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Title: Regarding providing subsidized kerosene to the state government of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI K. PARASURAMAN (THANJAVUR): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I would like to request the Government to reconsider Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme planned by the Government for kerosene from April 2016 as being done for LPG.

I also want to bring to the notice of the Government that our hon. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has been consistently opposing direct benefit transfer to replace subsidised essential commodities like food and fertiliser with cash payments since the availability of these critical commodities is more important than saving on the subsidies. The Government has informed that under the scheme, the consumer would be required to pay the full un-subsidised price of kerosene at the time of purchase. The subsidy amount will then be subsequently directly transferred to their bank accounts. The kerosene is used by a number of poor people in the country and they may not have additional amount to pay for kerosene at the time of purchasing.

Therefore, I request the Government to provide subsidized kerosene to the State Government as being done before. Our hon. Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had already urged the Government to make a special allocation of 19,100 kilolitre of kerosene in addition to the regular allotment to be supplied to the 38.20 lakh households without LPG connection in the flood-affected districts. However till now the Union Government does not give any response on the request of our hon. Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. Hence, the special allocation of kerosene should be made by the Government immediately.