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Title: Need to review the decision to hike prices of LPG every month.

SHRI S.R. VIJAYA KUMAR (CHENNAI CENTRAL): Thank you, Sir. The Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas has ordered State-run oil companies to raise subsidized cooking gas (LPG) prices by Rs. 4 per cent cylinder every month to eliminate all the subsidies.

The Government *vide* its order dated May 30th, 2017, has again authorised OMCs to continue to increase effective price of subsidized domestic LPG by Rs. 4 per cylinder effective June 1st, 2017, per month till the reduction of Government subsidy to 'nil' or till March, 2018 or till further order, whichever is earliest. At present, every household is entitled to 12 cylinders of 14.2 kilograms each at subsidized rates in a year. Any requirement beyond that is to be purchased at market price.

Sir, this is a burning issue among the middle class and salaried class people who are the major consumer of domestic gas. This is as if breaking the backbone of their monthly budget. The Government has to rethink about this decision to hike the prices of LPG cylinders and to do away with subsidy by March, 2018.

I, therefore, urge the Union Government to withdraw the decision to hike gas prices every month and desist from the decision to cut gas subsidy available to the poor middle-class people of the country.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena, DR. J. Jayavardhan, Dr. Kulmani Samal and Shrimati V. Sathyabama are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri S.R. Vijaya Kumar.

