

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 185
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1ST AUGUST, 2025.**

AYUSHMAN VAY VANDANA CARD SCHEME

†*185. Dr. ANAND KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the Government has taken any special measures for the implementation of Ayushman Vay Vandana Card Scheme to provide healthcare benefits to senior citizens aged 70 years and above;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such Cards issued till date;

(c) whether the Government proposes to reduce the age limit for beneficiaries of the said scheme from 70 to 60 years in the near future so as to extend the said benefits to all senior citizens in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION
NO.†*185 FOR 1ST AUGUST, 2025**

Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) is a flagship scheme of the Government which provides health cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to 12 crore families constituting economically vulnerable bottom 40% of India's population. On 29.10.2024, the scheme was further extended to cover 6 crore senior citizens aged 70 years and above, representing 4.5 crore families, through Vay Vandana Card, irrespective of their socio-economic status.

The Government has taken several measures for the implementation of the scheme such as:

- Issuance of the detailed operational guidelines to all States/UTs to streamline beneficiary identification, card generation, and hospitalization protocols.
- A dedicated IEC campaign was launched to raise awareness among senior citizens and their caregivers about the benefits and eligibility under Vay Vandana Card.
- A real-time dashboard has been developed for monitoring card issuance and hospitalization.
- Regular reviews and convergence meetings are held with State Health Agencies (SHAs).

In addition to this, enrollment can also be done through mobile phone application (Ayushman App), and web portal (beneficiary.nha.gov.in) or at the nearby empanelled hospital. A national helpline number 14555 also provides assistance and addresses all the queries related to the scheme. As on date, a total of 75.41 lakh Ayushman Vay Vandana cards have been created under the scheme.

Further, expansion in treatment is done by inclusion of new procedures, empanelment of new hospitals, inclusion of new beneficiaries and other improvements as per requirements from time to time.
