



Impact of PMUY in Jammu and Kashmir | Jammu & Kashmir | 14 Nov 2024

Why in News?

A study was conducted to assess the impact of [Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana \(PMUY\)](#) in Jammu and Kashmir.

- Under the scheme the **government has distributed 10.3 crore [Liquified Petroleum Gas connections](#)**.

Key Points

▪ Methodology and Aim of the Study:

- The study **collected primary data from 820 households across 48 villages in Kulgam and Rajouri**, two relatively disadvantaged districts in J&K.
 - This study investigates the **PMUY's impact on clean cooking fuel adoption in the districts**, focusing on socio-economic and health outcomes, barriers to exclusive LPG use, and the role of awareness.
- The sample includes representation from various economic groups:
 - [Above Poverty Line \(APL\)](#), [Below Poverty Line \(BPL\)](#), and [Antyodaya Anna Yojana \(AAY\)](#) households.

▪ Findings of the Study:

◦ LPG Connection Adoption:

- In rural J&K, 85.07% of households have official LPG connections, with **68% of these obtained through the PMUY**.
- Only 4.41% of rural households, primarily in hilly areas like Rajouri, lack access to LPG, while 10.53% rely on unofficial connections.
- Despite increased LPG availability, [traditional cooking methods](#) remain common:
 - **92% of households still use traditional chulhas**, and 85% engage in fuel stacking by using both solid fuels and LPG.

◦ Health Benefits for PMUY Beneficiaries:

- PMUY adoption has led to **significant health improvements for women**, by reducing exposure to smoke from traditional fuels.
- Among **BPL households, respiratory issues were reduced**.
- **AAY households** also saw **reduced health issues** from 13% among non-beneficiaries to 10% for beneficiaries.

◦ Barriers to Exclusive LPG Usage:

- **Lack of awareness** remains a barrier, with 47% of households unaware of solid fuel health risks.
- The **cost of LPG refills is prohibitive for many, leading to fuel stacking** with cheaper solid fuels.
 - Fuel stacking remains common in 85% of households, highlighting the need for additional financial support.

◦ Recommendations:

- Expanding the **LPG distribution network in rural areas** and providing additional financial support for refills can further promote clean fuel adoption and reduce reliance on solid fuels.

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)

▪ About:

- The [Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas](#), introduced the '**Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana**' (PMUY) as a flagship scheme with the objective of making **clean cooking fuel such as LPG available to the rural and deprived** households which were otherwise using traditional cooking fuels such as firewood, coal, cow-dung cakes etc.
 - Usage of traditional cooking fuels had detrimental impacts on the health of rural women as well as on the environment.

▪ Objectives:

- Empowering women and protecting their health.
- Reducing the number of deaths in India due to unclean cooking fuel.
- Preventing young children from a significant number of acute respiratory illnesses caused due to indoor air pollution by burning fossil fuel.

▪ Features:

- The scheme provides a **financial support of Rs 1600 for each LPG connection to the BPL households**.
- Along with a deposit-free LPG connection, [Ujjwala 2.0](#) will provide the first refill and a Stove, free of cost to the beneficiaries.

Earthquake in Jammu and Kashmir | Jammu & Kashmir | 14 Nov 2024

Why in News?

Recently, an [earthquake](#) with a magnitude of 5.2 struck Jammu and Kashmir, but **no loss of life or damage to property was reported**.

- The earthquake **originated in the Afghanistan region**, with its tremors reaching the Kashmir Valley.

Key Points

- An earthquake is a natural phenomenon characterised by a **sudden shaking of the ground caused by the passage of seismic waves** through Earth's rocks.
- The vibrations called **seismic waves are generated from earthquakes** that travel through the Earth and are recorded on instruments called **seismographs**.
 - The **location below the earth's surface where the earthquake starts** is called the **hypocenter**, and the **location directly above it** on the surface of the earth is called the **epicenter**.

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EARTHQUAKE



ABOUT

- Shaking of the earth; caused due to release of energy, generating **seismic waves in all directions**

HYPOCENTER

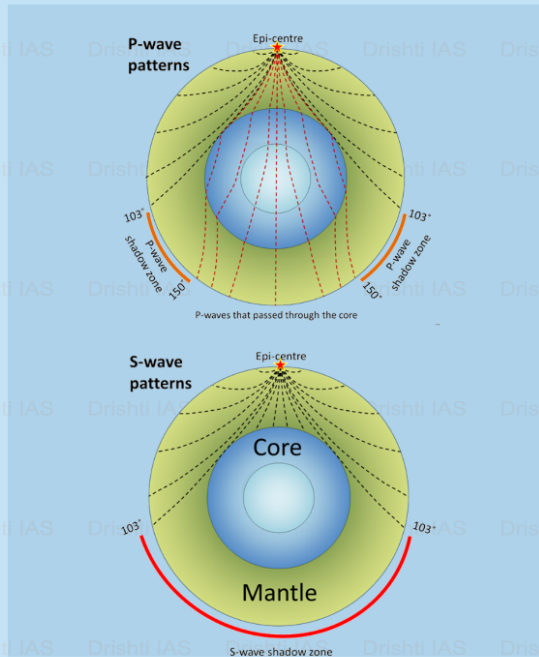
- Location where the earthquake starts (below earth's surface)

EPICENTER

- Location right above the Hypocenter (on the earth's surface)

EARTHQUAKE WAVES

- Body Waves:** Move in all directions travelling through the body of the earth
 - P Waves:** Move faster, First to arrive at surface, Similar to sound waves, Travel through gaseous, liquid and solid materials
 - S Waves:** Arrive at surface with some time lag, Travel only through solid materials
- Surface Waves:** Last to report on seismographs, More destructive, Cause displacement of rocks
 - Love Waves:** Same motion as S-waves (horizontal) without vertical displacement, Sideways motion perpendicular to the direction of propagation, Faster than Rayleigh waves
 - Rayleigh Waves:** Cause the ground to shake in an elliptical pattern, Spread out the most of all seismic waves, Move vertically and horizontally in a vertical plane



CAUSES OF EARTHQUAKES

- Release of energy along a **Fault/Fault Zones** (break in the crustal rocks)
- Movement of **tectonic plates (most common)**
- Volcanic eruption** (stress changes in rock-injection/withdrawal of magma)
- Human activities** (mining, explosion of chemical/nuclear devices etc.)

EARTHQUAKE IN INDIA

- India is **one of the highly earthquake affected countries** due to the presence of technically active mountains - the Himalayas.
- India has been divided into **4 seismic zones (II, III, IV, and V)**

MEASURING EARTHQUAKE

- Seismometers** - Measures seismic waves
- Richter Scale** - Measures magnitude (energy released; range: 0-10)
- Mercalli** - Measures intensity (visible damage; range: 1-12)

DISTRIBUTION

- Circum-Pacific Belt** - 81% of earthquakes
- Alpide Earthquake Belt** - 17% of the largest earthquakes
- Mid-Atlantic Ridge** - Mostly submerged underwater

