



Avoiding LPG Shortage In India: Possibilities And Practical Solutions

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Abstract

LPG is a crucial cooking fuel for households across India. Increasing demand, import dependence, and supply chain challenges sometimes create risks of shortages. This research paper analyses LPG consumption trends, infrastructure challenges, and policy developments in India and proposes practical solutions such as diversification of cooking energy, strengthening domestic production, expansion of piped natural gas networks, and development of strategic reserves.

Key Words: LPG, Demand, Challenges, possibilities, Consumption, Solutions

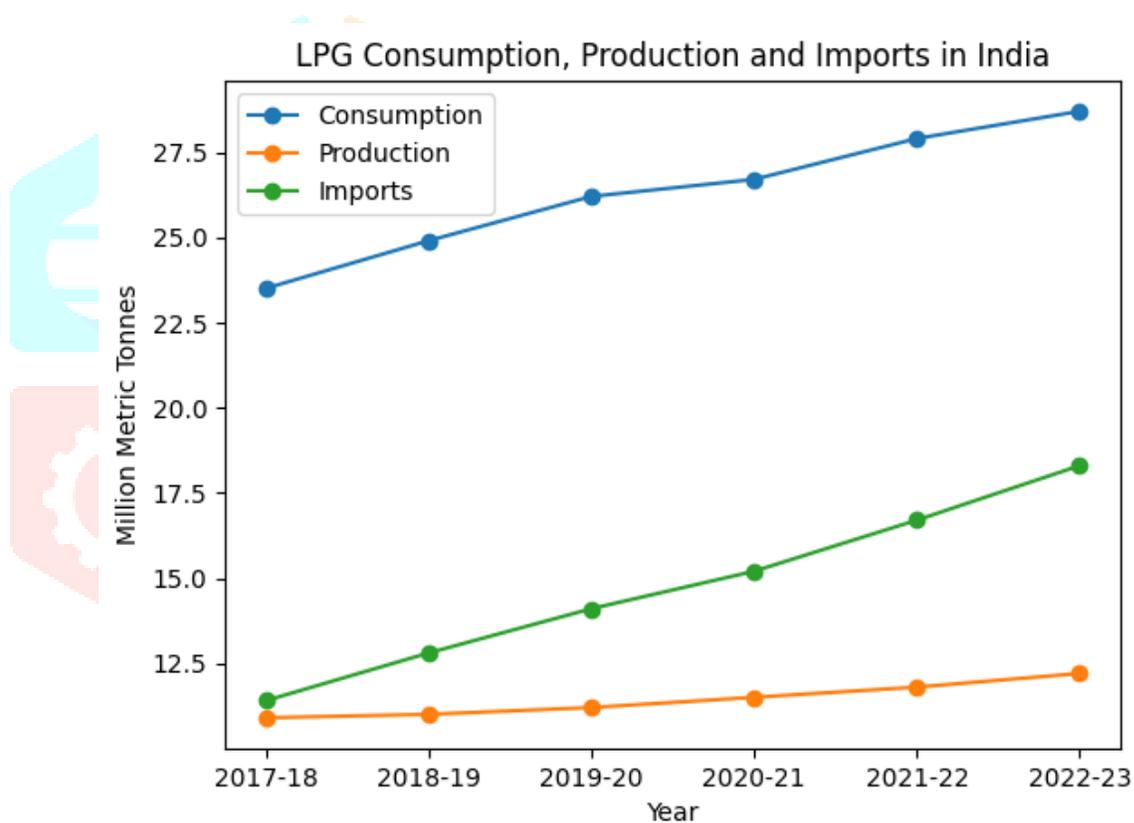
1. Introduction

Energy access plays an important role in economic and social development. LPG has become the primary cooking fuel for millions of Indian households due to its efficiency and clean-burning properties. Government initiatives have expanded LPG access significantly over the last decade.

2. LPG Consumption Trends in India

Year	Consumption (MMT)	Production (MMT)	Imports (MMT)
2017-18	23.5	10.9	11.4
2018-19	24.9	11.0	12.8
2019-20	26.2	11.2	14.1
2020-21	26.7	11.5	15.2
2021-22	27.9	11.8	16.7
2022-23	28.7	12.2	18.3

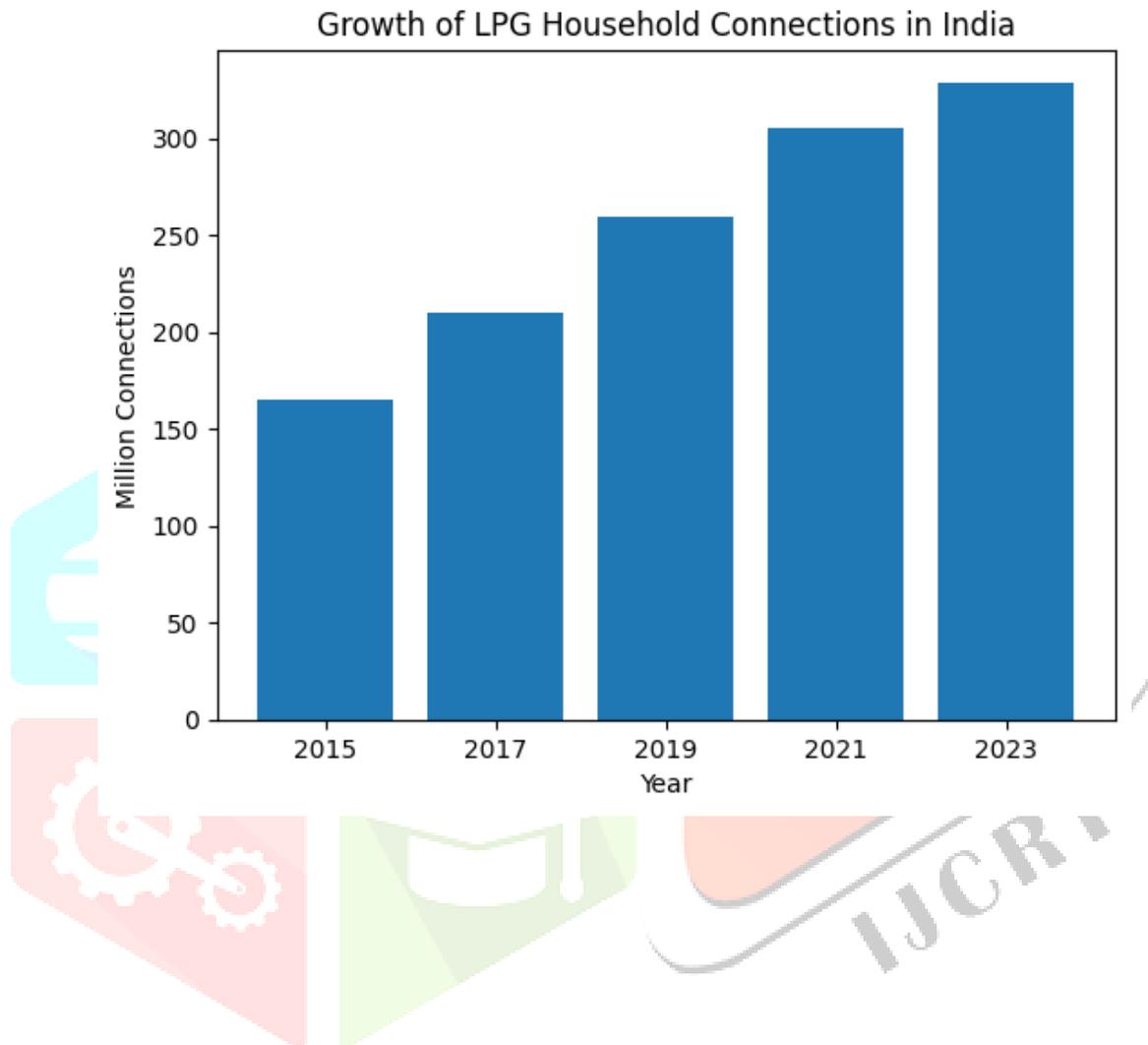
Figure 1: LPG Consumption, Production and Imports in India



3. Growth of LPG Connections

LPG connections have increased significantly due to clean cooking initiatives and expansion of distribution networks across rural and urban India.

Figure 2: Growth of LPG Household Connections

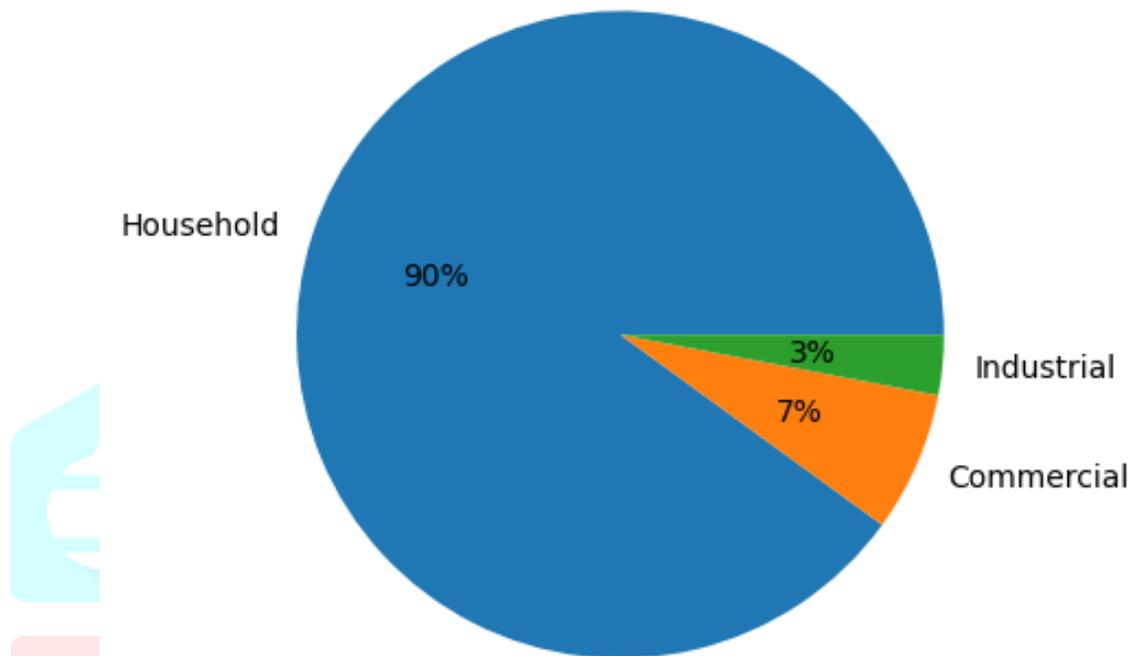


4. Sector-wise LPG Consumption

The household sector accounts for the majority of LPG consumption in India. Commercial and industrial usage represent a relatively smaller share.

Figure 3: LPG Consumption by Sector

Sector-wise LPG Consumption in India



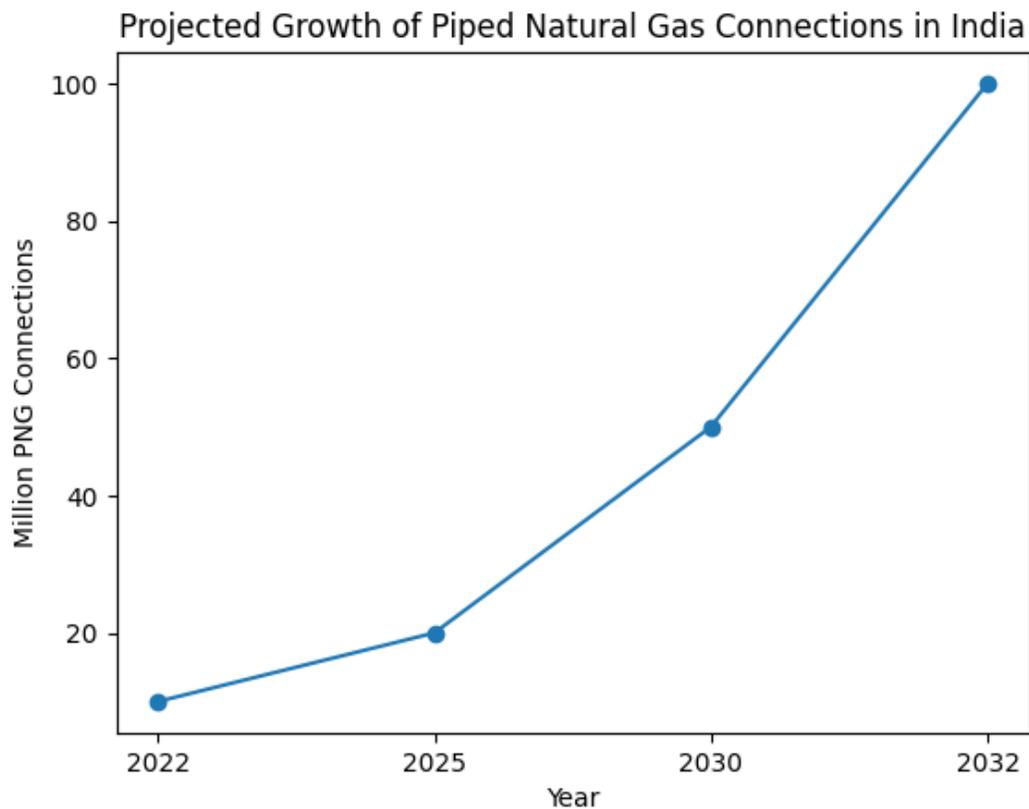
5. Causes of LPG Supply Challenges

Major challenges include import dependency, geopolitical risks affecting shipping routes, limited storage capacity, and rising domestic demand.

6. Policy Developments

Government policies are focusing on expanding piped natural gas networks, diversifying energy sources, and strengthening supply infrastructure.

Figure 4: Projected Growth of PNG Connections



7. Practical Solutions

Key solutions include diversification of cooking fuels such as biogas and electric cooking, expansion of PNG infrastructure, strengthening domestic LPG production, improving storage capacity, and modernizing logistics.

8. Policy Analysis

Policy Pillar	Objective
Energy Diversification	Reduce dependence on LPG
Infrastructure Development	Expand storage and pipelines
Domestic Production	Increase refinery output
Supply Chain Efficiency	Improve distribution logistics
Consumer Awareness	Promote efficient energy use

9. Conclusion

LPG will remain an essential cooking fuel in India. Strengthening domestic production, expanding PNG networks, building strategic reserves, and encouraging alternative cooking technologies can significantly reduce supply risks and improve national energy security.

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