

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2528
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2024**

HEALTH CARD FOR FREE TREATMENT FOR THOSE OVER 70 YEARS OF AGE

2528. SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM:

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

- (a) whether the scheme for providing health card for free treatment for those over 70 years of age has been implemented;
- (b) the details of diseases which will receive treatment under this scheme and the limit up to which treatment will be received under the scheme;
- (c) whether the scheme is cashless;
- (d) whether hospitals have been empanelled under the scheme;
- (e) whether the scheme has State Government share if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the amount allocated by Central Government for this scheme this year?

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

(a): On 29.10.2024, Government of India expanded Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) to provide free treatment benefits of up to ₹5 lakh per year on a family basis to all senior citizens aged 70 years and above, irrespective of their socio-economic status. Senior citizens are issued a separate Ayushman card as Ayushman Vay Vandana card.

(b): In the latest national master of the Health Benefit Package (HBP), the scheme provides cashless healthcare services related to 1961 procedures across 27 medical specialties including General Medicine, General Surgery, Orthopaedics, Cardiology, Oncology etc. which can be availed by different age groups.

Among these, treatment services like Haemodialysis / Peritoneal Dialysis, Acute Ischemic Stroke, Accelerated hypertension, Total Hip Replacement, Total Knee Replacement, Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty (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.

(c): AB-PMJAY is a completely cashless and paperless scheme.

(d): The beneficiaries under the scheme are eligible to avail benefits of the scheme through a network of empaneled hospitals. As on 30.11.2024, a total of 29,929 hospitals are empaneled under the scheme.

(e): AB-PMJAY is completely funded by the Government and the costs are shared between Central and State Governments. The ratio of Central share to State share for all States, except North-Eastern States and 3 Himalayan States/UTs, is 60:40. For North-Eastern States and 3 Himalayan States/UTs (viz. Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand), the ratio of Central share to State share is 90:10. In the case of Union Territories, the Central contribution of premium is 100% for UTs without legislature, while it is 60:40 for those with legislature. The same ratio is applicable for expenditure for treatments of senior citizens of age 70 years and above.

(f): Government of India has approved an amount of Rs. 722 crore as central share for the Financial Year 2024-25 for this scheme.
