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25/10/06
11/11/06

D.O. No. Z14017/1/2005-NMBS/JSY-PT
Dated the 31st October 2006

Dear Ms. Singh,

You would be aware that based on inputs from the field, several new initiatives have been taken to amplify the Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) to make its implementation easy and to improve its accessibility to the expectant mothers of states, groups where MMR is high. It is also contended by several states as also the NGOs working in the field that the Mother's package is not enough to meet even the cost of a normal delivery completely and also that the differential between cash assistance for home and institutional delivery is not enough incentive for women to go to an institution for delivery. In addition, MMR is high in SC and ST category, beside institutional delivery being low in these communities. On consideration of the above, the scales of cash assistance to Mother is being enhanced as follows:

Category	Rural Area		Total	Urban Area		Total
	Mother's Package	ASHA's Package	Rs.	Mother's Package	ASHA's Package	Rs.
LPS	1400	600	2000	1000	200	1200

Thus, in your state, the eligibility for cash assistance under JSY is as follows:

- ✓ All women delivering in the Government health centres like Sub-centre, PHC/CHC/ FRU or the general wards of District and state Hospitals or **accredited private institutions.**
- ✓ All women from SC and ST families delivering in the Government health centres like Sub-centre, PHC/CHC/ FRU or the general wards of District and state Hospitals or **accredited private institutions**

In fact, for woman delivering in the Government or accredited private health institutions -

- Restricting benefits of JSY up to 2 births removed because women delivering more children would have added benefit of family planning counseling by going to a health institution. In home delivery, these women are unlikely to get such services.
- Restriction of 19 years and above removed, as there is yet no universal registration of births and so availability of birth certificate is uncertain.

- Need for any marriage or BPL certification and link with sterilization has been removed as the process of getting these certificates for the first-time expectant mother coming after marriage to a new family is not only long but arduous.

Though the package has now been enhanced to meet the cost of delivery, flow of fund from the state to the hands of the targeted expectant mother at the critical time of delivery, would be the key component. In addition, timely payment to ASHA is an essential component of the strategy of implementation for this scheme. Please find enclosed detailed guidelines in this regard.

All expectant mothers should get the cash money in one go, at the time of delivery. Considering that some women would be accessing accrediting private institution for antenatal care, they would require some financial support to get these services. In such cases, at least three-fourth (3/4) of the cash assistance should be paid to the beneficiary in one go, importantly, at the time of delivery so that she can use the money to meet the cost of delivery at the institution (please see the enclosed Annexure). The Central Government will not accept any expenditure of money given before or after seven days of delivery as legitimate beyond the 25% as explained above because of some possible antenatal expenditure in private institutions. The voucher of disbursement and the JSY card should invariably certify and mention the date of disbursement of cash to the beneficiary. The States may kindly use appropriate checks and balances for transactions of delivery at private institutions.

Both BPL and age certificate are must for receiving JSY benefit for delivery, at home and the benefit would be restricted to live births only. Similarly, BPL certificate or a SC/ST caste certificate is a must for accessing JSY benefits for delivering in an accredited private institution.

I hope that the present enhancement in the mother's package would encourage more women to access the benefits. I would be glad to receive a feedback with regards to increase in over all institutional births as well as those registered under JSY vis-à-vis the last year. I also request you to share with us your detailed guidelines to your field functionaries to operationalize the scheme with its enhanced package.

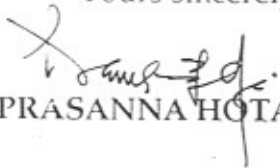
The earlier submissions of our on linkage with FRUs, hiring of anesthetist and gynecologist and provision of Rs. 1500/- for caesarean section/complications continues and should be attended to.

Age at marriage is a very important issue. The States must launch multi sectoral campaign on this, so that together with institutional strategy of JSY will reduce MMR and make us achieve the MDG goals.

With regards,

Ms.Subhra Singh
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Yours sincerely,


(PRASANNA HOTA)