

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1871
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2014
KEROSENE QUOTA FOR FISHERMEN
Karunakaran Shri P.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received representations from various States for special allotment of kerosene to the fishermen at the BPL price;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the kerosene quota is likely to be allotted to various States?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) to (c) : Requests were received from some of the State Governments namely, Maharashtra and Kerala for allocation of special kerosene for operation of fishing vessels. The matter was examined in consultation with the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and it was clarified that the Central Government allocates subsidized Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) for distribution under Public Distribution System(PDS) for the purpose of cooking and lighting only. Any separate SKO allocation for the fishing sector within the State is to be adjusted by the concerned State Government within its overall SKO allocation. However, demand for fishing sector can be met by additional allocation at non-subsidized rate to the States which is supplied by the oil marketing company.

Subsequently, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas had on 21st August, 2012 issued an order in this regard, which states that States/Union Territories (UTs) require SKO from time to time on emergency basis or for special occasions. The order further stipulates that each State/Union Territory will be able to draw an allocation of one month's quota of PDS Kerosene at non-subsidized rates (inclusive of excise/custom duty/taxes and excluding under/recovery/fiscal subsidy) during each Financial Year for special needs such as natural calamities, religious functions, fisheries, various 'yatras', 'melas' etc. This allocation will lapse at the end of that particular Financial Year. This SKO quota can be drawn by States/UTs in installments without referring the matter to Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Government of India. The State Level Coordinator will be empowered to release this Kerosene on the request from the concerned State/UT. States/UTs may seek further additional allocation of non-subsidized SKO from the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas after exhausting this one month's quota.