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निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली - 110108
Government of India
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi - 110108

D.O. No. N-11012/11/2012 -FP

May 31, 2012

Subject: Utilising services of ASHAS for ensuring spacing in birth and incentivising her for the effort

Sir/ Madam,

The Government has been taking several steps to improve usage of FP methods; however, it has been noticed that the uptake of these methods especially spacing remains poor. Various reviews/ field visits to the states reveal that in spite of trained personnel available in the field, clients do not avail of spacing methods due to absence of proper counselling and information regarding benefits/ myths/ misconceptions.

To address this issue, it has been decided to utilise the services of ASHAs for counselling newly married couples to ensure spacing of 2 years after marriage and couples with 1 child to have spacing of 3 years after the birth of 1st child. ASHA would also counsel eligible couples (who have up to 2 children) to opt for permanent limiting methods. ASHA would be paid following incentives under the scheme:

- Rs. 500/- to ASHA for ensuring spacing of 2 years after marriage.
- Rs. 500/- to ASHA for ensuring spacing of 3 years after the birth of 1st child
- Rs. 1000/- in case the couple opts for a permanent limiting method up to 2 children

All the eligible couples, irrespective of their APL, BPL, SC/ST status would be covered under the scheme. States would provision for adequate funds in the state PIP, every year, for the scheme from 2013-14 onwards. However, for payment of incentives in 2012-13, state may utilise funds from RCH Flexi-pool.

The scheme would be operational from the date of its notification (i.e. 16th May 2012).

The detailed guidelines, roles and responsibilities of various personnel and monitoring modalities are given at Annexure I.

Yours faithfully,


(Manoj Jhalani)

To
Secretary/ Principal Secretary
Health and Family Welfare
[18 States only]

Copy to:-

1. PS to Hon'ble HFM
2. PPS to Secretary (H&FW)
3. PPS to AS&MD (NRHM)
4. PPS to JS (RCH)
5. Mission Director & Director Family Welfare/ RCH [Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Haryana, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura]
6. Regional Directors (HFW), Govt. of India
7. Director - NRHM (Fin), NRHM (I), RCH, Policy