

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.- 1727
ANSWERED ON- 04/08/2025

INCREASING SECURITY AND ACCESS TO LPG

1727 # SHRI BRIJ LAL:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to promote LPG usage in urban slums to increase access to clean cooking fuel and improve air quality;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the measures taken by Government to ensure compliance with safety standards while providing LPG connections in urban slums; and
- (e) the schemes being run by Government to promote the use of clean fuel (LPG) in place of conventional fuels in rural India and to ensure safety of consumers?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a) to (c): Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) was launched in May, 2016 to provide deposit free LPG connection to adult women from poor households across the country including in urban slums. The primary objective of the PMUY is to provide access to clean cooking fuel LPG to such poor households including in urban slums 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 on 01.07.2025, there are 10.33 crore PMUY connections across the country.

To promote LPG uptake under PMUY in urban slums areas, 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. Since August 2021, under Ujjwala 2.0 more than 10 lakh connections have been given using provision for migrants.

(d): Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are under directions to ensure that LPG connections are released after satisfying and meeting all the safety norms stipulated for installation of LPG connections. Provisions, norms and steps taken to ensure compliance with safety standards while providing connections in all areas including urban slums are as under:

(i) Supply of a laminated safety card with pictorial depictions of do's and don'ts related to LPG connection to every PMUY beneficiary at the time of releasing LPG connections.

(ii) Installation of LPG connection at premises of the customer by a trained mechanic.

(iii) Organisation of Safety Clinics by distributor to spread awareness about safety aspects of LPG.

(iv) Dedicated round the clock helpline number (1906) for immediate action in case of LPG leakage complaints.

(v) Organisation of mass awareness programs on safe usage of LPG through audio-video/print media, banners/hoardings, leaflets, pamphlets, etc.

(vi) Organisation of Pradhan Mantri LPG Panchayats in villages to spread awareness about safe and sustained usage of LPG amongst PMUY beneficiaries.

(vii) Grant of approval for manufacturing units of LPG cylinders, valves and LPG regulators and design of these equipments, licensing of storage premises, cylinder testing and filling etc. is regulated under Gas Cylinder Rules 2016.

(viii) Safe usage of LPG cylinders by Domestic LPG consumers, including PMUY beneficiaries are governed under Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order 2000.

(ix) LPG cylinders are periodically tested for safety as per norms of the Chief Controller of Explosives, Petroleum & Explosive Safety Organisation (PESO).

A "Basic Safety Check" campaign was organised during March, 2024 to December, 2024 including in urban slums under the theme "Khushiyan Ab Teen Guna" with the objective of reaching the doorsteps of domestic LPG customers. The campaign was designed to educate consumers on the safe usage of LPG, complemented by extensive mass awareness initiatives through print and electronic media, on-site safety checks at customer premises, and the replacement of Suraksha hoses. The campaign achieved significant progress with over 12.12 crore free basic safety checks conducted at customer premises without any cost to consumer and more than 4.65 crore LPG hoses replaced at discounted rates. Additionally, audio-visual (AV) materials were utilized during various field safety initiatives, such as LPG Panchayats and LPG Safety Clinics in schools, as well as for general public outreach. These AVs were also shared across social media platforms to maximize reach and impact.

Further, OMCs provide comprehensive Insurance Policy under 'Public Liability Policy for Oil Industries' which covers all LPG consumers registered with OMCs. Public Liability Insurance Policy taken by OMCs covers losses arising out of accidents where LPG is the primary cause of fire. Currently, the policy provides for the following :

- (i) Personal accident cover of Rs. 6,00,000/- per person in case of death.
- (ii) Covers medical expenses of Rs. 30 lakh per event with maximum of Rs. 2,00,000/- per person.
- (iii) In case of property damage, it covers maximum of Rs. 2,00,000/- per event at authorized customer's registered premises.

(e): To make LPG more affordable to PMUY consumers and ensure sustained usage of LPG by them, Government is providing a targeted subsidy of Rs.300 per 14.2 Kg cylinder (and proportionately prorated for 5 Kg cylinder). 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.553 per cylinder (in Delhi). This is available to more than 10.33 crore Ujjwala beneficiaries, across the country.

OMCs have also improved the supply infrastructure for domestic LPG immensely. As of July 01, 2025, there are a total of 25,573 LPG distributorships across the country, out of which 17,646 are serving rural areas. These are served through 213 LPG bottling plant of Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) located across the country. Out of 7997 distributorships commissioned during 01.04.2016 to 30.06.2025 across the country, 7403 (i.e. 93 %) [Rurban- 1033, Gramin- 4991, Durgam Kshetriya Vitraaks and Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitrak (DKV+RGGLV) - 1379] are catering to rural areas.

Further, as a result of various steps taken by Government to improve access and affordability of domestic LPG for PMUY consumers, per capita consumption of PMUY beneficiaries (in terms of no. of 14.2 kg LPG cylinders taken per year) has increased from 3.68 (FY 2021-22) to 3.95 in FY 2023-24 and 4.47 in FY 2024-25.
