

- (b) details of funds allocation under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme;
- (c) break-up of fund allocation under different procedures covered under the scheme;
- (d) the deadline by which the scheme would cover 100 per cent population of India; and
- (e) whether there is a clash between Government and hospitals over the rate that, insurance companies would pay to hospitals under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) The Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) has been launched on 23.09.2018, as a centrally sponsored scheme. No timeline has been indicated for implementation of PMJAY.

- (b) For the current Financial Year, at the Budget Estimate stage, ₹ 2000/- crore were allocated.
- (c) No specific fund is allocated for any procedure under the scheme. However, a fixed rate of each procedure covered under the scheme is indicated for making reimbursement to the hospitals for undertaking the procedure in treating the beneficiaries.
- (d) No timeline has been fixed to cover 100 per cent population of India under the scheme.
- (e) No.

Amendments to GST Act

2906. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to bring amendments to the GST Act to resolve a number of issues that company and industry associations have raised;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) to what extent the proposed amendments help industry such as pharmaceutical, biotech, manufacturing, etc., to withdraw their petition before courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Yes Madam. Based on the representations received from various

stakeholders, including trade and industry, certain amendments were recommended by the GST Council. Consequently, the Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Union Territory Goods and Service Tax (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Goods and Services Tax (Compensation to States) Amendment Act, 2018 and the Integrated Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Act, 2018 received the assent of the Hon'ble President of India on 29.08.2018. The GST Council in its 31st meeting held on 22nd December, 2018 decided that the said amendment Acts would be brought into force with effect from 1st February, 2019.

(c) The proposed amendments were formulated after widespread consultation with all the stakeholders and is expected to address the issues raised by them including those from the pharmaceuticals, biotech and manufacturing sectors.

Withdrawal from New Pension Scheme

2907. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allowed premature withdrawal from New Pension Scheme Fund in case of Government employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to allow Government employees to choose fund types and fund managers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A subscriber is eligible for three partial withdrawals during the period of subscription under National Pension System (NPS), each withdrawal not exceeding twenty-five percent of the contributions made by the subscriber and excluding contributions made by the employer. There is, however, no restriction on withdrawals from the Tier-II account of the subscriber. Further, keeping in view the possibility of sudden financial needs of the subscribers, the requirement of minimum period under National Pension System (NPS) for availing the facility of partial withdrawal from the mandatory Tier-I account of the subscriber has been reduced from 10 years to 3 years from the date of joining *w.e.f.* 10th August, 2017. The minimum gap of 5 years between two partial withdrawals has also been removed *w.e.f.* 10th August, 2017.