

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3814  
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2009  
SUBSIDIZED DIESEL/KEROSENE FOR FISHERMEN  
Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy

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

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the hardships faced by the small and marginal coastal fishermen due to frequent rise in diesel and kerosene prices in the country including the State of Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase the subsidy on kerosene and also provide subsidized diesel for the use of these fishermen; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a)to(d): Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries has informed that the availability of fish and the unit value realization was not commensurate with the rise in fuel price in the recent years. The component of 'Fishermen Development Rebate on HSD oil' under the Centrally sponsored Scheme of 'Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations' intended to support the mounting operational cost of small mechanized fishing vessels of less than 20 m length was put in operation during the 10th Five Year Plan. During this period, the fishermen development rebate was fixed at Rs.1.50 per litre of HSD oil used by small mechanized fishing vessels of less than 20 m length. The boats registered with the State Governments, and constructed prior to the Tenth Plan were eligible for the rebate. The rebate was shared on 80:20 basis between the Centre and the States where sales tax is levied, and 100% by the Central Government in case of UTs and States, where the HSD is fully exempted from sales tax.

For the 11th Five Year Plan, the rate of subsidy has been increased from Rs.1.50 per litre to Rs.3.00 per litre. This is subject to a ceiling of 500 litres per boat for every active fishing month for the fishing boats owned by the fishermen of the BPL category. Fishing boats constructed and registered prior to Tenth Plan are eligible for the said rebate.

The Kerosene oil used in fishing vessels is a de-controlled petroleum product, available at market-driven prices. At present, there is no proposal to provide subsidy for this product.