

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 912
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH FEBRUARY, 2025**

70 YEARS AND ABOVE BENEFICIARIES UNDER AB-PMJAY

912. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

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

- (a) the current number of beneficiaries aged 70 years and above under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), along with details of the claims made for hospitalization and treatment;
- (b) the steps being taken to ensure that the elderly are adequately enrolled in the scheme in underserved or remote areas;
- (c) the details on how the inclusion of senior citizens has impacted, the overall utilization rates of PM-JAY services, particularly in comparison to other age groups; and
- (d) the measures in place to monitor the adequacy and quality of healthcare services provided to elderly beneficiaries?

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

(a) to (c): On 29.10.2024, the Government of India expanded Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) to provide free treatment benefits of up to Rs. 5 lakh per year to 6 crore senior citizens aged 70 years and above belonging to 4.5 crore families, irrespective of their socio-economic status.

As on 06.02.2025, more than 47.2 lakh eligible senior citizens have enrolled for Ayushman Vay Vandana cards.

As on 28.01.2025, 1.10 lakh hospital admissions worth Rs 202.96 crore has been authorized for Ayushman Vay Vandana.

The enrollment of all eligible senior citizens aged 70 years and above is application based to ensure efficient delivery of benefits. Regarding this, different modes of application are available including mobile phone application (Ayushman App), and web portal (beneficiary.nha.gov.in). The feature of self-registration is also available in the above mentioned application. Beneficiaries can also visit to the nearby empanelled hospital or Common Service Centre for creation of their cards. 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.

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 backward 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-PMJAY for all senior citizens of the age 70 years and above.

(d): With regard to the health benefit services, National Health Authority (NHA) has defined the latest national master of the Health Benefit Package (HBP) which provides cashless healthcare services related to 1961 procedures across 27 medical specialties including General Medicine, General Surgery, Orthopedics, Cardiology, Oncology etc. which can be availed by different age groups. Among these, treatment services 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 as well. Further, states have been provided flexibility to further customize the Health Benefit Packages to local context.

The scheme ensures quality treatment for the beneficiaries. For this, various incentives are provided to improve the quality of healthcare services. To encourage the participation of public, private and corporate healthcare providers, empaneled hospitals are additionally incentivized for accreditation. Incentive of 10% and 15% over and above the package rate is provided to the hospitals with entry level NABH accreditation and full NABH accreditation, respectively. Hospitals, which are imparting Post-Graduate education, are also incentivized at the rate of 10% over and above the base rate of HBP packaged master rates.
