

Impact of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY): A Study in Koppal District

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ABSTRACT

The upliftment is needed to help women to achieve equality and quality life. The socio-economic status of women is poor. Women, not only work at home but also work outside home. Socio-economic status of women labour is poor. Most of women in rural India are illiterate. Good health of mother has positive impact on kids and other members in the family. Therefore women should be empowered and strengthened. The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) is one of the major programmes of government of India for women. Prime Minister of India Shri. Narendra Modi announced PMY on 1 May 2016 and directed to distribute 50 million LPG connections to women of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families. A budgetary allocation of ₹80 billion (US\$1.1 billion) was made for the scheme. In the first year of its launching, 22 million LPG connections were distributed against the target of 15 million. As of 23 October 2017, 30 million beneficiaries got LPG connections. This paper attempts to assess the impact of PMUY in Koppal district of Karnataka. The paper contains i. Introduction, ii. Need for women upliftment, iii. research gap, iv. Objectives of the study, v. Scope of the study, vi. Methodology, vii. Major findings, etc.

Key Words: *cooking gas, development, exploitation, reproduction, standard of living,*

INTRODUCTION

The total population of India is 1,349,611,481 (1.34 billion) of which women population stood at 652,672,112 (65.2 crore) and the male population stood at 696,939,368 (69.6 crore). As the population of India is more naturally women population is also more. Though the physical strength of woman is more, she is ill treated often. A woman is a victim of exploitation not only in India. The condition in other countries also is not good. Today also a woman is considered as 'property' in male dominated Indian society though she has her own likes and dislikes. She plays a crucial role in most of the fields. If she is encouraged, she can bring drastic changes. Her contributions for economic development are direct and indirect. The socio-economic status is poor even though she has got genetic power of reproduction which a man not. All kind of poverty exists more among women. The reason behind this is lack of women empowerment. This paper attempts to examine the issues and challenges related to PMUY. The paper contains i. Introduction, ii. Objectives, iii. Methodology, iv. Necessity behind the PMUY, Government efforts, v. Facts, Issues and Challenges of PMUY, vi. How to make success the PMUY and vii. Conclusion, etc.

NEED FOR WOMEN UPLIFTMENT

The upliftment is needed to help women to achieve equality and quality life. The socio-economic status of women is poor. Women, not only work at home but also work outside home. Socio-economic status of women labour is poor. Most of women in rural India are illiterate. Hence, she should be educated and her status should be improved; she should be physically, mentally, economically, socially, politically and culturally strengthened so that the country can make use of hidden potential power for the economic development. Woman health plays important role in managing her family. Good health of mother has positive impact on kids and other members in the family. Therefore women should be empowered and strengthened.

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY): It is one of the major programmes of government of India for women. Prime Minister of India Shri. Narendra Modi announced PMY on 1 May 2016 and directed to distribute 50 million LPG connections to women of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families. A budgetary allocation of ₹80 billion (US\$1.1 billion) was made for the scheme. In the first

year of its launching, 22 million LPG connections were distributed against the target of 15 million. As of 23 October 2017, 30 million beneficiaries got LPG connections. 44 percentage of which was given to families belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The number crossed 58 million by December 2018. In 2018 Union Budget of India, its scope was widened to include 80 million poor households. 21,000 awareness camps were conducted by oil marketing companies (OMC). The scheme led to an increase in LPG consumption by 56 percent in 2019 as compared to 2014. The highly popular scheme has benefited over 14.6 million BPL families in Uttar Pradesh, 8.8 million in West Bengal, 8.5 million in Bihar, 7.1 million in Madhya Pradesh and 6.3 million in Rajasthan. However, while access to LPG gas stoves and cylinders has increased in the scheme, the use of LPG cylinders remains low.

RESEARCH GAP AND STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Improvement of standard of living of women is important issue. Many researchers have done research on various issues related with women and their empowerment. But no researches were done on women health causing due to cooking fuel have been conducted. The traditional cooking is being done by using smoky fire wood which affects health of the women while cooking food. The efficiency of labour mainly depends on health of the concerned. In this connection the government India introduced a unique scheme known as Pradhan Mantri Ujwal Yojana and supplying cooking gas to BPL families to ensure health and hygiene and improve the women's health in 2016. Once the health and hygiene are improved the living standard of women will be improved and through this woman empowerment could be achieved. Hence, there arose research gap. So the research about the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Ujwal Yojana- its benefits, difficulties, etc. to the beneficiaries and gas distributors was necessary. Hence, the statement of the problem was "**Impact of Pradhan Mantri Ujwal Yojana: A Study in Koppal District**"

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The women constitute nearly half of the total population of the nation. Though the role of women in healthy society is more, she is ill-treated often. Today also a woman is considered as 'property' in male dominated Indian society though she has her own likes and dislikes. She plays a crucial role in most of the fields. If she is encouraged, she can bring changes in the society. Her contributions for economic development are direct and indirect. The socio- economic status of woman is poor even though she has got genetic power of reproduction which a man has not. At the 107th Indian Science Congress held in January 2020 in Bengaluru, Shri. Narendra Modi Hon. PM, declared that, the technology has helped India "in recognizing the 8 crore [80 million] women who were still using coal or wood for cooking" and also "in understanding how many new distribution centres must be built, via the help of technology". Prime Minister's Lightning Scheme was launched by Prime Minister of India on 1st May, 2016 to distribute 50 million LPG connections to women of Below Poverty Line(BPL) families. A budgetary allocation of ₹80 billion (US\$1.1 billion) was made for the scheme. The scheme has benefited the women all over the nation. The access to LPG gas stoves and cylinders has increased in the scheme, the use of LPG cylinders remains low. The scheme Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana is intended to improve the health and cleanliness among the house holds that too women. The good health of a woman contributes more to the economic development in different dimensions. Hence, there arises the need for the study of such a scheme which improve the living standard of women especially in rural areas. Therefore, there is lot of space and scope for the study about the scheme, problems in implementation, educating the beneficiaries, benefits to the beneficiaries, difficulties in getting the benefit, difficulties in supply of gas, etc. The women empowerment could be achieved through such schemes.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

Following are the objectives of the study

- To look into the Evolution of Cooking system in India
- To assess the schemes related to improve standard of living of women
- To examine the implementation of PMUY in India and Karnataka.
- To examine the impact of PMUY on beneficiaries, gas distributors, environment and government, etc.
- To analyse the problems in implementation and future of the PMUY Scheme.
- To make necessary suggestions for the improvement of the scheme.

DATA BASE:

The study was based on both primary and secondary data.

➤ **PRIMARY DATA**

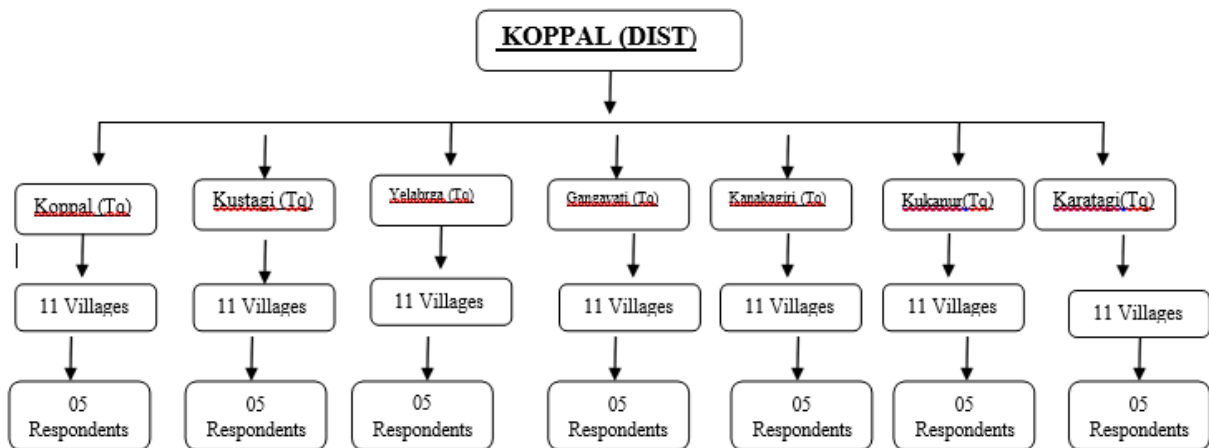
The study was confined to Koppal district. The primary data has been collected from selected respondents from two categories viz. Beneficiaries and Gas Distributers through well prepared questionnaire.

➤ **SECONDARY DATA**

The secondary data has been collected from the published sources like Books, Reports, Journals, documents of concerned offices, etc.

4. METHODOLOGY

The study was confined to Koppal district. Koppal district consists of seven talukas viz. Koppal, Kustagi, Yelaburga, Gangavati, Kanakagiri, Kukanur and Karatagi. All talukas were selected for the study. Ten villages from each taluka, Five respondents from each village, i.e 11 (V) X 7 (T) X 05 (R) = 385 respondents.



TOTAL= {5X11X07} 385

Over all Opinion of Beneficiary Respondents (In Numbers and Percentages)

Description	Taluks							Total
	Koppal	Yelburga	Gangavati	Kanakagiri	Karatagi	Kukanur	Kustagi	
Good Product	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	5
	5.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%
Modern	3	2	2	6	2	1	4	20
	5.5%	3.6%	3.6%	10.9%	3.6%	1.8%	7.3%	5.2%
Time Saving	19	22	17	25	21	20	21	145
	34.5%	40.0%	30.9%	45.5%	38.2%	36.4%	38.2%	37.7%
Healthy	21	17	24	16	17	27	21	143
	38.2%	30.9%	43.6%	29.1%	30.9%	49.1%	38.2%	37.1%
Economical	9	14	12	8	13	7	9	72
	16.4%	25.5%	21.8%	14.5%	23.6%	12.7%	16.4%	18.7%
Total	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	385
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

χ^2 Test for Goodness of Fit: χ^2 : 226.468, df: 04, Sig: 0.000
 χ^2 Test for Association: χ^2 : 30.010, df: 24, Sig: 0.184

Source: Primary Data

Ranking in the different talluks of Koppal district presented above. It is found that 1.3 percent of respondents are given good product about the LPG, 5.2 percent of respondents are given modern about the LPG. 37.7 percent of respondents are given time saving about the LPG, 38.2 percent of respondents are given healthy about the LPG and 18.7 percent of respondents are given economical about the LPG

The chi-square test for goodness of fit is significant at one percent level. Accordingly, majority of the respondents have given time saving. The Chi-square test for association is not significant at one percent level. Therefore, there is no difference about the ranking.

MAJOR FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS

Following are the important findings.

I. GENERAL FINDINGS

1. In 1859, George B. Simpson patent an 'electro-heater' surface heated by a platinum-wire coil powered by batteries. Three stone stove and mud stove were used in mid Neolithic and late Neolithic period
2. First improved mud cook stove named, 'Magan Chulha' was developed in 1947 by Maganwadi, head quarters of All-India Village Industries Associations,
3. Modified type of chulha (Indian stove), 'Angithi' was developed by K. S. Salariya, in 1949.
4. The first parabolic solar cooker was developed in the early 1950s by M L Ghai at the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) in Delhi, India.
5. In India the Kerosene stove was developed by Indian Oil Corporation and marketed from 1977 under the brand name of "NUTAN."
6. In 1970s, large oil corporations started to produce LPG (Liquid Petroleum Gas) in cylinders for LPG stoves
7. WHO estimates that about 5 lakh deaths in India are alone due to unclean cooking fuels
8. Fifty Six of the population was estimated to be reliant on solid biomass for cooking even in 2017
9. The total number of LPG connections in urban and rural households in India has been growing at a compounded annual growth rate of 7 percent only from 2007-08 to 2017-18 and the total connections at the end of 2017-2018 was 224.3 million
10. In India, nearly 8.9 million tons of LPG was consumed in the six months between April and September 2016 in the domestic sector, mainly for cooking.
11. The number of domestic connections was 215 million (i.e., one connection for every six people) with a circulation of more than 350 million LPG cylinders
12. The PMUY scheme came into force from 1st April, 2016
13. The size of LPG cylinder and stove provided under PMY scheme is smaller than regular

II. FINDINGS BASED ON DATA COLLECTED FROM HOUSE HOLD RESPONDENTS

1. Out of total, 98.2 percent of the respondents had separate kitchen room in the study area
2. Out of total, 96.4 percent of the respondents had electricity facility and 3.6 percent not in the study area
3. Total 98.2 percent of the respondents had no land
4. In selected house holds 93.5 percent decision makers were husband of beneficiaries
5. Before getting the benefit of PMUY 97.4 percent beneficiaries were using Kacha Chulha (fire wood) and 2.6 percent were using Kerosene Stove
6. Out of total respondents 67.01 percent respondents expressed very bad and 32.99 percent bad experience of using of Kacha Chulha and Kerosene Stove
7. Total 97.7 percent respondents opined that, Use of Kacha Chulha and Kerosene Stove has adversely affected their health
8. All 385 respondents had no Gas connection before PMUY
9. Out of total respondents, 92.2 percent, 2.1 percent, 2.6 percent and 3.1 percent were motivated to take Gas connection by the government, family members, gas agencies and friends and relatives respectively
10. Total 92.7 percent beneficiary respondents using PMUY provided gas for cooking purpose because it is economical, clean, hygienic, time saving and non smoky
11. Total 91.9 percent beneficiary respondents strongly agreed that, the use of LPG is better

- than Kacha Chulha/Kerosene Stove.
12. Out of total 92.2 percent beneficiary respondents strongly agreed that, the use of LPG has improved their entire family health
 13. Total 97.1 percent of respondents accepted PMUY Scheme helped in reducing deforestation and 94.3 percent beneficiaries agreed that this scheme helped in environmental protection
 14. Total 93.5 percent of respondents had no fear to use of LPG
 15. No LPG exploded in the study area during the study period.
 16. Out of total 88.6 percent of respondents opined that, adoption of modern cooking is possible by PMUY
 17. Out of total 66.5 percent of respondents said they don't use LPG without subsidy

III. FINDINGS BASED ON DATA COLLECTED FROM RESPONDENT GAS AGENCIES

Total 16 gas distributing agencies have been interviewed and following are the findings based on the data provided by respective agencies.

1. The gas distributors said that, as per the guideline of PMUY only one gas cylinder was to be supplied to the beneficiary at the time of taking connection at subsidised price and all the subsequent refilling will at normal price
2. Gas agencies supply gas cylinder under PMUY directly to the homes of beneficiaries as in general connection
3. Booking for refilling of gas cylinder was similar to both PMUY beneficiaries and general customers was same
4. All the gas agencies opined that the PMUY has increased their business
5. All the gas agencies opined that the price hike adversely affected the business from the PMUY beneficiaries
6. Sixteen gas distributors said that, the PMUY beneficiaries are coming for refilling

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