INDIRA GANDHI MATRITVA SEHYOG YOJNA (IGMSY)

This scheme is centrally sponsored and is being implemented in two districts, Amritsar and Kapurthala as a pilot project. The main objective of the scheme to uplift the nutritional and health status of pregnant ladies and nursing mothers and infants. Under this scheme, the women of 19 years of age and above at the time of birth for first two live births, will receive Rs.6000/- in two instalments, subject to the fulfilment of specific conditions. Rs.3000/- will be given at the end of the 2nd trimester of pregnancy, Rs. 3000/- as second instalments only at the end of the six months of delivery when the infant completes six months of age. Anganwadi Worker and Helper will be given Rs. 200/- and Rs. 100/- per beneficiary respectively after all due cash transfer to the beneficiary are completed. Disbursement to the beneficiaries is being made through the bank accounts.

For the financial year 2016-17, a budget provision of Rs. 702.60 lac has been made, out of which 29.00 lac has been spent. This expenditure borne by the Centre and state in the ratio of 60:40 respectively.

Objectives of IGMSY:

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

- Promoting appropriate practices, care and service utilization during pregnancy, safe delivery and lactation.
- Encouraging women to follow (optimal) Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices including early and exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months.
- 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.

Target beneficiaries:

- P & L women of 19 years of age and above for their first 2 live births.
 - O 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.
- 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.
- Age, number of live births and employment status would be as reported by the beneficiary. In case of wrongful claim by the beneficiary, the amount paid to her would be recovered. Failing which, she will be liable for prosecution. A signed undertaking to this effect, as at Annex F, Part II (A), will be necessarily taken from the beneficiary at the time of registration under the Scheme
- 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.