

Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Benefit Scheme (MRMBS)

Introduction:

The Maternity Benefit Scheme in Tamilnadu was launched in the year 1987 with the avowed aim to reduce IMR and MMR. Under Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Ninaivu Mahapperu Uthavi Thittam Rs.200/- was distributed to Pregnant mother from 03.06.1989 (G.O(Ms) No.516, Backward Classes Welfare, Nutritious Meal Programme and Social Welfare Department, dated:31.05.1989).

The cash assistance of Rs.200/- was enhanced to Rs.300/- with effect from 01.05.1992(G.O(Ms) No.295, Social Welfare & Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated:07.05.1992).

Under National Maternity Benefit Scheme, a lumpsum assistance of Rs.300/- was given to pregnant women of 19 years of age or more who belong to the family below the poverty line for upto the first two live births. W.e.f.02.10.1995 (G.O(Ms) No.354, Social Welfare & Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated:26.12.1995).

The benefit given under the national maternity benefit scheme was raised to Rs.500/- from Rs.300/- with effect from 01.08.1998. Assistance may be given to those pregnant women whose applications were received on or after 01.08.1998 (G.O (Ms) No.11, Social Welfare & Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated:22.01.1999).

National Maternity Benefit Scheme was renamed as “Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Benefit Scheme”. Under the scheme Rs.1000/month for 6 months from 7th month pregnancy (3 months prior to delivery and 3 months after delivery) was disbursed to the poor pregnant women subject to the conditions in the G.O(Ms) No.184 dated on 11.09.2006 and subsequently, it was increased by the **Hon’ble Chief Minister** to Rs.12,000 per beneficiary with effect from 01.06.2011 (G.O (Ms) No.276 dated on 03.11.2011). This has, now, been enhanced to Rs.18,000 per beneficiary (G.O(Ms) No.40 dated on

20.02.2017). The guidelines for the disbursement of Rs.18,000/- is issued in the G.O(Ms) No.118 dated on 02.04.2018.

The Government of India has launched a new scheme, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana with 60:40 sharing pattern between the Central and State for all the eligible pregnant and lactating mother for the first child. The Government have decided to implement the Pradhan Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) scheme launched by Government of India in combination with the Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Benefit Scheme (State scheme) for the eligible primi mothers.

Objective : providing assistance to poor pregnant women/mothers to meet expenses on nutritious diet, to compensate the loss of income during motherhood and to avoid low birth weight of newborn babies.

Target : All eligible Pregnant Women.

Maternity Benefit:

- Rs.18,000/- payable in five instalments for all eligible mothers under MRMBS.
- Rs.8,000/-payable in three instalments (1,2 & 4)for the primi mothers under Cobranded PMMVY-MRMBS scheme and remaining instalments (3&5)under MRMBS.

General Eligibility Criteria:

- The pregnant mother should be of age 19 years and above.
- VHN/UHN should certify the economic status in PICME.
- Mothers delivered at Private Medical College approved under Dr.MRMBS Scheme are also eligible after ensuing the provision of free delivery services including caesarean deliveries.
- Srilankan refugees- pregnant women are eligible.
- The pregnant women who are members of Farmers Social Security Scheme are also eligible to get this cash assistance.

- Only for two deliveries Maternity assistance is provided.
- However certain conditionalities, HOB mothers are eligible for first and fifth instalments and also for two Nutrition kits.
- Migrant mothers in brick kilns, quarries, road works, construction sites and other infrastructure development projects are also eligible.
 - Migrant workers from other states are eligible for 1st and 5th instalments and Nutrition kits only.

Distribution of financial assistance:

Instalment / Kind benefit	Conditionalities	Amount
I Instalment	Antenatal registration on or before 12 weeks	Rs. 2,000/-
Benefit of kind	First Nutrition Kit on completion of third month (Kind benefit)	Rs. 2,000/-
II Instalment	After 4 months subject to the conditions in the annexure to this G.O.	Rs. 2,000/-
Benefit of kind	Second Nutrition Kit (Kind benefit)	Rs. 2,000/-
III Instalment	After delivery in Government Institution	Rs. 4,000/-
IV Instalment	For those received 3 rd installment and after completion of 3 rd dose of OPV/Rota/Pentavalent and 2 nd dose of IPV.	Rs. 4,000/-
V Instalment	For those received 4 th installment and after completion of Measles Rubella vaccination between 9 th and 12 th month of their infants.	Rs. 2,000/-
TOTAL		Rs.18,000/-
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