

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 2900
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8th August, 2024

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana in Tamil Nadu

2900. Shri Selvam G:

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL)/Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe families covered under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), especially in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether the Government has noticed that the beneficiaries of PMUY scheme are not refilling their connection due to hiked LPG price/lack of funds;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the response of the Government thereto including reducing the price of LPG cylinders or subsidy provided, if any, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the government has been able to achieve the objectives set under PMUY; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (श्री सुरेश गोपी)

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

(a): Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) was launched on 01.05.2016 to release deposit free LPG connection to adult women from poor households across the country. The target to release 8 crore connections was achieved in September, 2019. 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 view of fresh requests, in September 2023, Government approved release of additional 75 lakh PMUY connections. OMCs have completed the release of these 75 lakh PMUY connections as of 8th July 2024. As on 01.07.2024, there are 10.33 crore LPG connections under PMUY including 41.00 lakh connections in the State of Tamil Nadu and out of which 12.7 lakh connections are released under SC/ST category. The details of State/UT-wise the number of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe families covered under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana PMUY including Tamil Nadu are at **Annexure – A**.

(b) & (c): Under PAHAL Scheme, the domestic LPG cylinders are sold at non-subsidised price and the applicable subsidy to the consumers is transferred directly into their bank accounts. Government reduced the retail selling price of domestic LPG for all consumers by Rs. 200 per 14.2 Kg LPG cylinder with effect from 30th August, 2023. Government further reduced the RSP of domestic LPG by Rs. 100 per 14.2 Kg cylinder w.e.f. 9th March, 2024. The current RSP of domestic LPG at Delhi is Rs. 803 per 14.2 Kg cylinder.

W.e.f. 21st May, 2022, Government has been providing a targeted subsidy of Rs. 200 per 14.2 Kg LPG cylinder for Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiaries for upto 12 refills a year. Moreover, w.e.f. 5th October, 2023, Government increased the targeted subsidy to Rs. 300 per 14.2 Kg LPG cylinder for all Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiaries. With a targeted subsidy of Rs. 300 per cylinder (and proportionately prorated for 5 Kg cylinder), effective cost for PMUY consumers is Rs. 503 per 14.2 Kg cylinder (at Delhi) currently.

The current RSP of domestic LPG at Delhi is Rs. 803 per 14.2 Kg cylinder. With a targeted subsidy of Rs. 300 per cylinder (and proportionately prorated for 5 Kg cylinder), effective cost for PMUY consumers is Rs. 503 per 14.2 Kg cylinder (at Delhi) currently.

The details of State/UT-wise number of PMUY beneficiaries (as on 31.03.2024) along with the details of beneficiaries who have taken at least one refill during FY 2023-24 are at **Annexure – B**.

(d) & (e): 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. LPG consumption of PMUY beneficiaries is monitored on regular basis.

OMCs are continuously commissioning new LPG distributorships, especially in rural areas. Since the launch of PMUY scheme, OMCs have commissioned 7905 Distributorships across the country, out of which 7325 (i.e. 93 %) are catering to rural areas (commissioned during 01.04.2016 to 30.06.2024). As a result of these efforts, per capita consumption of PMUY beneficiaries (in terms of no. of 14.2 kg LPG cylinders taken per year) has increased from 3.01 (FY 2019-20) to 3.95 (FY 2023-24).

Further, 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 – A

Annexure referred to in part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2900 to be answered on 08.08.2024 regarding " Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana in Tamil Nadu" asked by Shri Selvam G.

State/UT-wise number of connections released under PMUY scheme as on 01.07.2024

State/UT	Total PMUY consumers	SC/ST consumers under PMUY
Andaman & Nicobar	13,824	738
Andhra Pradesh	9,69,282	1,73,563
Arunachal Pradesh	53,794	32,400
Assam	50,97,006	8,79,825
Bihar	1,16,27,899	21,78,543
Chandigarh	2,027	44
Chhatisgarh	37,88,873	17,23,905
Dadra Nagar-haveli and Daman & Diu	17,861	13,626
Delhi	2,57,774	57,812
Goa	1,957	568
Gujarat	43,07,900	10,41,011
Haryana	11,14,647	4,09,646
Himachal Pradesh	1,50,817	46,860
Jammu & Kashmir	12,69,989	2,87,658
Jharkhand	38,95,544	12,35,076
Karnataka	41,47,825	12,59,847
Kerala	3,87,869	77,939
Ladakh	11,085	8,991
Lakshadweep	361	276
Madhya Pradesh	88,36,653	34,69,574
Maharashtra	52,17,632	14,67,809
Manipur	2,24,921	70,107
Meghalaya	3,16,589	1,59,496
Mizoram	35,989	28,317
Nagaland	1,22,123	48,341
Odisha	55,49,341	20,40,060
Pondicherry	19,338	7,292
Punjab	13,59,364	10,35,732
Rajasthan	73,80,647	29,73,677
Sikkim	19,904	3,040
Tamil Nadu	41,00,279	12,69,245
Telangana	11,85,753	5,06,270
Tripura	3,15,418	1,55,002
Uttar Pradesh	1,85,94,511	48,75,461
Uttarakhand	5,30,136	1,53,685
West Bengal	1,23,75,656	36,41,036

Source: Indian Oil Corporation Limited on industry basis

Annexure referred to in part (b) & (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2900 to be answered on 08.08.2024 regarding " Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana in Tamil Nadu" asked by Shri Selvam G.

	Number of Connections released under PMUY as on 31.03.2024	Number of beneficiaries taken at least one refill during FY 2023-24
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	13,827	12,786
Andhra Pradesh	9,68,332	8,67,521
Arunachal Pradesh	53,789	44,084
Assam	50,92,071	38,11,520
Bihar	1,16,19,851	1,02,25,760
Chandigarh	2,025	1,926
Chhattisgarh	37,85,197	25,22,454
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	17,812	17,363
Delhi	2,56,931	2,46,538
Goa	1,956	1,884
Gujarat	43,04,694	39,58,700
Haryana	11,12,992	10,55,352
Himachal Pradesh	1,50,837	1,36,387
Jammu & Kashmir	12,69,743	10,82,622
Jharkhand	38,95,366	29,35,533
Karnataka	41,48,108	38,57,842
Kerala	3,87,761	3,52,031
Ladakh	11,089	8,778
Lakshadweep	365	341
Madhya Pradesh	88,32,154	72,23,788
Maharashtra	52,15,785	47,96,545
Manipur	2,24,999	1,97,074
Meghalaya	3,16,624	2,49,336
Mizoram	36,031	32,069
Nagaland	1,22,199	1,02,290
Odisha	55,47,343	46,17,453
Puducherry	19,322	18,293
Punjab	13,59,705	12,66,083
Rajasthan	73,77,084	68,17,478
Sikkim	19,911	18,041
Tamil Nadu	41,01,978	37,49,244
Telangana	11,85,624	10,52,642
Tripura	3,15,462	1,94,239
Uttar Pradesh	1,85,92,478	1,70,71,006
Uttarakhand	5,30,167	4,71,746
West Bengal	1,23,76,395	1,02,01,066

Source: Indian Oil Corporation Limited on industry basis