

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 783
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24th July, 2025

Challenges in implementation of PMUY

783. Shri K E Prakash:

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of the challenges in the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), including limited supply chain infrastructure in remote areas, affordability barriers to regular Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) refilling and gaps in monitoring or audit systems and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to strengthen distribution networks, improve refill affordability, enhance digital monitoring and audit mechanisms to ensure sustained adoption of clean cooking fuel among poor households across the country?

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) & (b): 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. As on 01.07.2025, there are 10.33 crore PMUY connections across the country.

Implementation of PMUY is monitored closely in terms of number of eligible beneficiaries identified and the actual number of connections released vis-a-vis LPG coverage in States/Districts. Despite the initial difficulties faced by OMCs which were mainly related to the identification of households, difficult terrain, low awareness on usefulness of LPG etc. , LPG coverage in the country has improved from 62% in April 2016 to near saturation now.

In order to create awareness about the scheme and also to address any issue pertaining to LPG usage, 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. Government has taken several steps to encourage consumption of LPG by PMUY beneficiaries, which include deferment of loan recovery from subsidy amount, Swap option from 14.2 kg to 5 Kg to reduce upfront cash outgo, option of 5 Kg Double Bottle Connection, Conducting Pradhan Mantri LPG Panchayat to convince the beneficiaries to use LPG on sustained basis, mass awareness camps etc. 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 3.68 (FY 2021-22) to 4.47 in FY 2024-25.

Further, LPG consumption of PMUY beneficiaries is monitored regularly through PPAC's Consumption reports, Common LPG Data Platform (CLDP) and meetings with OMCs. Consumption of domestic LPG by households depends on several factors like food habits, household size, cooking habits, tradition, flavor, taste, preferences, price, availability of alternate fuels etc.

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. 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.

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. In order to improve access of LPG in rural and remote areas, OMCs have commissioned 7997 distributorships, during 01.04.2016 to 30.06.2025 across the country, out of which 7403 (i.e. 93 %) [Rurban- 1033, Gramin- 4991, Durgam Kshetriya Vitraks and Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitrak (DKV+RGGLV) - 1379] are catering to rural areas.
