

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 176
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20 JULY, 2023

Curtailing the Rising Price of Petroleum Products

†176. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the Government has devised any scheme for curtailing rising price of petroleum products in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has substantially raised the price of LPG compelling those living in rural areas to get back to the firewoods for cooking; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the number of LPG consumers as on date against the number thereof in May, 2016 at the time of launch of Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana in the rural areas?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(श्री रामेश्वर तेली)

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) to (d): Prices of petrol and diesel have been market-determined with effect from 26.06.2010 and 19.10.2014 respectively. Since then, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) take appropriate decision on pricing of petrol and diesel.

Central Government reduced Central Excise duty on petrol and diesel by a total of Rs. 13/ litre and Rs. 16/ litre respectively in two tranches in November 2021 and May 2022. The excise reductions were fully passed on to consumers and retail prices fell as a result. The measure was aimed to give a further fillip to the economy and to boost consumption and keep inflation low, thus helping the poor and middle classes. Many States/UTs also reduced the VAT on petrol and diesel subsequently.

India imports more than 60% of its domestic LPG consumption. Government continues to modulate the effective price of domestic LPG. Under the Direct Benefit Transfer for LPG (DBTL) scheme, subsidy as admissible, is deposited in the account of eligible beneficiaries. In addition, w.e.f. 21st May, 2022, Government has started a targeted subsidy of Rs. 200 per 14.2 Kg cylinder for Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiaries for upto 12 refills a year for years 2022-23 and 2023-24.

Price of domestic LPG (at Delhi) was Rs. 1053 w.e.f. 6th July 2022 and is Rs. 1103 in July 2023. For PMUY consumers effective price is Rs. 903 after a targeted subsidy of Rs. 200 per cylinder.

The consumption of LPG in the country has gone up from 19.62 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) in 2015-16 to 28.50 MMT in FY 2022-23. Also, the number of domestic LPG consumers has increased from 16.67 crore as on 01.05.2016 to 31.5 crore (including 9.59 crore PMUY beneficiaries) as on 01.07.2023.

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