

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3836
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2011
HEALTH OF PRE NATAL CHILD
Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to ensure health of pre-natal child;
- (b) if so, the measures being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to ensure the availability of nutritious food and medicines to the pregnant women;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Yes. The Government of India under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and under its umbrella, the Reproductive and Child Health Programme Phase II, seeks to improve the availability of and access to quality health care including Maternal and Child Health services throughout the country. Under this programme, the steps taken by the Government to provide quality ante natal (ANC), intra natal and post natal care (PNC) are:

Provision of Ante-natal and Post Natal Care services including prevention and treatment of Anaemia by supplementation with Iron and Folic Acid tablets during pregnancy and lactation.

Promotion of consumption of iodated salt at household level to prevent & control Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) affecting pre-natal child health

Name Based Tracking of Pregnant Women to ensure antenatal, intranatal and postnatal care.

Mother and Child Protection Card in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development to monitor quality of ANC, PNC Immunization, etc services being rendered to the mothers and children.

Promotion of institutional deliveries through Janani Suraksha Yojana.

Operationalizing Community Health Centers as First Referral Units (FRUs) and Primary Health Centers (24X7) for round the clock maternal care services.

Village Health and Nutrition Days in rural areas as an outreach activity, for provision of maternal and child health services including nutritional counseling and nutritional education.

Capacity building of health care providers in basic and comprehensive obstetric care.

Engagement of more than 800,000 Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) to generate demand and facilitate accessing of health care services by the community.

A new initiative namely Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) has been launched which entitles all pregnant women delivering in public health institutions to absolutely free and no expense delivery including Caesarean section.

(c)&(d): Government of India has launched Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) under the overall umbrella of NRHM to provide 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 for all pregnant women delivering in public health facilities. 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. More than Rs 1437 crores have been allocated to the States for the year 2011-12 for providing the free entitlements under JSSK.

(e): The scheme has been launched on June 1, 2011 as a part of the Reproductive and Child Health activities under the overall

umbrella of National Rural Health Mission.