

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3333
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08TH AUGUST, 2025**

PROVIDENT FUND REGISTRATION FOR AYUSHMAN CARD

†3333. DR. RAJEEV BHARADWAJ:

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

- (a) whether Provident Fund (PF) registration is not required to be eligible for Ayushman card;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of Ayushman card holders in Kangra and Chamba districts of Himachal Pradesh?

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

(a) and (b): Under Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), the eligibility criteria for the beneficiary families were initially identified from the Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) of 2011 on the basis of 6 deprivation and 11 occupational criteria across rural and urban areas respectively. Further, in January 2022, on the basis of decadal growth rate of 11.7%, Government of India revised the beneficiary base to 12 crore families and provided the flexibility to States/UTs to use other databases (of similar socio-economic profile) for verification of beneficiaries against such SECC beneficiaries who could not be identified and verified. Many of the States and Union Territories (UTs) implementing AB-PMJAY have further expanded the beneficiary base at their own cost under the scheme using non-SECC data sources (including National Food Security Act, State specific datasets).

In March 2024, the eligibility criteria under the scheme were expanded to include 37 lakh Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs), Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) and their families. Further, in October 2024, the government expanded AB-PMJAY to provide free treatment benefits of up to ₹5 lakh per year to approximately 6 crore senior citizens aged 70 years and above, belonging to 4.5 crore families, irrespective of their socio-economic status, through Vay Vandana cards.

(c): As on date, a total of 2,98,396 and 93,862 Ayushman cards have been created in Kangra and Chamba districts of Himachal Pradesh respectively.
