

IGMSY

Ques-What is IGMSY?

Ans-The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) formulated a new Scheme for pregnant and lactating mothers called Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY) – a Conditional Maternity Benefit Scheme. Under this Scheme, a cash incentive of 4000 will be provided directly to women 19 years and above for the first two live births subject to the woman fulfilling specific conditions relating to maternal child health and nutrition.

Ques-How the cash incentives are given to the beneficiaries?

Ans - Cash incentive will be provided in three instalments, between the second trimester of pregnancy till the infant completes 6 months of age. Women enrolled under IGMSY will be encouraged to avail JSY (Janani Suraksha Yojana) package also for institutional delivery and vice-versa. However, there is no cash incentive under IGMSY at the time of delivery since cash incentive for this is already provided under JSY.

Ques-What is the coverage status of IGMSY?

Ans-IGMSY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under which full grant-in-aid would be provided to State Government (SGs)/Union Territories (UTs). It has been approved by the Government on pilot basis in 52 selected districts across the country. It will be implemented using the platform of ICDS. The focal point of implementation will be the Anganwadi Centre (AWC).

Ques-What are the objectives of IGMSY?

Ans-To improve the health and nutrition status of Pregnant and Lactating (P & L) women and their young infants by:

- i. Promoting appropriate practices, care and service utilization during pregnancy, safe delivery and lactation.
- ii. Encouraging women to follow (optimal) Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices including early and exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months.
- iii. Contributing to better enabling environment by providing cash incentives for improved health and nutrition to pregnant and lactating women.

Note: The Scheme aims to provide partial compensation for the wage loss so that the woman is not under compulsion to work till the last stage of pregnancy and can take adequate rest before and after delivery.

Ques-who are the target beneficiaries under this Scheme?

Ans-i. P & L women of 19 years of age and above for their first 2 live births.

Why 19 years of age and above? The legal age of marriage in India for women is 18 years and hence the age criterion for child birth has been taken as 19 years. This is to encourage marriage and child birth at the right age.

Why only first two live births? To ensure that the health of the woman is not compromised due to repeated pregnancies and to promote family planning.

ii. All Government/Public Sector Undertakings (Central and State) employees are excluded from the Scheme as they are entitled for paid maternity leave. The wives of such employees are also excluded from the Scheme.

iii. Age, number of live births and employment status would be as reported by the beneficiary.

iv. Pregnant and lactating AWWs and AWHs may also avail the benefit under the Scheme if they are not receiving paid maternity benefits from the Government.