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Title: Need to allocate adequate quantity of Kerosene to Tamil Nadu under Public Distribution System (PDS).

SHRI O.S. MANIAN (MAYILADUTHURAI): Sir, production and import of petroleum products and cooking gas are under the control of the Union Government. The State Governments have to look up to the Centre to meet their requirement of kerosene for public distribution. Petrol, diesel and cooking gas are made available by spending our precious foreign exchange even when the prices are sky high in the international market. But strangely, kerosene, which is common man's every day need, is not given that kind of attention. The requirement of kerosene has been increasing and the State Government has to provide extra kerosene to the people living in the hilly Nilgiris district. However, during the past one year, kerosene quota for Tamil Nadu has been reduced to a half by the Centre. In April 2012, 39,490 kilolitres were sanctioned for public distribution as against 52,806 kilolitres sanctioned in April 2011. The actual need for public distribution in Tamil Nadu is 65,140 kilolitres. For the period from April to June, the Centre reduced the quarterly allocation to 39,429 kilolitres from 44,572 kilolitres. Tamil Nadu gets only 60.53 per cent of the supply required by it.

I would appeal to the Government of India to consider the demand of the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha ji's demand to the hon. Prime Minister to increase the quota of kerosene to Tamil Nadu by a minimum of 41 per cent. Then alone, the requirement of the poor people in the State who are depending on kerosene for their daily needs can be met. As the Centre is the sole supplier of kerosene, I would earnestly appeal to supply the required quantity of kerosene to Tamil Nadu.