Dear Sir,

This is with reference to D.O. Letter No. 11/5/2016-ND-Tech from Secretary (MoHFW) and Secretary (MWCD), dated 24th November 2017, regarding extending the home visits by ASHAs beyond the Home Based Newborn Care (HBNC) period till 15 months of age to address nutrition, health, growth and early child development. In this regard, a guideline on Home Based Care for Young Child (HBYC) has been prepared and attached herewith for your perusal. As per this Guideline, it is proposed that ASHAs and AWWs will make home visits at 3rd, 6th, 9th, 12th and 15th months with the objective to ensure counseling for continuation of exclusive breastfeeding, complementary feeding, growth monitoring, vaccinations and sickness related counseling. For home visits, ASHAs would be paid an incentive of Rs 50/visit with total incentive of Rs 250 per child for making five visits. Already existing incentive for follow-up of Low birth weight (LBWs) and SNCU discharged babies would be subsumed under this.

It has been proposed to implement HBYC programme in a phased manner. In the first phase, districts identified under POSHAN Abhiyan and aspirational districts are targeted for implementation. The list of 235 POSHAN Abhiyan and Aspirational districts is attached. The budget estimated is approximately Rs 1.9 crores per district with a population of approximately 15 lakhs which includes Rs 1 crore as training cost for ASHAs, AWWs, ANMs and supervisors, cost of ASHA incentives is estimated at Rs 58 lakhs and printing and other recurring costs of Rs 27 lakhs. The budget for ASHA training as already provisioned under NMH may also be factored in for training cost estimation.

As you are aware that approval for State Program Implementation Plan (PIP) 2018-19 is under process. Hence, you are requested to make provision for identified districts in your state for implementation of HBYC program and propose the budget for the same in PIP 2018-19.

Yours sincerely,

(Manoj Jhalani)

Mission Directors (NMH) of all States/UTs
Copy to:
1. Child Health Nodal Officers of all States/UTs
2. Dr. Rajesh Kumar, JS(WCD)
3. PPS to JS (Policy)
4. Executive Director, NHSRC