

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1057
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH DECEMBER, 2023**

CAG REPORT ON AYUSHMAN BHARAT SCHEME

1057. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

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

- (a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) report on Ayushman Bharat scheme has revealed irregularities such as illegal mobile numbers and possible fraud if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the audit found instances of hospitals which were absent from the list of facilities registered under the public health insurance scheme, if so, the detailed investigation report in this matter and what action was taken against the hospitals concerned; and
- (c) whether only 18,783 hospitals out of 27,000 empaneled for Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) are active since its launch in 2018, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL)**

(a) to (c): The C&AG has undertaken performance audit of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) for the period September-18 to March-21. The audit report was tabled in Parliament on 08.08.2023 (<https://cag.gov.in/en/audit-report/>) and the action taken note (ATN) has been submitted. Regarding the fact that multiple beneficiaries were registered under the same or invalid mobile numbers, it may kindly be noted that there is no fraud/ irregularity associated with invalid or repeated mobile numbers.

Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY, beneficiaries are verified through Aadhaar e-KYC only. Further, beneficiaries have to undergo Aadhaar authentication at the time of availing services. Mobile numbers are collected only for communication purposes. Since PM-JAY is an entitlement-based scheme, the name of beneficiary is pre-decided and therefore, beneficiary database cannot be changed to add or replace beneficiaries. The new version of beneficiary identification system has

made mobile number an optional field. Further, newmobile number can be added in the address field only after successful validation through OTP.

Only empanelled hospitals can book treatment under Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY. Without being empanelled on the Hospital Engagement Module of Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY, hospitals can neither raise request for pre-authorization nor can it submit claims.

The C&AG audit has not reported any instance of treatment booked by non-empanelled hospitals. Many States have empanelled Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs) under the scheme which primarily provide day care services with limited procedures.

As on date; 20,910 out of 26,774 hospitals are active under the scheme; i.e these hospitals have raised at least one pre-authorization in the past 3 months. Further, 11,316 private hospitals out of 11,748 empanelled are actively participating under the scheme.

Further, in order to improve the participation of already empanelled hospitals, the following steps have been undertaken:-

- i. Extensive drive in States/UTs for enhanced participation of hospitals.
- ii. Creation of Beneficiary Facilitation agency (BFA) which is a dedicated agency to deploy frontline Pradhan Mantri Arogya Mitras in public hospitals.
- ii. Incentive structure for the staff of public hospitals
- iv. Timely settlement of claims .
- v. Green Channel Payment;under which partial payment of 50% of the claim amount is automatically released to the hospitals at the time of claim submission, while the balance is released after the normal claim adjudication process.
- vi. Revised packages and rates of treatment.
