



G. C. CHATURVEDI, IAS

Joint Secretary &

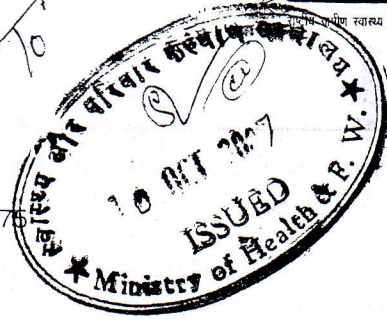
Mission Director (NRHM)

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Dear

For Account Payee
Please issue
R21
4/10/07
To



S.No. 7 BY SPEED POST

भारत सरकार

स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय

निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली - 110011

Government of India

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi - 110011

D.O.Z.14018/39/2006-NMBS

Dated the 8th October, 2007

It is now two and half years since the Janani Suraksha Yojana has been launched as a safe motherhood scheme which aims at reducing maternal and infant mortality through increased institutional deliveries. After incorporation of required changes, the Scheme has now stabilized.

However, there are certain grey areas which require due consideration. Payment of financial assistance to the beneficiaries as also ASHAs is one such area. The evaluation reports submitted by UNFPA/GTZ on the implementation of the Scheme in 8 States, have indicated a uniform pattern of delayed or non-payment of financial assistance to the beneficiaries. During the field visits, the officers of the Ministry have also noticed such a situation. This is inspite of this Ministry's advice to the States regarding non-negotiable position of payment of benefits within seven days from the date of delivery. It has, therefore, become necessary to streamline the payment process.

After much deliberation, it has been decided that henceforth payment to the beneficiaries as also to the ASHAs should be made only through account payee cheques. For this purpose the beneficiaries and ASHAs will have to open accounts in any scheduled bank including regional rural banks, cooperatives banks or post offices which are member of clearing house. A detailed guideline as to how the system should be made operational is enclosed for action at your end.

I am, therefore, to request you to take urgent action in the matter and send the action taken report to me within a month. Adopting the procedure described in the guideline will not only make timely payment possible, but will also ensure that the beneficiaries do not face any harassment while getting the benefits they are entitled to.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(G.C. Chaturvedi)

Enclosure : as above

Principal Secretary (Health and Family Welfare)

All States/UTs (As per list enclosed)

Copy to:

1. Mission Director (NRHM), All States/UTs
2. Joint Secretary, Banking Division,
Ministry of Finance, Jeewan Deep Building,
Parliament Street, New Delhi
For issuing necessary instructions to all banks

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Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Guideline for payment of financial assistance under Janani Suraksha Yojana to the beneficiaries and ASHAs

1. The beneficiaries may be asked to open a bank account in the nearest branch of a scheduled bank including regional rural banks, cooperatives banks or post offices which are members of clearing house.
2. ASHA/ANM should guide/facilitate the beneficiaries regarding the procedure for opening the account and subsequent bank visit of payees, if necessary. In non-high-focus States, where there may not be an ASHA, the link workers will provide this service;
3. The Health and Family Welfare Department/State Mission Directorate and District Magistrates should hold SLBC and DLCC meetings for detailing the banks and postal department regarding the procedure to be adopted in this regard. They should request the representatives of the banks/postal department to issue directions to all their branches/post offices so that the beneficiaries do not face any harassment while opening the accounts;
4. The State Mission Directorate should prepare in consultation with the local branch of IBA/postal department, a one page handout detailing the procedure for opening of bank account including the documents required for opening such accounts, which should be provided to all the ANMs so that they are in a position to guide the ASHAs/link workers/beneficiaries in the matter;
5. The beneficiary will intimate the ANM/ASHA her bank account number while she reports to the sub-centre/PHC/CH/DH for registration;
6. The ANM will provide the bank account number together with other details of the beneficiary including her registration number to the MO, PHC/CHC/DH for their record;
7. Immediately after delivery, DH/PHC/PHC will prepare an account payee cheque in the name of the beneficiary and handover the same to the beneficiary at the time of her discharge. If the delivery takes place in a sub-center, the details of the delivery should be communicated to MO, PHC for preparation of the cheque;
8. For home deliveries, the ANM concerned will communicate the detail of delivery and bank account number of the beneficiary to the MO Incharge of the linked PHC.
9. MO PHC/Block PHC where ANM goes once a week for meeting, will prepare the cheque and handover the same to the beneficiary either directly or through the ASHA/ANM;
10. If the money is to be transferred through ECS/an advice, an intimation must be given to the beneficiary/ASHA;

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11. If for some reason the cheque could not be prepared and handed over to the beneficiary at the time of her discharge, it should be done the very next working day and the cheque should be handed over to the beneficiary within next 24 hours ;
 12. In respect of ASHA the same payment schedule as that of beneficiaries i.e. during hospitalization or at the time of discharge, will be followed. ASHAs should intimate in advance their bank account numbers to the MO,PHC/CHC/DH and payment to the ASHAs should also be made through account payee cheque;
 13. The DH/CHCs/PHCS should provide a statement giving all details of payments made to the beneficiaries/ASHAs, to the District Health Societies, by the fourth day after the end of a particular month;
 14. The District Societies should compile all the reports received from the sub-formations. There should be monthly reconciliation of accounts at the level of District Health Society and CHC. The DHS should send the report to the State Mission Directorate on the eighth day after the end of the month for compilation, monitoring and remedial action, if necessary;
 15. The Rogi Kalyan Samities should also be associated in reconciliation of the accounts and will also be responsible for ensuring timely payments to the beneficiaries/ASHAs;
 16. The State Mission Directorate should send a report on physical and financial performance, alongwith any comments regarding improvement in the implementation of the Scheme, every quarter to this Department. **The report should also indicate the unspent balance lying with the State at the end of the quarter.**
