

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2237
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2011
FREE HEALTH CHECK UP OF PREGNANT WOMEN
Rajbhar Shri Ramashankar

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched any scheme for free health check up of pregnant women and their infants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether medicines alongwith nutritious food would also be provided to the new born babies under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM); and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Government of India has launched Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) on 1st June, 2011 under the overall umbrella of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) which entitles all pregnant women delivering in public health institutions to absolutely free and no expense delivery, including caesarean section. Sick newborns till 30 days after birth are also entitled for completely free treatment at public health institutions.

The entitlements include free drugs and consumables, free diet up to 3 days during normal delivery and up to 7 days for C-section, free diagnostics and free blood wherever required. 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.

As per the Guidelines, all the newborn should be exclusively breastfed till 6 months and as such no supplementary feeding is needed for neonates.

The guidelines for the scheme have been shared with all the States/UTs for implementation in all the public health facilities.