

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2679
ANSWERED ON - 24/03/2025

RURAL ACCESS AND GAS DISTRIBUTION

2679 # SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI:

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to expand the gas distribution network in rural and underprivileged areas to ensure equitable access to clean energy; and
- (b) the details of the progress on Government's initiative to provide piped cooking gas (LPG) to households across the country during the last five years?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a) & (b) Providing Piped Natural Gas (PNG) connections, are part of development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) Network and the same is carried out by the entities authorized by Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) as per their Minimum Work Programme (MWP). In order to increase usage of Natural Gas, a cleaner fuel, after completion of 12/12A CGD bidding round, PNGRB has authorized entities for the development of CGD network in 307 Geographical Areas (GAs), covering almost 100% of the mainland area for the development of CGD network across the country. As per MWP target, authorised entities have to provide approx. 12.6 crore PNG connections, by 2034. As on 31.1.2025, the authorized entities have provided 1.42crore PNG Domestic connections, across the country.

The details of the progress of piped cooking gas[PNG(D)] to households across the country in the last five years are as follows:

Financial Year	Domestic PNG Connections (Nos.)
	Cumulative PNG Progress (In Lakhs)
March - 2020	65.59
March - 2021	78.20
March - 2022	93.03
March - 2023	110.29
March - 2024	129.23

Source:PNGRB

Further, the Government under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) which was launched in May, 2016 with an objective to provide deposit free Liquefied Petroleum

Gas (LPG) connection to adult women from poor households across the country achieved the target to release 8 crore connections under PMUY 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 was also achieved during December 2022. Further, Government approved release of additional 75 lakh Scheme connections under PMUY for the period FY 2023-24 to 2025-26 which has already been achieved during July 2024. As on 01.03.2025, there are 10.33 crore PMUY connections across the country.
