

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 425
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06TH FEBRUARY, 2024**

PARTICIPATION OF LARGER HOSPITALS IN THE AB-PMJAY

425. SHRI SANJEEV ARORA:

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

- (a) whether the average bed capacity of empanelled hospitals stands at a mere 45 beds currently; and
- (b) the measures Government is implementing to increase the participation of larger hospitals in the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), ensuring that patients with critical conditions receive adequate treatment?

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

(a) and (b): Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) aims at providing access to quality healthcare to about 55 crore individuals corresponding to 12 crore families. To achieve this objective, hospitals are empanelled under the scheme by respective State Health Agencies (SHAs). SHAs have been provided flexibility to customize hospital empanelment criteria based on the condition of demand and supply.

As on 15.01.2024, a total of 27,742 hospitals including 11,973 private hospitals with 13.3 lakh beds have been empanelled under the scheme. Out of these, a total of 7,005 hospitals empanelled under AB-PMJAY have more than 50 beds, while 3,196 hospitals have more than 100 beds. A total of 435 hospitals which have more than 500 beds, have also been empanelled under the scheme. Further, out of total number of empanelled hospitals, 234 Medical Colleges have also been empanelled under AB-PMJAY. Many corporate hospitals are also empanelled under the scheme.

Various Central Ministries such as Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Home Affairs have been engaged to identify and empanel hospitals run by these Ministries. As on 31.12.2023, a total of 593 hospitals, which are run by Central Government, have been empanelled under the scheme.

All Government hospitals with in-patient services or daycare facility are deemed empanelled under the scheme. Therefore, smaller hospitals are also empanelled under the scheme. Further, many single specialty hospitals that cater to high-end treatment, are also empanelled. The empanelment policy of scheme aims at ensuring access to quality healthcare services at the closest facility.

Hospital empanelment is a continuous process. In order to further improve their participation, a two-pronged strategy has been adopted which is as follows:

1. SHAs have been given flexibility to customize empanelment guidelines to suit local needs. Follow-ups with prominent hospital chains for empanelment under the scheme is also taken up.
2. In order to improve the participation of already empanelled hospitals, the following steps have been undertaken:
 - a) Package rates have been revised under HBP 2022 in which package rates have increased for 350 packages and new packages have been added.
 - b) Claim settlement is monitored at highest level and it is ensured that claim is timely settled.
 - c) Virtual and physical capacity building of hospitals are undertaken.
 - d) Hospital-specific toll-free number (14413) to address the concerns of hospitals on a real-time basis has been introduced.
 - e) Instructions have been issued to SHAs that District Implementation Units (DIUs) should regularly visit empanelled hospitals to understand their concern and review their participation under the scheme.
