

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1040
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2011
FREE MEDICINES TO PREGNANT WOMEN
Singh Shri Bhola

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to implement any scheme for distribution of free medicines and food to pregnant women; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a) & (b) Yes. Government of India has launched Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) on 1st June, 2011.

The initiative has been rolled out under the overall umbrella of NRHM and entitles all pregnant women delivering in public health institutions to free and no expense delivery, including caesarean section. The entitlements includes free drugs and consumables, free diagnostics, free blood wherever required, and free diet for 3 days during normal delivery and 7 days for C-section. This initiative also provides for free transport from home to institution, between facilities in case of a referral and drop back home.

Similar entitlements have been put in place for all sick newborns accessing public health institutions for treatment till 30 days after birth.