



**A STUDY ON CONSUMER'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS DBTL WITH SPECIAL
REFERENCE TO UDUMALPET TALUK**

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INTRODUCTION

India's economy is one of the fastest growing economies in the world and has experienced an average 7 % growth rate in the last decade. India accounts for 2.4 % of world energy production and stands at eleventh position in the world in energy production. But the country accounts for 3.5 % of total energy consumption and holds the sixth position in energy consumption. The wide gap between energy production and energy consumption calls for the need to increase the energy production. Our energy needs are growing as a result of continued population increases, economic growth, and individual fuel/energy consumption. At the same time, emissions from fuel wood and fossil fuels, the main energy source for heating in homes and powering our economies, are contributing to climate change and affecting the local air quality. Liquefied Petroleum Gas is used as fuel for thousands of applications. In developing countries the main benefits of LPG is in helping people to switch from unsustainable biomass use to a clean and safe cooking fuel. LPG's domestic uses can never be ignored. It has played a revolutionary role when it comes to changing the face of domestic fuels used for heating and cooking. Energy is vital part of any nations' existence, it is the "life blood" that drives economic and social development without which it becomes essentially difficult for an individual, community or even a nation to survive.

Direct Benefit Transfer for LPG (DBTL) Scheme

LPG being a clean fuel, its acceptability has been growing across the country and more and more households have been adopting it as its primary cooking fuel. At present around 60% households have been covered by LPG.

The Direct Benefit Transfer for LPG (DBTL) scheme was rolled out in 291 districts in the country from 1st June 2013 in six phases. It covered nearly 10 crore consumers with over 3770 distributors across the three PSU Oil Marketing Companies with an aim to achieve the objective of efficient subsidy administration. An amount of Rs. 5400 crore was successfully transferred to more than 2.8 crore LPG consumers across the country. Based on the JS (MoPNG) Committee recommendations, a DBTL scheme was approved by CCPA in May 2013. The objective of the scheme was to provide the subsidy directly into the Aadhaar linked bank account of domestic LPG consumers up to the capped number of LPG cylinders purchased at market price. The participating companies are OM Cs viz. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IO CL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL).