

VDB | *Loi*

Legal and Tax

CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT INCREASES SUBSIDIES FOR PREGNANT WOMEN AND YOUNG CHILDREN



September 2023



On 21 August 2023, the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, and the Ministry of Public Health of Cambodia issued Inter-Ministerial Prakas No. 252/23 SHV.PrK on the Implementation of a New Program of Benefits for Pregnant Workers and Children Under Two Years Old (the “**New Prakas**”). It replaces Prakas No. 497 SHV.PrK dated 8 May 2018 issued by the Ministry of Economy and Finance and updates and increases the allowances and benefits for pregnant workers and children under two years old. The changes were retroactively effective from 1 August 2023.

Below we provide an overview of the benefits and procedures to access them under the new scheme.

Who is eligible to enjoy the benefit under this new scheme?

This New Prakas applies to pregnant Cambodian citizens and their children under two years old, as follows:

- Those who are members of the National Social Security Fund (“**NSSF**”).
- Civil servants who work in the public sector, such as ministries, institutions, and national and sub-national units under the provisions of the Law on the Common Statute of Civil Servants of the Kingdom of Cambodia.
- Interns and contract officers who work in ministries, institutions, and national and sub-national units recognized by the Ministry of Public Function.

What are the benefits under the new scheme?

As previously, benefits cover three phases: (1) prenatal health checks; (2) at delivery; and (3) postpartum mother and baby checks until the child is two. Under the New Prakas, the amount for delivery has **increased by KHR400,000 (US\$100)**. In addition, there are now allowances for miscarriages and the death of the mother or child during childbirth.

The benefits are summarized in the tables below.

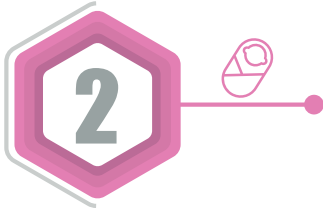
Benefits for Pregnant Workers and Children Under Two Years	
Phase	Benefit Description
Phase 1:	Government support of KHR80,000 (approximately US\$20) per time for the first four prenatal check-ups.
Phase 2:	Government support upon delivery, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For a single child: KHR800,000 (approximately US\$200)• For twins: KHR1,200,000 (approximately US\$300)• For triplets: KHR1,600,000 (approximately US\$400).
Phase 3:	Government support for postpartum mother and baby checks of KHR80,000 (approximately US\$20) per time for a maximum of 10 times, of which three times are provided for the mother’s postpartum health checks and the remaining seven times are provided during vaccination of the children up until they are 2 years old.



Phase 1

During the prenatal check-ups, the government will provide the benefits as below:

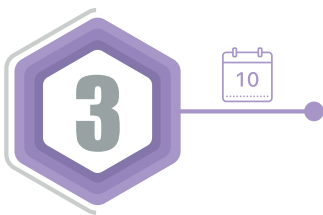
1 st Check-Up	2 nd Check-Up	3 rd Check-Up	4 th Check-Up
US\$20	US\$20	US\$20	US\$20



Phase 2

At childbirth, the government will provide the benefits as below:

		
For a single child: US\$200	For twins: US\$300	For triplet: US\$400



Phase 3

After childbirth, the government will provide the benefits as below:

7 Days US\$20	14 Days US\$20	1½ Months US\$20	2½ Months US\$20	3½ Months US\$20
6 Months US\$20	9 Months US\$20	12 Months US\$20	18 Months US\$20	24 Months US\$20

Benefits for Pregnant Workers in the Case of the Following:

Miscarriage

The government allowance is as follows:

- A one-time allowance of **KHR80,000** for miscarriage before 12 weeks.
- For a miscarriage at 12 to 24 weeks:
 - First time: KHR80,000
 - Second time: KHR80,000 plus a health check-up.

However, in the case of abortion, the government subsidy is not provided and the beneficiary must leave the program except in the case of an abortion in accordance with the law on abortion.

The death of the child and/or the mother during childbirth

The same allowance applies as for a live birth, as follows:

- For a single child: **KHR800,000**
- For twins: **KHR1,200,000**
- For triplets: **KHR1,600,000**.





Procedure to access benefits under the new scheme

For Phase 1 benefits

To access benefits under Phase 1, for the first prenatal allowance, pregnant workers must fill out the prenatal allowance application form at the NSSF central office and submit it with the following supporting information:

- Cambodian identification card
- NSSF membership card
- Contact number and bank account information that were provided to the NSSF
- Proof of fetal echocardiography letter with the expected date of delivery issued by a public hospital or public facility

After the application package is submitted to the NSSF, the worker's employer must also complete the pregnant worker declaration form in the NSSF online employer system.

The second and third prenatal allowances are applied for and received through a mobile app called the NSSF Agent App.

However, to receive the fourth allowance, pregnant workers must fill out the application form at the NSSF central office and provide the following after health check-up:

- NSSF membership card
- Maternal health book confirming the a gestational age of 36 to 38 weeks issued by the public health facility

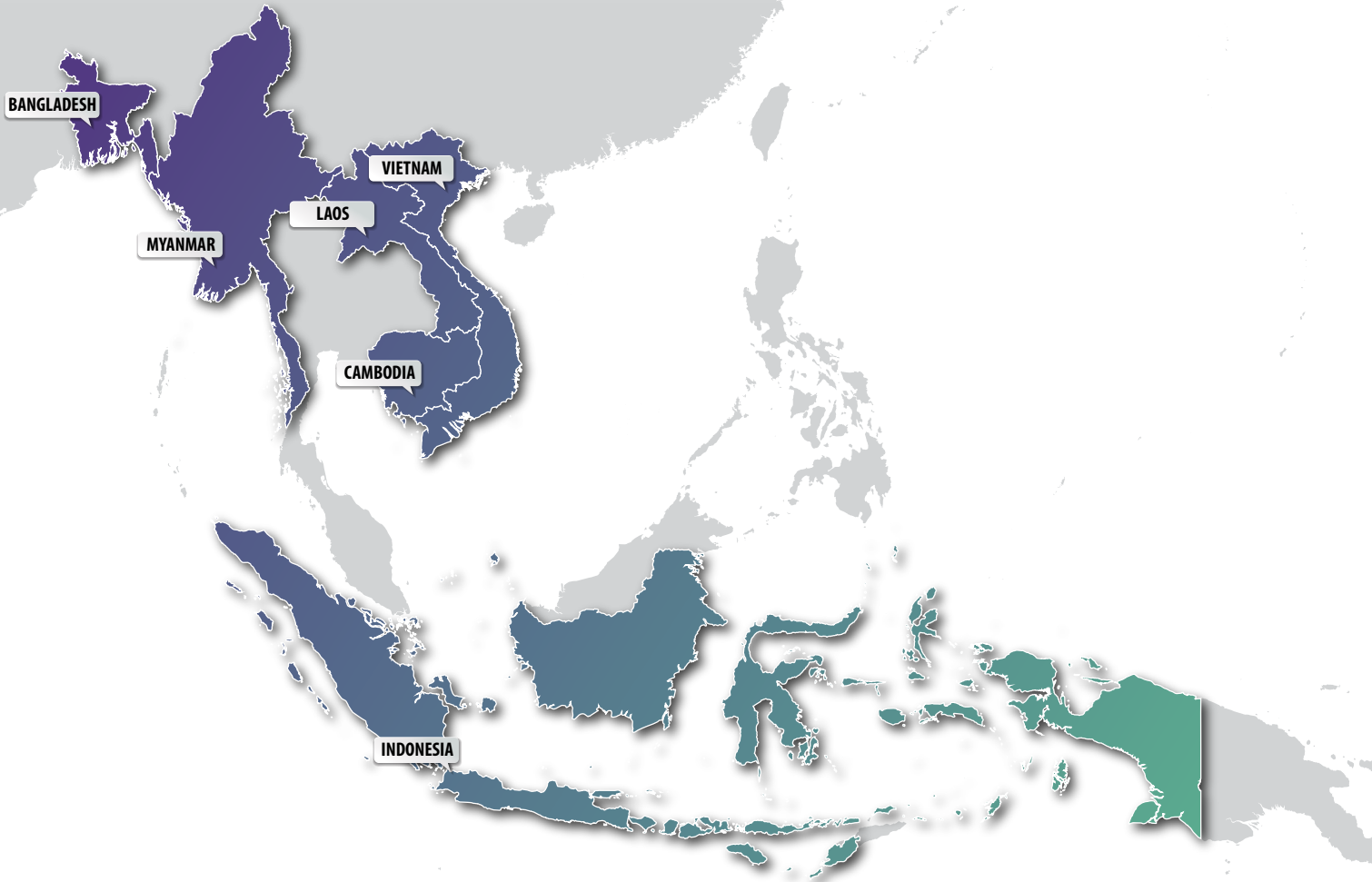
For Phase 2 benefits

Eligible workers who are at least 26 weeks pregnant should complete the **"Request Letter of Additional Allowance for Pregnant Female Worker when Delivering a Baby"** at the NSSF central office.

For Phase 3 benefits

There is no separate application form needed; once the worker has filled out the prenatal allowance application form under Phase 1, they will automatically be entitled to the Phase 3 benefits.

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