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Title : Need to enhance allotment of quota for kerosene under PDS to Kerala.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (ALLEPPEY): Sir, thank you for allowing me to raise this matter.

Kerosene oil is one among the selected essential commodities which is an item of daily use particularly by the poorer sections of the society in the rural areas. In Kerala, kerosene is supplied through the Public Distribution System. But the quantity of kerosene distributed through the Public Distribution System, which is supplied by the Central Government, is reduced year after year. The Government of India has reduced the allocation of kerosene to the State

*Not Recorded

considerably from the year 2001-02. There is a substantial reduction of about 7,750 metric tonnes in the allotment of kerosene to the State during the period of five years from 2001 to 2006. Therefore, from the year 2003 onwards, the distribution of kerosene to the domestic permit holders has been reduced to 50 per cent. The State Government has represented this matter before the Central Government but no action has been taken from the Central Government side.

Further, the traditional fisher-folk are also using kerosene for their outboard engines used for fishing. As a result of the reduction in the quantity of kerosene supplied to the State, they are not getting kerosene and they find it difficult to go to the sea and engage in their occupation^[R21].

So, I would urge upon the Government to restore the quantity of kerosene supplied to the State as it was in the year 2001.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Francis George, this is a sensitive matter. I am sure you would raise it in a manner consistent with such a sensitive issue.