

Development and National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) run by Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation. The Physical progress of these scheme is given below:

Schemes	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
PMEGP [Employment Generated]	378907	357502	323362
MGNREGA [Persondays Generated] (in lakh)	22035	16628	18577
DDU-GKY [No. of candidate trained]	201019	86120	270392
NULM [No. of beneficiaries provided skill training]	705507	182037	155360

(d) As per the result of the Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, during the agricultural year 2012-2013, an estimated 9.02 crore agricultural households were there in rural India. Around 16.3 percent of the agricultural households were from Scheduled Castes community, the estimated agricultural household belonging to SC community which were engaged in cultivation as principal source of income were 51.8%.

Free gas connections to BPL families

†360. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM and NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is providing free gas connections to the BPL households in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of BPL households provided with free gas connections in the country till now and the number of people provided with free gas connections in Bihar out of the above, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Government has launched "Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana" (PMUY) for providing deposit free LPG connections to Below

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Poverty Line (BPL) families. LPG connections are provided in the name of women of the BPL families.

(c) As on 14.07.2016, 14.13 lakh new LPG connections have been issued under PMUY across the country. Out of these 48,183 have been issued in the State of Bihar.

Laying of gas pipelines in Tamil Nadu

361. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps on the basis of the request made by the State of Tamil Nadu on laying of pipelines for Natural Gas in the districts of Coimbatore, Tripur, Salem, Erode, Namakkal, Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) A request from Government of Tamil Nadu was received expressing concerns of the farmers of Coimbatore, Tripur, Salem, Erode, Namakkal, Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri due to proposed alignment of the Kochi-Kuttanad-Mangalore-Bangalore gas pipeline (KKMBPL) through their lands. The State Government apprehended that the proposed alignment of the pipeline would cause irrecoverable damage to the agricultural property of thousands of farmers in these seven districts. The Government of Tamil Nadu had requested to withdraw the notifications issued by MoP&NG under Section 3, Section 6(1) & Section 6(2) of the Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User) Act, 1962 and advise GAIL to lay the pipeline along the National Highways.

The matter has been examined in consultation with GAIL. GAIL has informed that it is not feasible to lay high pressure cross country gas pipelines along the Highways for long distances due to numerous technical reasons, including the reasons of non-availability of adequate space for movement of heavy duty crawler mounted equipments used for laying of the pipeline, non-availability of land for installation of Sectionalizing Valve (SV) stations/ Intermediate Pigging (IP) stations required to be installed at regular intervals along the pipeline, safety & security aspects, maintenance of the pipeline, disruption of Highways etc. Reputed consultants in the field of oil & gas pipelines have also expressed their opinion regarding technical non-feasibility of laying of high pressure cross-country gas pipelines for long distances along national highways.