THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) In order to provide clean cooking fuel to every poor household in the country, the Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) to provide 5 crore new LPG connections to the women belonging to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families over a period of three years starting from Financial Year 2016-17, subject to the condition that no LPG connection should already exist in the name of any family member of the household. Oil Marketing Companies have already released more than 2.5 crore connections under the scheme within a span of 14 months since the launch of scheme on 1st May, 2016. As on 01.07.2017, there are 20.67 crore LPG consumers across the country.

In order to implement subsidy reforms in LPG, the Government had launched modified Direct Benefit Transfer for LPG (DBTL/PAHAL) Scheme in 54 districts on 15.11.2014 and across the country on 01.01.2015. LPG consumers, who join the PAHAL scheme, get the LPG cylinders at non-subsidised price and receive LPG subsidy (as per their entitlement) directly into their registered bank accounts.

(b) and (c) Assessment of requirement of LPG (domestic/commercial) in the country is made by the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) on the basis of growing LPG consumer base in the country. OMCs source LPG from various sources, including domestic production in refineries, fractionators, etc. and imports.

The projected demand is monitored on a regular basis and necessary changes in the projections are made based on the prevailing sales trend, change in policies or any other factor which may influence the demand. Action is taken accordingly to meet any fluctuation in demand of LPG due to such factors.

Launch of DBTK

1252. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched/proposes to launch Direct Benefit Transfer in Kerosene (DBTK) if so, details thereof along with norms/criteria and number of States covered including quantum of funds transferred under DBTK so far, State/UT-wise;
- (b) if so, details thereof and quantum of kerosene quota allocated/consumed by various States during last two years, State/UT-wise; and

(c) whether Government has noticed any shortage of kerosene in backward/rural areas wherein people depend on kerosene for lighting their houses, if so, the details thereof and steps taken to ensure adequate and regular supply of kerosene in such areas, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has launched Direct Benefit Transfer in PDS Kerosene (DBTK) Scheme with effect from 01.04.2016. Under the DBTK, PDS Kerosene is sold to the identified beneficiaries at non-subsidized rates and the applicable subsidy is directly transferred into the bank account of the beneficiaries.

Further, under the provisions of the DBTK Scheme, the States/Union Territories (UTs) would be given cash incentive of 75% of subsidy savings during the first two years (2016-17 and 2017-18), 50% in the third year (2018-19) and 25% in the fourth year (2019-20). In case the States/UTs voluntarily agree to undertake cuts in kerosene allocation, beyond the savings due to DBTK, a similar incentive would be given to those States/UTs.

Jharkhand has become the first State in the country to implement DBTK in all the districts of the State. The States of Karnataka, Haryana, Telangana and Nagaland have responded favourably by undertaking voluntary cut in their PDS SKO allocation and applicable cash incentive is being released from time to time depending on the receipt of proposals from State Government.

The following States/UTs have become Kerosene free -

- (i) Haryana
- (ii) Punjab
- (iii) Chandigarh
- (iv) Daman and Diu
- (v) Delhi
- (b) State/UT-wise detail of PDS Kerosene allocation and upliftment by the State/UT Governments during the last two years are given in Statement (See below).

(c) As on 17.07.2017, there is no reported shortage of kerosene in the country. There is 38 days cover of kerosene available in the country.

State-wise PDS SKO upliftments in KL during the last two years

Sl. No. State		Allocation		Upliftment/Sale	
		2015-16	2016-17	2015-16	2016-17
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5772	5160	5754	4866
2.	Andhra Pradesh	266676	225696	232046	191547
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	10320	9288	10300	9149
4.	Assam	321372	289248	321034	287814
5.	Bihar	796704	710736	794696	705344
6.	Chandigarh	2988	0	852	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	172272	135384	159143	121671
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1836	1656	1836	1656
9.	Daman and Diu	828	756	828	480
10.	Delhi	0	0	0	0
11.	Goa	5136	4620	5040	2628
12.	Gujarat	657336	493008	657030	492700
13.	Haryana	88344	66252	70584	35929
14.	Himachal Pradesh	24144	18120	24091	17948
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	81180	73056	80072	67872
16.	Jharkhand	262572	219696	260462	219011
17.	Karnataka	509832	287532	484243	260251
18.	Kerala	117780	88344	117743	88343
19.	Lakshadweep	984	936	984	936

Gas connections to families with female member

†1253. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of BPL families without a female member, who applied for a gas connection under Ujjwala Scheme and the number of such applicants who have been given gas connections and the number of applicants whose applications are pending, the State-wise details thereof;

†Origi(b) notice of unbequestion and is examined havisimist been able to get a gas connection