availability of limited funds, restoration of the diesel subsidy to all categories of fishermen has not been supported.