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Title : Need to enhance the subsidy on High Speed Diesel for fishermen in Lakshadweep.

SHRI HAMDULLAH SAYEED (LAKSHADWEEP): I would like to draw the attention of the Government that fishery is the main source of the livelihood of the inhabitants of the Lakshadweep islands. Other job opportunities for educated youths are only available under Government Sector, which are few and due to geographic isolation and access to the mainland, there are no private sector establishments in Lakshadweep. Therefore, 60% of the educated unemployed youths are turning to fishing. For fishing, they have to approach the Fisheries Department for High Speed Diesel oil which is being supplied to them on a higher rate than the rate at mainland and allowing a subsidy of thirty paise per litre. This subsidy rate was fixed in 1970s when the selling price of one litre of HSD oil was Rs. 2.70, but now the selling price is Rs. 40/-per litre. I, therefore, request and urge the Government to revise the subsidy on HSD oil immediately to ensure that the local people can explore the fisheries sector.