GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.- 134

ANSWERED ON- 03/02/2025

IMPLEMENTATION OF PRADHAN MANTRI UJJWALA YOJANA IN WEST BENGAL

134 SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that over 14 lakh LPG connections under PMUY are pending in West Bengal, accounting for 54 per cent of the country's pending gas connections;
- (b) the reasons for the high number of pending cases in West Bengal, and the steps being taken to expedite these connections;
- (c) the progress made in providing LPG connections to rural households in West Bengal under PMUY 1.0 and PMUY 2.0, with a district-wise breakdown; and
- (d) the challenges that have hindered PMUY implementation in West Bengal, and the measures being taken to address them?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a) to (d): 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. The target to release 8 crore connections under PMUY was achieved in September 2019. To cover the remaining poor households, Ujjwala 2.0 was launched in August 2021 with a target to release 1 crore additional PMUY connections, which was achieved in January 2022. Subsequently, the Government decided to release 60 lakh more LPG connections under Ujjwala 2.0 and the target of 1.60 crore Ujjwala 2.0 connections has been achieved during December 2022. Further, Government approved release of additional 75 lakh connections under PMUY Scheme for the period FY 2023-24 to 2025-26 which has already been achieved during July 2024.As on 01.01.2025, OMCs have released 10.33 crore LPG connections under PMUY scheme, out of which 1.23 crore connections have been released in the state of West Bengal.

The Government of India had approved the release of additional 75 lakh PMUY connections with the direction that applications shall be scrutinized by a committee at district level. Accordingly, State Governments were requested to form the district level committees known as District Ujjwala Committees (DUCs) vide letter dated 03.10.2023. However, no DUC was formed by the State Government of West Bengal in any of the district till January 2024. In order to avoid further delay in districts where the DUC was not constituted till January 2024, the revised composition of DUCs (without District Food and Civil Supplies Officer) was issued by the Government of India to OMCs on 29.01.2024. Due to these reasons, in the case of West Bengal significant time was lost in formation of DUCs leading to high pendency of PMUY applications.

LPG consumption of PMUY beneficiaries is monitored on regular basis. Consumption of domestic LPG by households depends on several factors like food habits, household size, cooking habits, tradition, flavor, taste, preferences, price, availability of alternate fuels etc.

Since the launch of PMUY till financial year 2022-23, Government has been bearing an expenditure of up to Rs. 1,600 per PMUY connection for Security Deposit (SD) of Cylinder, Pressure Regulator, Suraksha Hose, DGCC booklet and installation charges. From financial year 2023-24, this expenditure has been increased to Rs. 2,200 per connection for 14.2 Kg Single Bottle Connection/ 5 Kg Double Bottle Connection & Rs. 1,300 per connection for 5 Kg Single Bottle Connection.

To make LPG more affordable to PMUY consumers and ensure sustained usage of LPG by them, Government started a targeted subsidy of Rs.200/- per 14.2 kg cylinder for up to 12 refills per annum (and proportionately pro-rated for 5 Kg connections) to the PMUY consumers in May 2022. In October 2023, Government increased the targeted subsidy to Rs.300 per 14.2 kg cylinder for up to 12 refills per annum (and proportionately pro-rated for 5 Kg connections). After a targeted subsidy of Rs. 300/cylinder to PMUY consumers, Government of India is providing 14.2 Kg LPG cylinders at an effective price of Rs.503 per cylinder (in Delhi). This is available to more than 10.33 crore Ujjwala beneficiaries, across the country.

District-wise details of LPG connections released in West Bengal under PMUY are at Annexure.

Annexure referred to in part (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 134 to be answered on 03.02.2025 regarding "Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana in West Bengal" asked by Shri Samik Bhattacharya.

District-wise details of connections released under PMUY Scheme in West Bengal – As on 01.01.2025

115 011 0110	Number of
District	Number of
	connections
Alipurduar	2,89,372
Bankura	6,60,698
Birbhum	8,27,140
Dakshin Dinajpur	3,40,610
Darjiling	1,28,536
Haora	2,65,143
Hugli	5,22,549
Jalpaiguri	3,30,120
Jhargram	2,23,723
Kalimpong	16,151
Koch bihar	5,57,615
Kolkata	38,049
Maldah	7,06,820
Murshidabad	13,21,241
Nadia	7,48,863
North twenty four parganas	9,36,040
Paschim Bardhaman	1,95,076
Paschim Medinipur	7,03,410
Purba Bardhaman	7,35,078
Purbo Medinipur	7,52,781
Puruliya	4,48,003
South Twenty Four Parganas	10,97,564
Uttar Dinajpur	5,31,380

Source: Indian Oil Corporation Limited on industry basis