

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 903
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH FEBRUARY, 2025**

IMPLEMENTATION OF AYUSHMAN VAY VANDANA CARD FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

903. SMT. REKHA SHARMA:

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

- (a) whether Government has launched the Ayushman Vay Vandana Yojana for senior citizens, and if so, the details of the scheme;
- (b) the eligibility criteria and healthcare benefits provided under the scheme, including coverage for hospitalization and treatment of critical illnesses;
- (c) the total number of beneficiaries under the scheme since its inception, State-wise and region-wise;
- (d) whether Government has any plan to expand the scope of the scheme to include preventive health check-ups and home healthcare services for senior citizens; and
- (e) the steps being taken to ensure awareness and accessibility of the scheme, particularly in rural and underserved areas?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) and (b): On 29.10.2024, Government of India expanded Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) to provide free treatment benefits of up to ₹5 lakh per year on a family basis to all senior citizens aged 70 years and above, irrespective of their socio-economic status through Ayushman Vay Vandana card. The details of the scheme are at **Annexure-I**.

(c): As on 06.02.2025, more than 47.2 lakh Ayushman Vay Vandana cards were created under AB-PMJAY. State/UT-wise details of number of Ayushman Vay Vandana cards created are at **Annexure-II**.

(d): The scheme provides health cover for secondary and tertiary care for in-patient care only i.e. hospitalization, corresponding to 1,961 treatment procedures across 27 specialties.

(e): AB-PMJAY has a comprehensive media and outreach strategy to spread awareness and empower beneficiaries for their rights and entitlements more prominently in rural and underserved areas. This includes advertisement over traditional media platforms including newspapers, community radio, street plays, digital displays, radio campaigns, mass messaging, and telecast of beneficiary testimonials via Doordarshan etc. In addition to this, State Health Agencies have also engaged the wide network of frontline workers i.e., ASHAs, AWWs and VLEs (Village Level Entrepreneurs) who are pivotal in creating mass awareness at the grassroot level. In addition to this, the Ayushman Vay Vandana card beneficiaries may give a missed call to helpline number 1800-110-770 or call to 24x7 call centre (14555) for any assistance/queries.

Further, the government has issued directions to the States to undertake extensive IEC activities to raise the awareness about the expansion of AB PM-JAY for all senior citizens of the age 70 years and above.

The details of the Ayushman Vay Vandana scheme are as follows:

- i. The benefits of the AB-PMJAY shall be available to senior citizens of the age 70 years and above irrespective of their socio-economic status.
- ii. The only eligibility criteria is to attain the age of 70 years which shall be determined on the basis of age recorded in Aadhaar.
- iii. Aadhaar based e-KYC is mandatory for enrolment and issuance of Ayushman Vay Vandana card.
- iv. Beneficiaries with other Central and State government health insurance schemes are given a one-time option to choose between their current scheme and AB-PMJAY. Beneficiary holding active private health insurance and Employee State Insurance Scheme are also eligible to avail the benefits under the scheme.
- v. Enrolment of all eligible senior citizens aged 70 years and above is application-based, continuous process allowing registration throughout the year. Enrolment may be done through mobile phone application (Ayushman App), web portal (beneficiary.nha.gov.in) or at the nearby empaneled hospital or Common Service Centre. The feature of self-registration is also available in the above-mentioned application.
- vi. An annual health cover of Rs. 5 lakh per eligible beneficiary family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalizations corresponding to 1,961 treatment procedures across 27 specialties including General Medicine, General Surgery, Orthopaedics, Cardiology, Oncology etc. Among these, treatment of critical illness like Hemodialysis / Peritoneal Dialysis, Acute Ischemic Stroke, Accelerated hypertension, Total Hip Replacement, Total Knee Replacement, PTCA, inclusive of diagnostic angiogram, Single Chamber Permanent Pacemaker Implantation, Double Chamber Permanent Pacemaker Implantation etc., are available to eligible senior citizens. Further, States have been provided flexibility to further customize the Health Benefit Packages to local context.
- vii. All eligible beneficiaries under AB-PMJAY can avail treatment through a network of over 30,000 public and private empaneled healthcare providers.
- viii. A helpline number 1800-110-770 is available for the Ayushman Vay Vandana card beneficiaries where they may give a missed call or beneficiary may call to 24x7 call centre (14555) for any assistance/queries.

State/UT-wise details of number of Ayushman Vay Vandana cards

State/UT	No. of Ayushman Vay Vandana cards
Andaman And Nicobar Islands	3,079
Andhra Pradesh	56,118
Arunachal Pradesh	119
Assam	12,130
Bihar	1,86,196
Chandigarh	8,020
Chhattisgarh	2,49,221
Goa	4,760
Gujarat	4,08,369
Haryana	1,10,828
Himachal Pradesh	36,609
Jammu And Kashmir	67,112
Jharkhand	23,028
Karnataka	1,39,949
Kerala	6,07,083
Ladakh	116
Lakshadweep	43
Madhya Pradesh	13,57,998
Maharashtra	1,69,577
Manipur	8,348
Meghalaya	100
Mizoram	725
Nagaland	224
Puducherry	8,031
Punjab	79,139
Rajasthan	2,10,338
Sikkim	2,316
Tamil Nadu	1,27,369
Telangana	15,905
The Dadra And Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu	1,400
Tripura	16,649
Uttar Pradesh	8,02,564
Uttarakhand	9,411
