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Title : Regarding killing of an official of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) in Uttar Pradesh while discharging his duties.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Thank you, Sir. I rise to condemn the brutal murder of Shri S. Manjunath, a brilliant student and a sales officer of IOC who hails from KGF, Karnataka. The entire thing can be attributed to the adulteration of diesel with kerosene. Actually in 1994, the Tata Economic Consultancy Services study said that around 30 per cent of the PDS kerosene is diverted for black marketing and adulteration. In September 2005 also, there is a NCAER study that 38.6 per cent of the PDS kerosene was being diverted. The economics works like this. If 400 litres of kerosene is mixed with 600 litres of diesel then the dealer will make Rs. 9,468 in transaction. But if he does it honestly without adulteration then he will get a paltry commission of Rs. 509. Out of one lakh outlets across the country, only 0.5 per cent of such outlets were inspected last year.

Therefore, through you, Sir, I demand that the Union Government should take up this matter very seriously. I am amazed that even the Petroleum Ministry has not issued a statement of condolence in this regard. They should take up this matter seriously. Not only that the educational loan that has been taken by Shri S. Manjunath should be waived off, his family should be given compensation and a CBI inquiry should be instituted to unravel this adulteration *mafia*. I request the Government to reply. My senior colleague Shri Hannan Mollah has also raised this subject. It is a very serious matter. Just now, we were discussing the assassination of one of our compatriots in Border Roads Organization in Afghanistan. It is a similar case which has happened in Uttar Pradesh.

MR. SPEAKER: You have mentioned Bihar in your Notice.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : It is Uttar Pradesh, Sir. Therefore, I request the Government to respond to this. ...(*Interruptions*) Because we have raised three demands....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I think, the Chair shares the seriousness of the matter. I am sure the Government will take a note of it.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : You have been kind enough to express your seriousness and condolences. Mr. Baalu can ...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): It is a matter of serious concern. Definitely, the concerned Minister will be informed accordingly.

MR. SPEAKER: I am glad that you have raised it; both of the hon. Members. I gave you time although you were slightly late.