



Rajasthan to Merge Chiranjeevi Scheme with Ayushman Bharat

Why in News?

- The Rajasthan government has sought the union health ministry's approval to integrate the state's **Chiranjeevi health insurance scheme** with the Centre's **Ayushman Bharat programme** into **Ayushman Bharat Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme**.

Key Points

- **The Ayushman Bharat Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme**, is expected to retain the **existing benefits of the state scheme**, including a **₹25 lakh insurance cover in both private and government hospitals**.
- The state government has directed districts to issue new cards by 26th January, 2024, aligning with national efforts to cover all Ayushman Bharat beneficiaries.
- The **Chiranjeevi scheme**, introduced by former chief minister Ashok Gehlot, **offers higher coverage** compared to the Ayushman Bharat's ₹5 lakh.
- Since its **launch in May 2021**, the Chiranjeevi scheme has **provided universal health coverage** to all Rajasthani families. Its coverage was recently **increased from ₹10 lakh to ₹25 lakh, with an additional ₹10 lakh for accident coverage**.
- More than 100 million families have at least one Ayushman card with **Uttar Pradesh** leading in the number of **beneficiaries at 46 million**. **Madhya Pradesh** follows with **37 million**, **Gujarat and Chhattisgarh with 20 million each** and **Maharashtra with 19 million beneficiaries**.

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