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Cash-for-pregnancy scheme extended to urban areas

BHUBANESWAR: The state government has extended 'Mamata' cash-for-pregnancy scheme to urban areas. Chief minister Naveen Patnaik made the announcement here on Wednesday.

The government had launched the scheme for rural women ahead of panchayat elections in 2011. "The scheme will immensely benefit <u>pregnant women</u> in towns, especially those from the economically-weaker sections," Naveen said.

Women in the 103 ULBs, including municipal corporations, municipalities and notified area councils, above 19 years of age will get Rs 5,000 in four installments during and after pregnancy. These are Rs 1,500 after six months of pregnancy,

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Rs 1,500 after their child becomes three months, Rs 1,000 when the child is six months and another Rs 1,000 when the child attains nine months.

All women registered with the anganwadis except family members of government and public sector employees irrespective of their financial status are eligible to avail the <u>be</u> <u>nefit for the first two pregnancies</u>

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