

11. CBDT to create a training module on startups and investments for in-service trainings and conduct sensitization workshops for Assessing Officers as Startups have unique business models.
12. Focus should be on considering "genuineness of transaction" through legitimate sources of funds instead of 'valuation' of investment.

Government is considering the suggestions received to ease the norms for providing tax exemption to Startups.

#### **Foreigners languishing in prisons across the country**

\*40. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 3,908 foreigners are languishing in prisons across the country; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that only 222 out of 3,908 foreign nationals in jails have received consular access?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANS RAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) The latest data on Prison Statistics published by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) pertains to the year 2015. The figures change on a continuous basis as prisoners get released, acquitted or repatriated to their countries. In 2018, 306 consular access permissions were given, including repeat visits, to various foreign diplomatic Missions. These permissions relate both to individual foreign prisoners as well as collective access to foreign prisoners lodged in Indian prisons.

#### **Implementation of PMUY**

\*41. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of beneficiaries since launch of PMUY, the year-wise details thereof;

(b) the average number of refills taken by an Ujjwala beneficiary, year-wise details thereof;

(c) the average number of refills taken by a non-Ujjwala beneficiary, year-wise details thereof;

(d) whether Government has conducted any impact analysis or survey to assess the impact of Ujjwala scheme;

(e) whether Government is aware of reports that some of the families that have benefited from Ujjwala scheme still use traditional methods of cooking due to the cost of the LPG cylinders; and

(f) the measures taken to rectify this situation, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Year-wise details of LPG connections released under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) -

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (by 04.02.2019)
Connections released	2 crore	1.56 crore	2.80 crore

(b) and (c) During the Financial Year 2017-18, the average refill consumption of beneficiaries under PMUY and non-PMUY were 3.4 and 7.3 respectively.

(d) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has constituted ICMR-Task Force Group on Impact Assessment of the PMUY. The Task Force has been mandated to assess the dimensions of health impacts and socio cultural and economic issues related to LPG.

(e) and (f) Adoption and use of LPG on sustained basis by a beneficiary of PMUY also involves behavioural change. The use of LPG by PMUY beneficiary household depends on several factors which include food habits, cooking habits, availability and accessibility to LPG, price of LPG etc. Fuel stacking by PMUY beneficiaries cannot be ruled out on account of easy availability of firewood, cow dung etc. free of cost. In order to encourage the PMUY beneficiaries to adopt and use LPG on sustained basis, OMCs have been pursuing following measures:-

- (i) offering swap facility *i.e.* to avail small package 5 kg refill against 14.2 kg refill as per their requirement.
- (ii) conducting Pradhan Mantri LPG Panchayat to educate beneficiaries on benefits of sustained use of LPG and safe usage.
- (iii) launching audio visual media campaign to spread awareness on advantages of use of LPG.

- (iv) targeted SMS campaign to reach to beneficiaries who have not comeback for refill.
- (v) display campaign by way of banners, standees and hoardings at public places.
- (vi) undertaking consumer awareness activities viz. school/college student level education programmes, quizzes, drawing competitions, nukkad natak, walkathon, cyclothon etc.
- (vii) setting up more than 4900 new distributorships in the last three years to strengthen supply chain network especially in rural areas.

#### Refills under PMUY

\*42. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that prices of gas cylinders have increased under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY);
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has the record of second time refilling of gas cylinders by beneficiaries;
- (d) if so, the State-wise details of beneficiaries for 2017-18; and
- (e) the details of total gas cylinders refilled by Ujjwala beneficiaries in 2017-18?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The LPG consumer including PMUY consumer, registered under PAHAL scheme, get cylinders at non-subsidised price and subsidy, as admissible, is transferred to consumers directly into his/her bank account subject to applicable cap on subsidized refills. The details of effective price of 14.2 kg cylinder rate at Delhi during the months of November 2018 to February 2019 are as under:—

Month	Effective Cost of Consumer at Delhi
November, 2018	₹ 507.42
December, 2018	₹ 500.92
January, 2019	₹ 494.99
February, 2019	₹ 493.53