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Title: Need to allot a separate quota of Kerosene for fishermen of Kerala - Laid.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Around 15000 motorized fishing units operate in Kerala using Kerosene. The requirement of Kerosene for the operation of these vessels per year is 1,31,681 Kilolitres. Government of India has not allotted Kerosene for the operation of motorized fishing vessels in Kerala. Fishing by motorized vessels is dependent on the availability of Kerosene at reasonable price. Considering the necessity of Kerosene supply to the fisheries sector every year, Government of Kerala allotted 58620 kilolitre of Kerosene from the Public Distribution System quota received for the domestic and agricultural purposes from Government of India. As the LPG connections and electrification of houses are on the increase, Government of India is proportionately reducing the PDS quota of Kerosene to the State. Consequently, the State Government has cut down the supply of Kerosene to the fisheries sector for the operation of motorized fishing vessels. As a result, an acute shortage of Kerosene is felt for the operation of motorized fishing vessels as the price of Kerosene in the open market is around Rs 30/- per litre.

In the above circumstances, I would like to request the Government to allot separate quota of Kerosene of 1,32,000 kilolitres to Kerala for meeting the requirement of motorized fishing vessels.