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Title : Need to restore monthly allocation of rice for people under APL and BPL.

SHRI K. SHIVKUMAR ALIAS J.K. RITHEESH (RAMANATHAPURAM): Madam, Ramanathapuram District is naturally a dry District. There is no water source in my District. We are able to do cultivation only during the rainy season. Even if we dig bore-wells, we get salt water which cannot be utilized for the agriculture purpose.

In spite of the above problems, my District people did not lack even a single meal because, on the first day of the present Government in Tamil Nadu, our hon. Chief Minister Dr. Kalamur has passed an order reducing the issue price of rice supplied through the Public Distribution System from Rs.3.50 a kilogram to Rs. 2 per kilogram. The Tamil Nadu Government has further reduced the issue price of rice from Rs.2 per kilogram to Re. 1 per kilogram, for which, as a Member of Parliament, I express my heartfelt thanks to our Chief Minister.

Tamil Nadu is the first State in India to issue rice at such a low price of Re.1 per kilogram under the Public Distribution System.

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you so much. Please sit down. Shri Adhir Chowdhury.