

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 270
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST JULY, 2026**

EXPANSION OF AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE SERVICES

270. SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA:

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

- (a) whether Government has expanded affordable healthcare services under various Central Government schemes during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the details of beneficiaries covered under these schemes, State/UT-wise including Karnataka;
- (c) the measures taken to strengthen healthcare infrastructure, medical institutions and digital health services across the country; and
- (d) the details of the achievements made in improving accessibility, affordability and quality of healthcare through these initiatives?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (d): Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) supplements the efforts of the States and Union Territories (UTs) in expanding affordable healthcare services and strengthening healthcare infrastructure across the country, through various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Central Sector Schemes. Towards this end, MoHFW is implementing schemes such as National Health Mission (NHM), Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY), Pradhan Mantri- Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM), Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY).

Under the NHM, the Government has taken many steps towards universal health coverage by supporting the State Governments in providing accessible and affordable healthcare to people. 1.87 lakh AAMs have been operationalized across the country to deliver the expanded range of comprehensive primary healthcare services that include preventive, promotive, curative, palliative and rehabilitative services. These include reproductive and child healthcare services, communicable and non-communicable diseases, and a wide array of other health concerns. As on 30.06.2026, total 10,137 AAM have been operationalized in Karnataka. The State/UT-wise details of total footfall at AAM as on 30.06.2026, including Karnataka, are attached as Annexure-I.

National Free Drugs Service Initiative and Free Diagnostics Service Initiative have been rolled out to ensure availability of essential drugs and diagnostic facilities, and reduce out of pocket expenditure of the patients visiting public health facilities. This includes financial support to States/UTs for 113 drugs at AAM-Sub Health Centres, 179 at AAM-Primary Health Centres, 301

at Community Health Centres, 318 at Sub- District Hospitals and 381 at District Hospitals. Besides, quality generic medicines are made available at affordable prices to all, under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) in collaboration with the State Governments. Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) Pharmacy stores have been set up in some hospitals/institutions.

In addition, Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) provides health cover of ₹5 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to more than 12 crore families constituting the economically vulnerable bottom 40% of India's population. States/UTs implementing AB PM-JAY have further expanded the beneficiary base, at their own cost. Further, the scheme has been expanded to cover 6 crore senior citizens of age 70 years and above belonging to 4.5 crore families irrespective of their socio- economic status under AB PM-JAY with Vay Vandana Card. As on 30.06.2026, a total of 12.69 crore hospital admissions amounting to ₹1.92 lakh crore have been authorized under the scheme thereby providing cashless treatment to eligible beneficiaries. The State/UT-wise details of eligible families covered under AB PM-JAY are enclosed at Annexure-II.

Moreover, the Government of India is implementing several schemes and initiatives across States/UTs to further improve healthcare infrastructure, medical institutions and digital health services in the country.

Under NHM, the Government of India provides technical and financial support to States/Union Territories for creating and strengthening quality healthcare infrastructure, based on proposals received from them in the form of Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs).

Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) has been launched to strengthen India's public health system through reforms that integrate health service delivery, public health action and health research, with an outlay of ₹64,180 crore for the scheme period FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26.

Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) aims at correcting regional imbalances in the availability of affordable tertiary healthcare services and at augmenting facilities for quality medical education in the country. Towards expanding medical education capacity, the Government is also implementing Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the establishment of new medical colleges attached to existing district/referral hospitals, and for the upgradation of existing State/Central Government medical colleges to increase MBBS seats. Another Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), for strengthening and upgradation of Government medical colleges for increase of Post Graduate seats is also being implemented.

On the digital health front, the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) supports the development of an integrated, citizen-centric national digital health ecosystem; as on 13.07.2026, 94,37,31,002 ABHA accounts has been created nationwide, including 3,89,28,903 ABHA accounts in Karnataka. The state-wise list of Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) created are maintained on a real-time dashboard, available at dashboard.abdm.gov.in. Further, teleconsultation services are available at all operational AAMs across the country, including in rural areas, enabling people to access specialist services closer to their homes and addressing concerns of physical accessibility, shortage of service providers, and continuum of care; a total of 46.90 crore teleconsultations have been conducted at AAMs as on 30.06.2026. Additionally, eSanjeevani National Telemedicine Service is implemented in two variants — eSanjeevani OPD, which enables

direct patient-to-doctor video consultations, and eSanjeevani AAM, which facilitates doctor-to-doctor teleconsultations, allowing primary healthcare providers to seek expert opinions from specialists at higher-level hospitals. Further, Tele-MANAS, the National Tele Mental Health Programme, was launched in 2022 to improve access to quality mental health counselling and care services across the country.

To ensure quality healthcare Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) have been laid down to improve health infrastructure and services in public health facilities. These standards include norms for services, infrastructure, human resources, diagnostics, equipment, medicines etc. Further, the quality of healthcare services at District Hospitals and Sub-Divisional Hospitals is strengthened through the National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) programme and the Kayakalp initiative, which promote quality improvement, patient safety, hygiene, sanitation and infection control.

Annexure-I**Annexure referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Un-starred Question
No. 270 for answer on 21.07.2026****State/UT-wise details of total footfall at AAM as on 30.06.2026**

S.No.	State Name	Total Footfall
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3,041,038
2	Andhra Pradesh	450,505,356
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2,433,176
4	Assam	89,059,086
5	Bihar	181,925,656
6	Chandigarh	5,859,572
7	Chhattisgarh	152,526,951
8	Delhi	4,539,876
9	DNH&DD	4,566,056
10	Goa	7,926,900
11	Gujarat	366,831,599
12	Haryana	86,435,917
13	Himachal Pradesh	26,119,279
14	Jammu & Kashmir	54,170,351
15	Jharkhand	50,201,647
16	Karnataka	366,916,573
17	Kerala	312,734,533
18	Ladakh	2,140,764
19	Lakshadweep	789,449
20	Madhya Pradesh	280,680,724
21	Maharashtra	447,442,093
22	Manipur	5,184,677
23	Meghalaya	13,396,014
24	Mizoram	5,238,564
25	Nagaland	2,195,545
26	Odisha	256,480,929
27	Puducherry	22,116,589
28	Punjab	65,091,518
29	Rajasthan	345,778,081
30	Sikkim	3,200,720
31	Tamil Nadu	805,631,697
32	Telangana	296,559,152
33	Tripura	10,138,176
34	Uttar Pradesh	532,807,909
35	Uttarakhand	25,996,880
36	West Bengal	441,229,033
	Total	5,727,892,080

Annexure-II

**Annexure referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Un-starred Question
No. 270 for answer on 21.07.2026**

State/UT wise Details of Number of Eligible Families under AB PM-JAY

States/UTs	No. of Eligible Families under AB PM-JAY including ASHA/AWW/AWH and VVS /Senior citizen aged 70 years and above)
Andaman and Nicobar	32,572
Andhra Pradesh	78,65,341
Arunachal Pradesh	1,33,249
Assam	37,25,630
Bihar	1,32,60,433
Chandigarh	1,04,084
Chhattisgarh	45,70 670
Delhi	8,95,526
Goa	1,07,089
Gujarat	67,01,820
Haryana	24,78,787
Himachal Pradesh	7,99,728
Jammu And Kashmir	10,84,365
Jharkhand	36,19,092
Karnataka	87,51,412
Kerala	35,94,528
Ladakh	24,474
Lakshadweep	3,498
Madhya Pradesh	1,06,34,139
Maharashtra	1,32,92,650
Manipur	3,73,701
Meghalaya	4,30,702
Mizoram	2,26,156
Nagaland	2,96,233
Odisha	77,79,939
Puducherry	1,52,164
Punjab	27,35,109
Rajasthan	80,72,469
Sikkim	58,764
Tamil Nadu	1,16,21,507
Telangana	39,78,169
The Dadra And Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu	49,733
Tripura	6,27,394
Uttar Pradesh	1,80,17,007
Uttarakhand	9,73,184
West Bengal	1,43,39,146