

Urja Ganga Project to connect Eastern India. Total length of pipeline under Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga Project is approx. 3,384 km, out of which 766 km of pipeline is in Odisha state and the balance 2,618 km is in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Assam. At present the pipeline has been commissioned upto Barauni in Bihar.

2G ethanol refineries and production

2824. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Second Generation (2G) ethanol refineries set up in the country so far and whether any ethanol has been produced from these refineries, the details thereof;

(b) whether any technical economic feasibility studies relating to production of Second Generation ethanol, including the likely cost per unit for the ethanol has been done;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (d) No, Second Generation (2G) ethanol refinery has been set up so far for commercial production of ethanol in the country. Oil PSUs have carried out technical economic feasible study required for setting up of twelve 2G ethanol bio-refineries. The price per litre of ethanol will vary depending upon various factors including the technology used.

PMUY refill rate

2825. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) has failed to encourage people who are used to using free firewood to switch to relatively expensive cooking gas; and

(b) what is the rate at which the customers under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) are given the second and third cylinder refills, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir. Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that more than 86% of PMUY beneficiaries who are at least one year old have returned for refill. Adoption and use of LPG on sustained basis by a beneficiary of PMUY involves behavioural change and also depends on several factors which include food habits, cooking habits, price of LPG, availability of free firewood, cow dung etc. As on 15.07.2019, OMCs have released more than 7.39 crore LPG connections under PMUY across the country.

(b) All the domestic consumers including consumers enrolled under PMUY get refills at non-subsidised price and the applicable subsidy is directly transferred into their registered bank accounts. Currently, at Delhi, the effective cost of 14.2 kg LPG cylinder is ₹494.35 and the applicable subsidy is ₹142.65.

Safai karamcharis in the country

2826. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Safai Karamcharis working in the country, State-wise;
- (b) how many permanent Safai Karamchari workers and casual Safai Karamchari workers are working in the country and how much salaries is being offered to them, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Safai Karamcharis died from suffocation while working in sewage, the details thereof and the reason therefor; and
- (d) what compensation was given to their families, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE): (a) and (b) No such statistics are maintained by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment as sanitation is a State subject and safai karamcharis are engaged by the local authorities.

(c) and (d) There have been reports of death of persons while cleaning sewers and septic tanks without safety gear and devices and non-observance of safety precautions. Details of such cases identified and compensation paid to the families of the victims as reported by the States are given in the Statement-I. (See below) In addition as and when the cases of death of persons while cleaning sewers/septic tanks come to the notice of the Ministry from individuals or press reports such cases are