

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:395

ANSWERED ON:03.02.2017

Maternity Benefit Programme

Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar;Chautala Shri Dushyant;Gopalakrishnan Shri R.;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Raut Shri Vinayak  
Bhaurao;Shinde Dr. Shrikant Eknath;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated a new scheme for pregnant and lactating mothers called Maternity Benefit Programme and if so, the details and the eligibility criteria thereof;
- (b) the cost sharing pattern of the scheme between Centre and States along with its expected cost for the current and coming years indicating the funds released thereunder to the States/UTs so far, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the expected number of beneficiaries under the scheme;
- (d) whether the detailed guidelines for implementation and monitoring of the scheme have been issued, if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which the same are likely to be issued; and
- (e) the further measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve its intended objectives?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ)

(a) The Government of India has approved pan-India implementation of the Maternity Benefit Programme to cover all the districts of the country with effect from 01.01.2017. The programme envisages payment of Rs.6,000/- to the Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers (PW&LM). This benefit would be available to all PW&LM except those in regular employment with the Central Government or State Government or Public Sector Undertaking or those who are in receipt of similar benefits under any law for the time being in force.

(b) The cost sharing ratio between the Centre and the States (other than North-Eastern States & Himalayan States) & Union Territories with legislature is 60:40. For North-Eastern States & Himalayan States it is 90:10. It is 100% for Union Territories without legislature.

The total cost of pan-India implementation of Maternity Benefit Programme for the remaining part of the current financial year is Rs.584.00 crores and from 2017-18 to 2019-20 is Rs.7348.00 crores as Government of India share. A statement showing funds released for Maternity Benefit Programme applicable upto 31.12.2016 is annexed.

(c) It is expected that about 51.70 lakh beneficiaries would avail the benefit annually,

(d) The implementation guidelines, including monitoring mechanism, of the Maternity Benefit Programme already exist and the required modifications have been drafted.

(e) The programme envisages payment of maternity benefit directly to the Bank/Post Office accounts of the beneficiary in Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.

\*\*\*\*\*