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Title : Need to ensure adequate supply of kerosene to Kerala.

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMATHITTA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to request the Government to urgently restore the supply of kerosene to the State of Kerala that was cut short by the Central Government. The Central Government has reduced the quota of kerosene from 15660 kilolitres to 10,660 kilolitres. This steep reduction in supply is adversely affecting poor households and fishing community in Kerala as they are largely dependent on kerosene.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform the Government that the number of ration card holders in Kerala has increased by six lakhs in the last year. On the corollary of that, the demand for kerosene also has increased drastically. Due to the shortage of kerosene in open market, people are forced to depend on black market for the same. This imposes a huge financial burden on the poor masses in the State. There are 17348 fishing boats in Kerala depending on kerosene as fuel. Shortage of kerosene has adverse impact on fishing community also. As per the current estimate, Kerala needs to have 20,000 kiloliters of kerosene to meet the requirements of people. Therefore, I would like to request the Government to urgently take necessary measures to ensure sufficient supply of kerosene to the State of Kerala. [\[r9\]](#)