

**Demand for kerosene in Uttarakhand**

‡2597. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the kerosene oil being provided per unit to Uttarakhand through the Public Distribution System;

(b) whether the State has witnessed an increase in the demand of kerosene oil after the verification of gas connections;

(c) if so, whether in view of the increasing demand for kerosene oil in the State, Government would consider to reinstate the quota of kerosene oil which was fixed earlier; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas makes allocation of PDS Kerosene to all the States/Union Territories including State of Uttarakhand on quarterly basis. The State of Uttarakhand has been allocated 9048 KL, 9048 KL, 9036 KL and 9036 KL of PDS Kerosene during 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarter in 2013-14. Monthly allocation of PDS Kerosene and its per unit distribution to end consumers is, however, decided and controlled by the respective State/UT.

(b) to (d) The State Government of Uttarakhand was requested to undertake special drive to detect multiple/ghost LPG connections and submit progress report on weeding out multiple/ghost/bogus LPG connections to Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. However, the requisite report has not been received so far from the Uttarakhand State.

Quota of PDS Kerosene in respect of States/UTs including Uttarakhand has been rationalized based on various factors, *inter alia*, increase in Domestic LPG/PNG connections, non-lifting of PDS Kerosene quota by the concerned States/UTs, cap on the per capita PDS Kerosene allocation for non-LPG and non-PNG population. The Government has, however, decided to allow the States/UTs to draw one month quota of PDS Kerosene at non-subsidized rates during each financial year *w.e.f.* 2012-13 for special needs.

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.