

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5159

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012

DIESEL SUBSIDY TO FISHERMEN

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware that fishermen of the country including Maharashtra are not getting subsidised High Speed Diesel (HSD) for their fishing vessels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to remove the Below Poverty Line condition for fishermen;
- (d) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to provide subsidised diesel to fishermen?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR.CHAHAN DAS MAHANT)

- (a) and (b): The Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme provides a rebate on High Speed Diesel (HSD) to the tune of 50% of the sales tax exempted by the States with a ceiling of ₹ 3 per liter for use of mechanized fishing vessels. This rebate is restricted to
- (i) vessels of less than 20 meter length, registered before 10th plan,
 - (ii) owned by fishermen belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) category and
 - (iii) 500 liters of HSD per boat per active fishing month. The State of Maharashtra has not accessed funds under this scheme during the past three years.
- (c) to (e) Restoration of rebate on HSD to all categories has not been supported due to limited availability of funds.