

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 771
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2024**

COVERAGE OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES UNDER AB-PMJAY

**771. SMT. D K ARUNA:
SHRI EATALA RAJENDER:**

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

(a) whether the National Disability Network (NDN), a cohort of organisations and federations of persons with disabilities, has approached the Union Government seeking inclusion of persons with disabilities without any income or age criteria in the (AB-PMJAY) health insurance scheme, which aims to provide health benefits to the poor who lack public and private insurance coverage due to high premium and receive minimal financial support from the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government and present status thereof?

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

(a) and (b): No such communication has been received by either National Health Authority (NHA) or Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), from the National Disability Network (NDN), in this regard.

Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) beneficiary base includes poor and vulnerable families identified in the Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC-2011). The SECC-2011 incorporates deprivation criteria for rural areas, one of which is "Disabled member and no able-bodied adult member". Consequently, persons with disabilities in rural areas were included under the scheme. Further, based on the flexibility provided to States, the beneficiary base has been expanded to include data of similar socio-economic profile for identification of beneficiaries under Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY.

The scheme has certain medical and surgical packages in the package master such as packages for neural disabilities, mental disabilities, spinal injury, brain injury, muscular dystrophies,

cochlear implant surgery, surgery for spine deformation/foot deformation etc. which may be utilized by the beneficiaries who are Persons with Disability (PwD).

Further, there are States/UTs like Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir, Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra etc. which offer Universal Health Coverage and thus Persons with Disabilities are covered under converged AB-PMJAY.
