

NRHM scheme faces closure in Nalbari



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A popular scheme meant for encouraging institutional delivery in Asom is facing almost closure in Nalbari district only because of fund crunch.

Sponsored by the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), the Janani Surakhya Scheme has been failing to percolate any benefit for hundreds of mothers who rushed to the hospitals and delivered babies.

The mothers who are entitled to get Rs 1400 in the time of discharge often return empty handed. That too right from November,2005.

The deprived mothers now make long queue before the Swahid Mukunda Kakati Civil Hospital in Nalbari town besides the primary health centres in Tamulpur and Tihu.

Some others rush to the office of the joint director office in the district. But only to remain upset as they have yet to receive the incentive money.

Hospital sources cite the fund crunch saying the payments will be made as soon as the fund is released by the government.

According to Dr Chaudhory, altogether 1601 mothers who delivered

babies at the Civil hospital only have also not received any incentive money.

With this, it has become clear that a grim fund crunch may force the closure of a popular scheme in the long run which would have gone a long way in uplifting the health sector.

Notably, the Assam government introduce the scheme with a Rs 700 financial assistance for the rural mothers and Rs 600 for urban women if they rush to the government hospital for delivery.

They are entitled to get the amounts as soon as they are discharged from the hospitals after delivery.

Later, the government the amount was increased to Rs 1,400 per mother which was evoked widespread response from the people across the state.

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