

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1367

ANSWERED ON:24.07.2017

LPG Connections under PMUY

Ashok Kumar Shri K.;Bala Smt. Anju;Malyadri Shri Sriram;Maragatham Smt. K.;Reddy Shri Ch. Malla;Sreeramulu Shri B.

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

- (a) whether the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) LPG consumers are not getting refills of LPG cylinders in the country including Andhra Pradesh which leads to degrowth in consumption and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the concrete steps taken/ proposed to be taken to rectify the low figure of refill of LPG cylinders, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether Federation of LPG distributors has pointed out that most of LPG connections provided to BPL families under PMUY are unsafe and have safety and security concerns/do not fulfil the basic safety criteria, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with efforts made by the Government to ensure safety parameters of LPG connections provided to BPL families under PMUY;
- (c) the number of cases of BPL beneficiaries identified who have been reportedly deprived of availing the benefits of the scheme due to incomplete papers and wrong data along with the action taken by the Government in this regard, State/ UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that a number of fake websites have come up recently in connection with the PMUY and if so, the details thereof along with the action/corrective steps taken/being taken in this regard; and
- (e) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that an entity with the name www.ujjwalayojana.org has issued an advertisement in Hindustan Newspaper regarding appointment of LPG distributorship under Rajiv Gandhi LPG Vitaran Yojana and if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

- (a) Domestic LPG consumption has registered annual growth of 9.8 % in Financial Year 2016-17. Average refill consumption of a LPG consumer in the country including in the State of Andhra Pradesh is 7.7 cylinders (14.2 Kg. cylinder) per annum, including 4 cylinders in case of beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana.
- (b) OMCs have given instructions to their LPG distributors to release LPG connections after satisfying and meeting all the safety norms for installation of LPG connections. Further, OMCs have reported that the following measures are adopted for ensuring safety and for educating the LPG customers who have been released LPG connections under PMUY Scheme: -
 - (i) Proper education is given on safety aspects of LPG usage to the PMUY beneficiaries through safety clinics during the LPG connection distribution melas by way of how to use LPG by demonstration and screening film on safety.
 - (ii) While issuing LPG connections under PMUY scheme, safety instructions card is given to the beneficiaries.
 - (iii) All LPG distributors are under strict instructions to install connections at the premises of the PMUY beneficiaries and ensure that the Hotplate is kept at safe location and customer is advised about the safe way to use LPG.
 - (iv) OMCs' Officers carry out regular customer contacts and distributorship inspections to monitor the above steps. During inspections, wherever it is found that the distributors are not adhering to the given instructions or non-compliance of given instructions, suitable action under MDG is taken against such defaulting distributors.
 - (v) Government has launched intensive 'Safety Campaign' through print and electronic media highlighting safety norms in usage of LPG. OMCs have conducted more than 47 thousand safety awareness programmes by organising safety clinics, Nukkad Natak, Speciality/sports events etc. since launch of the Scheme for the safety awareness of PMUY consumers.
- (c) Under the Scheme, all households belonging to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) category identified under the Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC) 2011, are eligible to get a connection, subject to the condition that no LPG connection should already exist in the name of any family member of the household and after carrying out de-duplication process.
- (d) & (e) The Government have received information about fake websites relating to PMUY including www.ujjwalayojana.org. Government has issued press release from time to time cautioning general public about such websites. Further, the issue of fake websites was also taken up with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to take appropriate action at their end.