

## **Regarding need to address the grave situation arising due to shortage of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinders in the Country-Laid**

**PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM):** The acute shortage of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinders in the country has become a serious concern affecting millions of households. LPG is the primary cooking fuel for a large section of the population. Any disruption in its supply directly affects daily life and household food security. One of the major impacts of the shortage is the hardship faced by low-income families. Many households depend entirely on LPG for cooking, and the unavailability of cylinders forces them to return to traditional fuels such as firewood, coal, or kerosene. The shortage also leads to price fluctuations and black-marketing. When demand exceeds supply, illegal sale of LPG cylinders at higher prices becomes common, making it difficult for ordinary consumers to afford refills. In rural and remote areas, the problem becomes even more severe due to weak distribution networks and transportation delays. Small businesses such as eateries, tea stalls, and street food vendors that rely on LPG are also adversely affected, leading to loss of livelihood. Therefore, the Government must strengthen the supply chain, improve distribution efficiency, and monitor hoarding and black-marketing. Ensuring a stable and affordable LPG supply is essential for public welfare, health, and economic stability.