



Impact of PMUY in Jammu and Kashmir

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.

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