

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3119**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2024

**SCHEMES FOR PREGNANT WOMEN**

3119. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes being run by the Government for pregnant women which are benefitting them directly.
- (b) whether any scheme is being run by the Government to reduce the infant mortality rates;
- (c) if so, the details of the schemes to prevent deaths of infants during the birth or up to six months of age;
- (d) whether any survey or data is made available by the Government for proper treatment of pregnant women as the mortality rate of women during delivery is also a matter of great concern;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the arrangement available for their proper treatment at district and tehsil level; and
- (f) whether any scheme is proposed by the Government in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) The Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) is a Centrally Sponsored Maternity Benefit Scheme under which cash incentives of ₹5,000/- is provided directly to the Bank/Post Office account of the beneficiary in Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode for first child. The eligible beneficiaries receive the remaining cash incentive towards maternity benefit under Janani Suraksha Yojana after institutional delivery, so that on an average, a woman gets ₹6,000/-. Cash incentive of ₹6,000/- is also provided under PMMVY to eligible beneficiaries for second child subject to the second child being a girl. The target group of PMMVY is pregnant women and lactating mother belonging to socially and economically disadvantaged sections of the society.

Further, Anganwadi Services under Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 provide the following services to pregnant women and lactating mothers :-

- i. Supplementary Nutrition
- ii. Nutrition and Health Education
- iii. Immunization
- iv. Health Check-up
- v. Referral Services

These services are delivered through the platform of Anganwadi Centres across the country. Notably, three of these services - Immunization, Health Check-up and Referral Services - are health related and are provided in collaboration with the National Health Mission (NHM) and Public Health Infrastructure.

Apart from PMMVY and Anganwadi Services, under NHM, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India is implementing the following maternal health schemes for all pregnant women across States/UTs, which are benefitting them directly;

- **Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY)**, a demand promotion and conditional cash transfer scheme for promoting institutional delivery.
- **Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK)** entitles every pregnant woman to free delivery, including caesarean section, in public health institutions along with the provision of free transport, diagnostics, medicines, blood, other consumables and 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 ensures quality antenatal care (ANC) to pregnant women, especially to high-risk pregnant (HRP) women and individual HRP tracking until 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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Optimizing Postnatal Care** aims to strengthen the quality of post-natal care by laying emphasis on detection of danger signs in mothers and incentivization

of ASHAs for prompt detection, referral & treatment of such high-risk postpartum mothers.

(b) & (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) supports all States/UTs in implementation of Reproductive, Maternal, New-born, Child, Adolescent health and Nutrition (RMNCAH+N) strategy under National Health Mission (NHM) based on the Annual Programme Implementation Plan (APIP) submitted by States/ UTs. All the interventions to reduce child morbidity and mortality are being implemented universally in all the States/UTs. Details of the interventions are as follows:

- i. Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs)/ Special New-born Care Units (SNCUs) are established at Medical College and District/Sub-district level, New-born Stabilization Units (NBSUs) are established at First Referral Units (FRUs)/ Community Health Centres (CHCs) for care of sick and small babies.
- ii. Under Home Based New-born Care (HBNC) and Home-Based Care of Young Children (HBYC) program, home visits are performed by ASHAs to improve child rearing practices and to identify sick new-born and young children in the community.
- iii. Early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding for first six months and appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices are promoted under Mothers' Absolute Affection (MAA).
- iv. Social Awareness and Actions to Neutralize Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS) initiative implemented since 2019 for reduction of childhood morbidity and mortality due to Pneumonia.
- v. STOP Diarrhoea Campaign initiative implemented for promoting ORS and Zinc use and for reducing diarrhoeal deaths in Under 5 children.
- vi. Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) is implemented to provide vaccination to children against life threatening diseases.
- vii. Children from 0 to 18 years of age are screened for 32 health conditions (i.e. Diseases, Deficiencies, Defects and Developmental delay) under Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) to improve child survival. District Early Intervention Centres (DEICs) at district health facility level are established for confirmation and management of children screened under RBSK.
- viii. Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs) are set up at public health facilities to treat and manage the children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admitted with medical complications.
- ix. Anaemia Mukta Bharat (AMB) strategy as a part of POSHAN Abhiyan aims to strengthen the existing mechanisms and foster newer strategies to tackle anaemia.

- x. Several capacity building programs of health care providers are taken up for improving child survival and health outcomes. These include recently updated packages released in 2023:
  - i. Revised training package of Facility based Integrated Management of Neonatal & Childhood Illness (F-IMNCI) and Integrated Management of Neonatal & Childhood Illness (IMNCI)
  - ii. Revised training package of Facility Based Newborn Care (FBNC)

(d) to (f) Approximately 46% maternal deaths occur on the day of the delivery. In order to prevent the maternal mortality, under NHM, Government of India is implementing various capacity building programs to train service providers posted at labour room/operation theatre such as Skilled Birth Attendant (SBA), Daksh, Dakshata, Basic Emergency Obstetrics and newborn care (BEmONC), Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (CEmONC), Life Saving Anesthesia Skills (LSAS) and Midwifery Initiative. These programs aim to ensure quality and timely intervention for the management of all pregnant women during delivery at all healthcare facilities including those at district and tehsil level.

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