

The Ujjwala Scheme has the potential to be transformative, but only if effective monitoring prevents it from rampant leakage.

Comment (200 words)

Ujjwala scheme (PMUY): providing free LPG

Connections to women from BPL households to reduce health hazards & indoor pollution

Recently the audit of PMUY by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India highlighted the problems in PMUY.

1. The goal to provide LPG Connections to BPL women was patchy both in PMUY & Extended PMUY (E-PMUY).
2. In PMUY around 3.5 cr LPG were given

But only 42% were linked.

3. J CAG also found in 3.47 Lac Instances LPG distributors had issued 2 to 20 Refills in a day to a single PMUY Beneficiary having a single cylinder connection.
4. Diversion of LPG for Commercial purpose.
5. A De-duplication by linking Aadhaar.
5. Bank account of others being linked to Ujwala Beneficiaries

Measures:

1. Aadhaar linking of all family members of existing as well as new Beneficiaries to ensure de-duplication.
2. Spot checks to see if intended Beneficiaries are diverting LPG to unintended for Commercial purpose.

3. Re-arrange the software at oil marketing Companies to add the appropriate Input Controls & data validation, e-KYC needs to be initiated.

Conclusion:

Indeed with the effective Examiny & the monitoring, PMUY really has the potential to be transformative.