

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3333**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th March, 2025**

**Free LPG connections to Women from BPL under PMUY**

3333. Shri Vishnu Datt Sharma:

**पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री**

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) to provide free LPG connections to women from Below Poverty Line (BPL) households, especially in the State of Madhya Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has identified and provided LPG connections to all eligible beneficiaries in the districts of Katni, Panna and the town of Khajuraho in the Khajuraho Lok Sabha constituency;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the measures taken by the Government to ensure the success of the scheme; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken/being taken to address the issue?

**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) 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 including in the State of Madhya Pradesh. LPG connection under PMUY is released in the name of adult women of the poor households, provided no LPG connection exists in the name of any family member of the household and fulfilling other terms and conditions. Households belonging to Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC) list or from seven other categories such as Scheduled Caste(SC) Households, Scheduled Tribe(ST) Households, Most Backward Classes (MBC), Beneficiaries of PM Awas Yojana (Gramin), Beneficiaries of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Forest Dwellers, Resident of islands/ river islands, Tea garden / ex-tea garden workers or poor households not covered under the above categories by submitting 14 point declaration are eligible for a PMUY connection. 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.

As on 01.03.2025, there are 10.33 crore PMUY connections across the country. Details of LPG connections, as on 01.03.2025, under PMUY Scheme in Katni, Panna and the town of Khajuraho in the Khajuraho Lok Sabha constituency (which covers Katni, Panna and Chhatarpur district) are at **Annexure**.

In order to improve access to LPG across the country including in the state of Madhya Pradesh, various steps have been taken inter alia, including organizing campaigns for improving awareness about PMUY, organizing melas/camps to enroll and distribute connections, promotion through Out of Home (OOH) hoardings, radio jingles, Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Vans etc., spreading awareness about advantages of using LPG over other conventional fuels and safe usage of LPG through LPG Panchayats, enrolment/awareness camps under Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, facilitation of consumers and their families for Aadhar enrolment and opening of bank accounts for getting PMUY connections, simplification of process of getting LPG connection, online application for PMUY connection at [www.pmuy.gov.in](http://www.pmuy.gov.in), nearest LPG distributors, Common Service Centres (CSC) etc., option of 5 Kg Double Bottle Connection (DBC), swap option from 14.2 Kg to 5 Kg, provision for Migrant Families to avail new connection on Self-Declaration instead of Proof of Address and Ration Card. Further, OMCs are continuously commissioning new LPG Distributorships, especially in rural areas. Since the launch of PMUY scheme, OMCs have commissioned 7959 Distributorships (commissioned during 01.04.2016 to 31.12.2024) across the country, out of which 7373 (i.e. 93 %) are catering to rural areas. As a result of these efforts, LPG coverage in the country has improved from 62% in April 2016 to near saturation now.

Since the launch of PMUY till financial year 2022-23, Government has borne 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 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.

Various 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) 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.

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 4.43 in FY 2024-25 (as on 01.03. 2025).

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## Annexure

Annexure referred to in part (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3333 to be answered on 20.03.2025 regarding " Free LPG connections to Women from BPL under PMUY" asked by Shri Vishnu Datt Sharma.

<b>District</b>	<b>Number of PMUY Connections (In lakh)</b>	<b>Number of total Domestic LPG Connections (In lakh) (including PMUY)</b>
Katni	2.00	3.45
Panna	1.60	2.17
Chhatarpur	2.91	4.23

Source: IOCL on industry basis