

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 436
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06TH FEBRUARY, 2024**

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR AB-PMJAY

436. SHRI JOSE K. MANI:

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

- (a) the details of the eligibility criteria of Central category families under Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY);
- (b) whether Government has noticed any issues with respect to the beneficiary database used for AB-PMJAY eligibility;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has any plans to adopt National Food Security Act (NFSA) data as the base data for the AB-PMJAY eligibility; and
- (e) 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 (e): Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) is the world's largest publicly funded health assurance scheme which provides health cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to approximately 55 crore beneficiaries corresponding to 12 crore families constituting the bottom 40% of India's population. With the revision of the beneficiary base to 12 crore families, States/UTs have been given the flexibility to use digitized databases of similar socio-economic profile for identification of beneficiaries under AB-PMJAY. This is aimed to ensure that all eligible beneficiaries are extended free healthcare under the scheme. Further, many States/UTs implementing AB-PMJAY have expanded the beneficiary base under the scheme, at their own cost.
