

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1890
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06TH DECEMBER, 2024**

ISSUANCE OF AYUSHMAN VAY VANDANA CARDS IN KERALA

1890. SHRI M K RAGHAVAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of any delay in issuance of Ayushman Vay Vandana cards in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has take any steps to overcome the delay in issuance of the said in Kerala;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that the beneficiaries of Ayushman Vaya Vandana cards is losing other insurance schemes while opting this uncommenced scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (c): 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.

The scheme was launched nationwide along with the State of Kerala. As on 02.12.2024, a total of 3.87 lakh Ayushman Vay Vandana cards have been created in the State of Kerala. A total of 403 beneficiaries have availed treatment worth Rs. 55.48 lakh using Ayushman Vay Vandana cards for the State of Kerela.

(d) and (e): To ensure that beneficiaries claim benefits under only one government-funded scheme, two validations are implemented. Firstly, the beneficiaries must declare that they are not receiving free healthcare services under any other scheme partially or fully funded by the Government of India or State Government. Secondly, if the beneficiaries indicate they are covered under another scheme, they have the option to either retain their current scheme coverage or choose to avail benefits under AB-PMJAY. This choice is one-time and final.

However, coverage under private health insurance policy would not be a bar for availing the benefits of AB-PMJAY scheme for senior citizens. Further, beneficiaries of Employees' State Insurance Scheme would also remain eligible under the scheme.
