

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.- 1572
ANSWERED ON- 09/12/2024

DISTRIBUTION OF LPG CONNECTIONS TO ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES

1572 DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: -

- (a) the number of LPG connections that have been physically distributed till September 30, 2024 to the eligible families under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), the statistics of the same, State- wise;
- (b) the measures being taken to ensure strict adherence to the eligibility criteria;
- (c) the details of some of the major benefits and objectives of PMUY;
- (d) the plans of Government to ensure that the declared target of distribution of five crore connections to BPL families is achieved in a stipulated period; and
- (e) whether any impact assessment study has been conducted for this scheme, if so, the findings thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a): Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) was launched in May, 2016 with an objective to provide deposit free LPG connection to adult women from poor households across the country provided no LPG connection exists in the name of any family member of the household and fulfilling other terms and condition. Households belonging to Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC) list or from seven other categories such as Scheduled Caste(SC) Households, Scheduled Tribe(ST) Households, Most Backward Classes (MBC), Beneficiaries of PM Awas Yojana (Gramin), Beneficiaries of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Forest Dwellers, Resident of islands/ river islands, Tea garden / ex-tea garden workers or poor households not covered under the above categories by submitting 14 point declaration are eligible for a PMUY connection.

Under Ujjwala 2.0, a special provision has been made for migrant families who can use a self-declaration instead of Proof of Address and Ration Card to apply for a PMUY connection.

As on 01.11.2024, there are 10.33 crore Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiaries across the country. State/UT-wise details of LPG connections released under PMUY are at **Annexure**.

(b): With the launch of the PMUY scheme, standard operating procedures (SOPs), input validation controls, and a robust deduplication process using parameters like Aadhaar, Bank Account, Ration Card, Abridged Household List – Transaction Identification Number (AHL TIN), and Name/Address have been implemented to ensure that only eligible households receive LPG connections. This process includes real-time checks to detect duplicate connections and is supported by the Common LPG Data Platform (CLDP). Additionally, all applicants of PMUY have to mandatorily undergo biometric Aadhaar authentication to verify their identity.

Further, w.e.f. October 2023 District Ujjwala Committees (DUCs) were formed to scrutinize PMUY applications, review pendency and their disposal in the district, timely releases and operationalization of PMUY connections so that only eligible households receive LPG connections under PMUY.

(c): The primary objective of the PMUY is to provide access to clean cooking fuel LPG to such poor households thereby protecting their health by reducing the serious health hazards associated with use of conventional cooking fuel such as firewood, coal, cow dung etc. which cause severe indoor household air pollution. Use of LPG as cooking fuel frees women from the drudgery of collecting firewood, reduces time spent on cooking and prevents deforestation. As a result of implementation of PMUY, LPG coverage in the country has improved from 62% in April 2016 to near saturation now.

(d): Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 01.05.2016. The Government had set a target of 5 Crore LPG connections to be distributed to the poor households under the scheme. Subsequently, the target was enhanced to 8 Crore which has been achieved on 7th September, 2019 seven months ahead of target. To cover the remaining poor households, PMUY phase-2 (Ujjwala 2.0) was launched in August 2021 and till January 2023, 1.60 crore Ujjwala 2.0 connections had been released. Further, in September 2023, Government approved release of additional 75 lakh PMUY connections. OMCs have

completed the release of these 75 lakh PMUY connections during July 2024. As on 01.11.2024, there are 10.33 crore Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiaries across the country.

(e): Independent studies and reports have shown that PMUY scheme has had a significant positive impact on the lives of rural households, especially women and families in rural and remote areas. Some key benefits are briefly explained below:

(i) PMUY had resulted in a shift from traditional cooking methods that involve burning solid fuels like wood, dung and crop residues. The use of cleaner fuel lowers indoor air pollution, leading to improved respiratory health, particularly among women and children who are traditionally more exposed to household smoke.

(ii) Households in rural areas, especially those in remote locations, often spend a significant portion of their time and energy in collecting traditional cooking fuels. LPG has reduced drudgery and the time spent on cooking by women of poor households. The free time, thus, available with them can be utilized in multiple spheres for enhanced economic productivity.

(iii) Transition from biomass and traditional fuels to LPG reduces the dependency on wood and other biomass for cooking purposes, leading to a decrease in deforestation and environmental degradation. This benefits not only the households but also contributes to broader environmental conservation efforts.

(iv) The use of LPG for cooking reduces the risk of accidents related to open fires, which is particularly important for the safety of women and children. Accidental burns and injuries associated with traditional cooking methods are minimized, contributing to a safer household environment.

(v) With improved cooking facilities, there is a potential positive impact on nutrition. Families may find it easier to cook a variety of nutritious meals, contributing to better overall health.

Annexure referred to in part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1572 to be answered on 09.12.2024 regarding "Distribution of LPG connections to eligible beneficiaries" asked by Dr. Dharmasthala Veerendra Heggade.

**State/UT-wise details of connections released under PMUY Scheme –
As on 01.11.2024**

State/UT	Total PMUY Connections
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	13,824
Andhra Pradesh	9,71,176
Arunachal Pradesh	53,797
Assam	50,97,753
Bihar	1,16,30,709
Chandigarh	2,027
Chhattisgarh	38,01,995
Dadra and Nagar Haveli AND Daman	17,798
Delhi	2,59,720
Goa	1,956
Gujarat	43,09,053
Haryana	11,15,148
Himachal Pradesh	1,50,774
Jammu and Kashmir	12,69,896
Jharkhand	38,95,898
Karnataka	41,47,354
Kerala	3,87,835
Ladakh	11,086
Lakshadweep	361
Madhya Pradesh	88,47,291
Maharashtra	52,17,443
Manipur	2,24,987
Meghalaya	3,17,156
Mizoram	36,007
Nagaland	1,22,152
Odisha	55,50,211
Puducherry	19,350
Punjab	13,59,320
Rajasthan	73,82,580
Sikkim	19,892
Tamil Nadu	41,00,363
Telangana	11,85,878
Tripura	3,16,468
Uttarakhand	5,30,163
Uttar Pradesh	1,85,95,383
West Bengal	1,23,76,143

Source: Indian Oil Corporation Limited on industry basis