

Direct Benefit Transfer of LPG (DBTL)-PAHAL Scheme

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Why in news?

Government continues to take measures to ensure that LPG distribution and subsidy transfers in respect of domestic LPG consumers are efficient, transparent, and inclusive.

- DBTL-PAHAL (Pratyaksh Hanstantrit Labh) It is *India's flagship initiative* for transferring LPG subsidies directly into the bank accounts of eligible consumers.
- **Aim** This scheme aims to reduce subsidy leakage, eliminate duplication, and ensure subsidy reaches the intended beneficiaries.
- Launched by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- Implemented through Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and UIDAI.
- **Eligibility** All domestic LPG consumers who have completed the KYC process and linked their Aadhaar or bank account details with their LPG consumer number are eligible.
 - The subsidy amount is directly transferred to the consumer's bank account after the purchase.
- **Subsidy** A targeted subsidy of Rs.300 per 14.2 kg cylinder for up to 12 refills of 14.2 Kg equivalent domestic LPG is being provided to all PMUY consumers.
 - In addition, various State Governments have also been providing subsidized refills or further subsidies to PMUY beneficiaries.
- Key Features of Scheme
 - To streamline the subsidy distribution process for LPG cylinders.
 - To reduce misuse and diversion of subsidized LPG.
 - To ensure that the benefits reach the deserving sections of society directly.
- Coverage It covers <u>over 17 crore LPG consumers</u> nationwide, making it the <u>largest cash transfer program globally</u>.

- Steps to remove ineligible consumers -
 - Common LPG Database Platform (CLDP) It is used for deduplication of connections via Aadhaar, bank details, ration card, etc.
 - **Biometric Aadhaar Authentication -** It is mandatory for new PMUY and PAHAL beneficiaries.
 - As of Nov 2025, 69% of existing PMUY beneficiaries was authenticated.
 - **Weeding Out Ineligible Consumers** 8.63 lakh PMUY connections terminated since inception.
 - Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) issued in Jan 2025 to remove inactive connections, around 20,000 inactive connections were terminated by Nov 2025.
 - 3rd party evaluation Conducted by *Research and Development Initiative (RDI)*, over 90% respondents satisfied with subsidy reimbursement.

References

- 1. PIB | PAHAL (DBTL) Scheme Delivers Consumer-Centric Reforms
- 2. Clear tax | PAHAL Scheme

