

## Expectations from Budget 2019- Tejas Khoday

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The Ayushman Bharat program was initiated to provide health insurance cover to almost 40% of India's population, benefitting 100 million families with an aim to provide a coverage of Rs 5 lakh per family annually, benefitting more than 10.74 crore poor families. As many as 6.85 lakh poor patients have been provided free hospital treatment in the first 100 days of the launch of the program. On an average 5,000 claims are being settled every day since its roll out on September 23, 2018. This is a very necessary step to address the healthcare deficit of India and Ayushman Bharat is a giant step in that direction.