

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 260
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04TH FEBRUARY, 2025**

AYUSHMAN VAY VANDANA CARD

260. SHRI MAYANKBHAI JAYDEVBHAI NAYAK:

MS. KAVITA PATIDAR:

SHRI MITHLESH KUMAR:

DR. SUMER SINGH SOLANKI:

SHRI NARHARI AMIN:

SHRI SUBHASH BARALA:

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

(a) whether there is any plan to expand the scope the Ayushman Vay Vandana Card programme in the future to include additional health benefits or services and also including the Tribal Community;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken to ensure the availability of the benefits of Ayushman Vay Vandana Card to the most vulnerable sections, especially in rural and backward areas?

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

(a) and (b): 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 to all senior citizens aged 70 years and above, irrespective of their socio-economic status including tribal communities.

With regard to the health benefit services, National Health Authority (NHA) has defined the latest national master of the Health Benefit Package (HBP) which provides cashless healthcare services related to 1961 procedures across 27 medical specialties including General Medicine, General Surgery, Orthopedics, Cardiology, Oncology etc. which can be availed by different age groups. Among these, treatment services like Hemodialysis / Peritoneal Dialysis, Acute Ischemic Stroke, Accelerated hypertension, Total Hip Replacement, Total Knee Replacement, 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): Under AB-PMJAY, the beneficiaries of Ayushman Vay Vandana Cards are eligible to take the benefits of the scheme through a network of over 30,072 hospitals including 13,352 private hospitals.

AB-PMJAY has a comprehensive media and outreach strategy to spread awareness and empower beneficiaries for their rights and entitlements more prominently in rural and backward areas. This includes advertisement over traditional media platforms including newspapers, community radio, street plays, digital displays, radio campaigns, mass messaging, and telecast of beneficiary testimonials via Doordarshan etc. In addition to this, State Health Agencies have also engaged the wide network of frontline workers i.e., ASHAs, AWWs and VLEs (Village Level Entrepreneurs) who are pivotal in creating mass awareness at the grassroot level. In addition to this, the Ayushman Vay Vandana Card beneficiaries may give a missed call to helpline number 1800-110-770 or call to 24x7 call centre (14555) for any assistance/queries.

Further, the government has issued directions to the states to undertake extensive IEC activities to raise the awareness about the expansion of AB-PMJAY for all senior citizens of the age 70 years and above.
