

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION.NO. 1378
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01/08/2023**

“MATERNAL HEALTH”

1378 # SHRI HARBHAJAN SINGH:

Will the **MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is a strong link between anemia and postpartum hemorrhage, with the risk of death or near miss very high among women in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any recent measures in the direction of improving maternal health;and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (c)

Anemia in pregnancy is associated with many complications including post-partum haemorrhage.

Under National Health Mission (NHM), the Government of India has taken the following measures to improve maternal health services for all pregnant women:

- **Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan (SUMAN)** provides assured, dignified, respectful and quality healthcare at no cost and zero tolerance for denial of services for every woman and newborn visiting public health facilities to end all preventable maternal and newborn deaths.
- **Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY)**, a demand promotion and conditional cash transfer scheme for promoting institutional delivery.

- **Under Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK)**, every pregnant woman is entitled to free delivery, including caesarean section, in public health institutions along with the provision of free transport, diagnostics, medicines, blood, other consumables & diet.
- **Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA)** provides pregnant women a fixed day, free of cost assured and quality antenatal check up by a Specialist/Medical Officer on the 9th day of every month.
Extended PMSMA strategy was launched to ensure quality ANC to pregnant women, especially to high-risk pregnancy (HRP) women and individual HRP tracking till a safe delivery is achieved by means of financial incentivization for the identified high risk pregnant women and accompanying ASHA for extra 3 visits over and above the PMSMA visit.
- **Anaemia Mukh Bharat (AMB):** Strategy to reduce prevalence of anaemia in children, adolescents and women through life cycle approach. Under this initiative, following key measures are taken to address the problem of anaemia;
 - Prophylactic Iron Folic Acid Supplementation to all six beneficiaries age group (children 6-59 months, children 5-9 years, adolescents 10-19 years, women of reproductive age (15-49 years), pregnant women and lactating women)
 - Periodic deworming among children and adolescents in age group 1-19 years under National Deworming Day (NDD) programme
 - Intensified year-round Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) Campaign
 - Testing of anaemia using Digital Invasive Haemoglobinometer and point of care treatment.
 - Management of severe anaemia in pregnant women by administration of IV Iron Sucrose / Blood transfusion
 - Providing incentives to ASHA for identification and follow-up of high-risk pregnancies including severe anaemia in pregnant women
 - Addressing non-nutritional causes of anaemia in endemic pockets with special focus on malaria, hemoglobinopathies and fluorosis
- **Monthly Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Day (VHSND)** is an outreach activity at Anganwadi centers for provision of maternal and child care including nutrition in convergence with the ICDS.
- **POSHAN Abhiyaan:** Government of India is implementing POSHAN Abhiyaan since 2018 with a goal to achieve improvement in nutritional status of Children, Adolescent Girls, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers, in a time bound manner
- **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)** is a direct benefit transfer (DBT) scheme under which cash benefits are provided to pregnant women in their bank account directly to meet enhanced nutritional needs and partially compensate for wage loss. This scheme is implemented under the Ministry of Women & Child development.

- **LaQshya** improves the quality of care in labour room and maternity operation theatres to ensure that pregnant women receive respectful and quality care during delivery and immediate post-partum.
- **Functionalization of First Referral Units (FRUs)** by ensuring manpower, blood storage units, referral linkages to improve the access to quality of care for pregnant women
- **Setting up of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Wings** at high caseload facilities to improve the quality of care provided to mothers and children.
- **Obst.HDU & ICU:** Operationalization of Obst.HDU & ICU in high case load tertiary care facilities across the country to handle complicated pregnancy
- **Reproductive and child health (RCH) portal** is a name-based web-enabled tracking system for pregnant women and newborn so as to ensure seamless provision of regular and complete services to them including antenatal care, institutional delivery and post-natal care.
- **Mother and Child Protection Card (MCP Card) and Safe Motherhood Booklet** are distributed to the pregnant women for educating them on diet, rest, danger signs of pregnancy, benefit schemes and institutional deliveries.
- **Regular IEC/BCC:** is also a part of all the schemes for greater demand generation. Health and nutrition education through mass and social media is also promoted to improve healthy practices and to generate demand for service uptake.