Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana

[UPSC Notes]

What is PMUY - PM Ujjwala Yojana Scheme?

The Ujjwala Scheme (PMUY), also called the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, is a government scheme launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi that provides benefits to women under BPL and other 7 categories. The prime focus and aim of launching PMUY is the distribution of LPG connections to households in India that come in the category below the poverty line.

The scheme had set a target of providing 50 million LPG gas cylinders to households before March 2020. Later, the target was updated to distribute LPG to 8 crore women by March 2020. However, this figure was successfully crossed before the deadline and on September 7, 2019.

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana Highlights

PM Ujjwala Yojana	Overview
PMUY Launch Date	01 May 2016
PMUY 2.0 Launch Date	10 August 2021
PM Ujjwala Yojana was launched by	PM Narendra Modi
Oil Companies Participants in PMUY	IOCL, BPCL and HPCL
PMUY Beneficiaries	Women BPL (All States/UTs)
PMUY under which ministry	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

PMUY Objectives

The first and most important goal of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana was to provide LPG gas connections to all rural and BPL households that had previously cooked with fuels such as cow dung, and wood coal, and so on.

- The Ujjwala Yojana aims to empower and improve the health of housewives.
- To reduce the usage of traditional fuels like cow dung, fossil fuels, coal, firewood, and other unclean fuels that are harmful to health.
- To save the environment from being polluted by the harmful emissions released by the combustion of these fuels.

Features of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana

Go through the features of PMUY for a better understanding

- The scheme aims to provide 8 crore LPG connections to households. Now, an additional 1 crore.
- All the administrative and assistance costs are on the books of the government.
- The scheme also generates employment opportunities for young people in the gas supply chain.
- In this scheme, 22 million LPG connections have been distributed to the beneficiaries just in the first year of its launch.

The PMUY offers BPL households a cash contribution of Rs 1600 for each LPG connection.

Beneficiaries under PMUY

When the PM Ujjwala Yojana was launched, the prime beneficiaries were women from BPL. In August 2018, women for other categories were also included.

- SC/ST (Those included in PMAY)
- Beneficiaries of Antyoday Anna Yojana (AAY)
- Forest Dwellers
- Most Backward Classes
- Tea and Ex-Tea Garden Tribes,
- Residents of river Islands (Beneficiary will submit supporting documents).

PM Ujjwala Yojana Eligibility

In order to enjoy the benefits of the Ujjwala Yojana scheme, the beneficiaries need to fulfill the eligibility criteria, which are:

- The applicant for the Ujjwala Yojana scheme should be a woman, a citizen of India, and above 18 years of age.
- The applicant for the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana scheme should come under the category of below the poverty line.

- Only one person per family is allowed to access the LPG connection for their family. This means that no other member of a single family will be allowed to have an LPG connection for their use.
- The income of the family applying for the Ujjwala Yojana scheme should not exceed the limit set by the state government.
- The beneficiaries should not be enjoying other such schemes by the government.
- The name and other criteria required for access to LPG connections should be correct and match with the details provided to the government database.
- The applicant's name should be registered in the SECC-2011 list.

Benefits of PM Ujjwala Yojana

Below mentioned details focus on Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana Benefits

- All the families which fall under the scheme can get access to LPG gas cylinders along with financial help of Rs. 1600 provided by the government to them.
- The oil marketing companies provide interest-free loans to refill and purchase the gas stoves under this scheme.
- The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana scheme covers all the families which fall under the category of distributorship and distributes various cylinders between 14.2 kg and 5 kg according to the requirement.
- The benefits of this scheme can be ripped throughout the country. Even families residing in the north and northeastern states have also taken advantage of LPG gas connections as they have been treated as priority states by the government.

PUMUY Ujjwala 2.0

An additional 10 million LPG connections were included in the second version. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana 2.0 focussed on including migrant families. The migrant workers will get a free LPG connection.

- Self-declaration form is accepted.
- The recipients of Ujjwala 2.0 will also receive a free hotplate and a deposit-free LPG connection, as well as the first refill.

Additionally, the government has set a goal of supplying piped gas to 21 lakh houses across 50 districts.