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Title: Need to provide adequate grant under subsidy component to Government of Tamil Nadu and also permit cooperative banks to operate accounts for transfer of LPG subsidy to consumers.

SHRI S.R. VIJAYA KUMAR (CHENNAI CENTRAL): Sir, hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has made a representation regarding cooking gas subsidy on 3rd June to the Prime Minister of India.

Transfer of LPG subsidy directly into the bank account of customers under Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme of the Central Government Programme has been rolled out in the country in 54 districts from 15th November 2014. From 1st January, 2015 in Tamil Nadu, this project is proposed to be introduced.

In addition, the Tamil Nadu State has good governance. The benefits like education allowance, maternity benefits and other social security benefits are directly paid to the beneficiaries through their bank accounts. At the same time, for the goods offered under the public distribution system including kerosene and fertilizers, the amount of grant provided under subsidies being paid to Tamil Nadu is not adequate.

I am glad that the Central Government has accepted the idea of Tamil Nadu State Government that Aadhar number is not necessary for receiving LPG subsidy. But the Central Government accepts subsidies. Public sector oil marketing companies are under the Central Government and cooking gas supply is subject to the Central Government's administrative power.

For Rural hamlet residents, it is difficult to access National Bank branches. It is easier for the people eligible for various subsidies to get grants through primary cooperative societies and post offices. Even in urban areas, urban cooperative banks can be used to provide subsidy.

The State Government is already facing the problem in the distribution of pension for elders since they have no accessibility of bank account in rural areas. Therefore, the elderly pensioners are being sent the pension amount by Money Order. Moreover, according to international price fluctuations in the market price of cooking gas, consumers may be affected by the hike in price and hence need a shield from such price-fluctuations.