

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 923
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH FEBRUARY, 2025**

IRREGULARITIES UNDER AB-PMJAY

**923. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:**

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

- (a) whether CAG report noted in 2023 that almost 7.5 lakh beneficiaries under Aayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) were linked to single mobile number;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether CAG had also identified 4,761 registrations that were linked to only seven Aadhar numbers, indicating potential irregularities;
- (d) if so, the details of inquiries initiated and outcome thereof; and
- (e) the details of action taken against the culprits including guilty hospitals, till date, Statewise?

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

(a) to (e): The CAG report in question pertains to FY 2018-21. The CAG report has mentioned that a large number of beneficiaries registered against a single mobile number. Before August 2022, in the Beneficiary Identification System (BIS), used for generating Ayushman cards, mobile number was a mandatory field and in cases where individuals did not have their own mobile number, the operators authorised to create cards, chose to enter their own mobile number or a random 10-digit number. However, mobile number is not a basis for determining eligibility and creating an Ayushman card. Ayushman cards are issued only after Aadhaar e-KYC of a beneficiary. The State/UT-wise details of such cases are at **Annexure**.

Further, a new version of BIS has been launched wherein mobile number has been made optional and necessary validations of mobile number have been put in place.

With respect to 4,761 registrations linked to seven Aadhaar numbers, it is highlighted that the CAG report pertains to FY 2018-21, during which Government of Tamil Nadu was using their State system for beneficiary identification. CAG highlighted cases from this system where Aadhaar was manually entered against the beneficiaries without Aadhaar authentication, which resulted in multiple beneficiaries getting linked with same/erroneous Aadhaar numbers.

The State of Tamil Nadu has since migrated to the NHA's BIS system for beneficiary verification. NHA's BIS ensures multiple validations such as de-duplication, correctness of Aadhaar etc. and Ayushman card is generated only after Aadhaar e-KYC.

Further, after receipt of the said Report, NHA conducted an exercise for checking all of its beneficiary database for duplicate Aadhaar number and no such duplicate Aadhaar has been found. Thus, there are no irregularities in the validation of beneficiaries whether related to multiple beneficiaries linked to same mobile numbers or multiple registrations against single Aadhaar number in NHA IT system.

State/UT-wise details of cases where multiple beneficiaries registered against a single mobile number

State / UT	Number of beneficiaries
Assam	74
Bihar	34,057
Chandigarh	2
Chhattisgarh	5,576
Goa	5
Gujarat	58,060
Haryana	13,555
Himachal Pradesh	2,892
Jammu And Kashmir	32,900
Jharkhand	98,622
Kerala	1,48,581
Madhya Pradesh	1,28,804
Maharashtra	57,419
Meghalaya	69,337
Mizoram	58
Nagaland	2
Puducherry	2,735
Punjab	30,001
DNH & DD	2,285
Tripura	2,687
Uttar Pradesh	75,240
Uttarakhand	14,571

Note: Figures are of States/UTs operating on NHA's BIS 1.0 system at the time of CAG audit (2018-21).
