

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2966  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2022**

**ISSUANCE OF AYUSHMAN BHARAT CARDS IN THE COUNTRY**

**2966. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the decision was taken by Government to give benefits to 55 crore people under the Ayushman scheme on the basis of the Census of the year 2011;
- (b) if so, the number of Ayushman cards issued till 2018 and the details of the benefits provided; and
- (c) by when will the cards be issued and the benefits be given to the remaining people?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (c): Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) launched on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2018 provides health coverage up to Rs. 5 lakh per annum per beneficiary family to around 10.74 crore (over 50 crore people) poor and vulnerable families identified from Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC) data of 2011 on the basis of select deprivation and occupational criteria across rural and urban areas respectively.

In the year 2018, a total of 72 lakh beneficiaries were verified and provided with Ayushman cards and approximately 6.36 lakh hospital admissions were authorized under the scheme.

AB-PMJAY is an entitlement-based scheme. Eligible beneficiaries can directly visit any empanelled public or private hospital to avail cashless treatment. However, Ayushman cards are issued to the beneficiaries to create awareness about the scheme. National Health Authority in association with State Health Agencies has fast-tracked the process of issuance of cards to the beneficiaries across the country.

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