

Title : Regarding inadequate supply of Kerosene and LPG in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI P. MOHAN : For the past four to five months there is a very big scarcity for both kerosene and LPG in Tamil Nadu. Kerosene is the household fuel for the poor especially the marginalised in the rural areas. LPG has come to stay as a common fuel in the households of the middle class. The scarcity for both these fuel has given rise to a big problem. Inadequate supply and distribution of kerosene has resulted in sky rocketing of prices of these essential commodities and black marketers are making money increasing its price by 30 to 50 rupees. Yesterday I got a written reply from the Petroleum Minister stating that production of LPG has been cut short at a time when there is acute scarcity. This is like adding insult to injury. LPG scarcity has emboldened the unfair traders and distributors to fix high prices to the tune of about Rs 500 according to their whims and fancies. The retailers also send back the people asking for their ration cards as though these fuel are distributed to people based on ration cards which is not true.

So there is an urgent need for the Government to intervene and streamline the supply and distribution system to save the people from their woes pertaining to these fuel.

THE MINISTER FOR PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYER): I have already furnished details to this august House about the availability of LPG.

SHRI P. MOHAN: I have been listening to your extensive reply to the calling attention motion. But I must point out that the notice for this special mention was given much before that.

\*SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYER: If it is for kerosene let me get another opportunity to come with more details.

\*SHRI P. MOHAN: So I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to help the common people overcome their problems arising out of kerosene and LPG scarcities.

---

\* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.