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Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

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News from the Field






IN THE SPOTLIGHT

“Monitoring should be strengthened to make progress on fp & mch in the rural areas”, Secretary, MOHFW



“Monitoring should be strengthened to make progress in the rural areas. Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP) has the field workers upto the union level unlike the most other Government departments in the country. But it has been found that progress of Family Planning is remarkable in the urban areas than that of rural areas”. Mr. Syed Monjurul Islam, Secretary,

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) asked the reason of this paradoxical situation referring the recent published report of UESD (Urban Essential Services Delivery) Survey 2013 from the officers of Directorate General of Family Planning while he was exchanging views with the officers of the directorate on February 28, 2015 at the conference room of IEM Unit, DGFP.

Mr. Md. Mahbub-ul-Alam, DPM of Field Services Delivery Program (FSDP) Unit replied that as the people are conscious and the number of SDPs (service delivery points) of both

GO-NGO are relatively more here, TFR declined remarkably in the urban areas. He also added that CPR has been found increased all over the country except Chittagong division though it didn't have any bad impact in the declining trend of TFR. Convinced by the answer Secretary, MOHFW has emphasized to strengthen the monitoring activities in the rural areas like the NGOs to have a good outcome in the rural areas.

All the Directors, Program Managers, Deputy Program Managers and officers were present in the meeting which was presided over by Mr. Md. Nur Hossain Talukder, Director General, DGFP.

Director, Clinical Contraception and Services Delivery Program (CCSDP) clarified the importance and reason of buying 50000 pieces of Implanon despite having the stock of next 29 months when he was asked by the Secretary.



Secretary requested Management Information Services (MIS) Unit for the timely publication of various reports. He also suggested MIS Unit to make the statistical reports easily understandable to the mass readers so that they can have the benefits of the reports. In this regard MIS Unit can take help from the experts, he added.

Director (Planning) unveiled the fact to the Secretary that the progress report of ADP implementation remains low upto March every year but the progress report tops more than 90% almost every year at the end of the Fiscal Year. Director (Planning) hoped that this FY also the progress of the ADP implementation would be more than 90%.

Secretary advised Director (Logistics and Supply) to gear up the purchasing procedures of the packages in which Ministry and Ministerial Purchasing Committee are required for the approval process as Director (L & S) has to shoulder upon the lions portion purchasing for the 7 OPs of DGFP.

Secretary showed his satisfaction as the audit objections are very less in the directorate. He also requested Director (Audit) to initiate for the tripartite audit meetings that are held with Ministry representative.

President of the meeting and Director General, DGFP Mr. Md. Nur Hossain Talukder thanked the Secretary on behalf of DGFP to provide relevant directions for the smooth functioning of the directorate. As there were no other discussions left, the president ended the program with thanks to and from the members of the meeting.

Launching Ceremony of Nutrition Related Voice call of NNS,IPHN



The Launching Ceremony of Nutrition Related Voice Call by Honorable Speaker



of Bangladesh Parliament Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury was held on 18 March at the CIRDAP international Conference Centre. National Nutrition Service (NNS), Institute of Public Health Nutrition (IPHN) of Directorate General of Health Services organized the voice call

inauguration highlighting the theme “Creating awareness: combat malnutrition”. Mr. Syed Monjurul Islam, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare graced the inauguration as the chief guest while Ms Roxana Quader, Additional Secretary (PH & WHO), MOHFW presided over the ceremony. Dr. Makhduma Nargis, Additional Secretary and Project Director, RCHCIB, MOHFW, Mr. Md Nur Hossain Talukder, Director General, DGFP, Dr. Md. Shah Nawaz, Additional Director General (Admin), DGHS, and Mr. Gias Uddin Ahmed, Managing Director, Teletalk Bangladesh Ltd attended the program as the special guests.

The ceremony was informed that the number of mobile users is increasing rapidly all over the world. Presently 120 million users are enjoying the facility of various mobile users in our country. Despite the huge initiatives taken by Government to scale up the nutritional status of children and mothers, there remains still some areas where mass people are lagging behind in terms of receiving healthcare and other related services. 97% of households are having at least one mobile phone at their homes. So in a view to turning the future of nutrition through improving awareness and practices for saving lives, NNS, IPHN of DGHS has taken the initiative to disseminate nutrition related messages to 40 million users in Bangladesh by recording the voice call of Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Honorable Speaker, Bangladesh Parliament. The voice call of 29 seconds disseminated to the mass people consist of 7 components of Nutrition.

The chief guest emphasized the importance of using the modern technology in scaling up awareness of mass stakeholders of Nutrition sector as they are spreading all the nook and corner of the country. He hopes that communication using the modern technology like mobile voice call can surely contribute to reduce mortality and morbidity among children and women. He also mentioned the good endeavor of DGFP of collecting the mobile numbers of pregnant mothers so that they can be intimated the health check-ups and other needs at the right time. Mr. Talukder, DG, DGFP reiterated the need of upholding the nutritional status so that we can have a good nation to build the society. He marked that a malnourished nation can not lead the society forward.

The president of the ceremony Ms Roxana Quader hoped that this exciting initiative will contribute in improving awareness, behavior changes and nutritional practices for saving lives in Bangladesh. She thanked all the guests as well as the participants to make the inauguration a success.

Line Director, CCSDP, DGFP visited Surjer Hashi Clinics in Jessore

Dr. Md. Moinuddin Ahmed, Line Director, CCSDP, Directorate General of Family Planning visited the Jessore Surjer Hashi Clinic, Bagharpara Surjer Hashi Clinic and Arobpur Satellite Clinic under Jessore district March, 2015. On behalf of USAID-DFID NGO Health Service Delivery Project (NHSDP) Dr. Md. Saikhul Islam Helal, Policy and Coordination Advisor accompanied him in the field visit.



The established pharmacy in Jessore Surjer Hashi clinic is running with female drug seller and the performance is appreciable. LD-CCSDP highly praised the initiation of drug seller by female and making the Surjer Hashi Pharmacy a “Women Friendly Surjer Hashi Pharmacy”. Dr. Moinuddin also discussed with female customer and the customer mentioned that they feel free to collect the medicines, FP commodities, sanitary napkin and others from a female drug seller. Appreciating the C-EmOC and LARC-PM services Dr. Moinuddin committed Government support from his end to increase MNACH-FP services. In the Arobpur Satellite Clinic Dr. Moinuddin observed the MNCAH-FP services for the community and suggested to ensure ANC and proper birth planning for every pregnant woman. He also suggested to increase PFP services and appreciated the NHSDP initiation to hand over “Mayer Bank” to pregnant women. He discussed with the clients and community people, they informed that the Surjer Hashi Satellite clinic session is being organized on regular basis and they receive quality services. Dr. Moinuddin Ahmed verified the infection prevention activity specially use of Autoclave in Bagharpara Surjer Hashi clinic. The clinic staff demonstrated the infection prevention activity and Dr. Moinuddin became satisfied with the performance. Finally, he suggested to increase client flow in the SH clinics through BCC and different publicity activities.

Training on Warehouse Information Management System Version 3 (WIMsv3) held for DGFP warehouse staffs



Two days long training on upgraded Warehouse Inventory Management System Version 3 (WIMsv3) for DGFP warehouse staffs were organized by Logistics & Supply unit recently. Regional Supply officers, Pharmacist & Storekeepers from all 21 warehouses attended the training in two batches held



on 15-16 and 17-18 of February 2015 at the Kings Hall of Spectra Convention Center, Gulshan-1, Dhaka. The training was held with facilitation of USAID funded SIAPS program.

As part of SDP dashboard module rolling out Logistics & Supply unit, DGFP conducted this training on WIMSV3 for the warehouse staffs in 1st phase. The overall objective of the training was to enhance knowledge & skill of WIMS user. The specific objectives were:

- Orient on the changed user interface
- Discuss and demonstrate new features
- Share new item coding
- Organize hands on practice session for the user
- Install and make the software available with initial data

Welcome address was made by Md. Hanifur Rahman, Additional Director of DGFP central warehouse. Md. Abdus Salam Sarker, Director (Logistics & Supply) was also present in the concluding session in both the batches. The participants actively participated in the discussion session and provided their valuable comments for smooth functioning of DGFP inventory tools. Director (Logistics & Supply) and Additional Director, Central warehouse pointed out the importance of the inventory tools in logistics management in their speech. They also highlighted the utilization of knowledge gained from this training. WIMSV3 is upgraded versions of WIMS with enhance facilities and security. This version will provide more options to have different types of report for the warehouse managers. It will facilitate regular synchronization of information to/from supply chain information portal. This two days training has given a certain level of confidence to the user how to use this software to manage their day to day logistics activities. The users will start using this upgraded version of WIMS just after returning to their station. They will get comprehensive features to generate their monthly supply plan, issue vouchers, monthly logistics report correctly and completely. Through this up gradation the linkage between WIMSV3 & UIMSV3 will be established. The ultimate result would be managers and policy level people will have consumption & stock information on all the items throughout the system will facilitate to take correct and timely decision.

SIAPS/MSH is providing assistance to Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP) in operationalizing different inventory management tools (WIMS, UIMS, SCIP etc.). WIMS has been introduced in DGFP inventory management system back in 2000 developed by USAID Deliver project. Warehouse Inventory Management System (WIMS) is running in all 21 warehouses since then and no changes or enhancement has been made in the software though there was huge



demand from the user level. On the other hand after having a successful piloting of SDP dashboard module in UIMS in 20 Upazila new demands created from DGFP and development partners to have facility to track all the items of the system and not to confine only contraceptives. Accordingly SIAPS upgraded both (WIMS & UIMS) the systems and planned to build capacity of the users.

AV Van Program acclaimed at HPN SBCC "Safollo Gatha"



The Bangladesh Behavior Change Communication Working Group (BCC WG) is working since 2011. The Working Group Serves as common platform for harmonizing and coordinating SBCC activities in HPN sector in Bangladesh and has developed a National Framework for Effective HPN SBCC. The working Group also invited submissions of HPN SBCC Program from its members. A Share Fair event HPN SBCC "Safollo

Gatha" has been organized to feature selected presentations on successful HPN SBCC practices in an innovative and interactive format to exchange information and discuss ideas on the submissions. Six organizations (**IEM Unit**: Reaching the unreached through AV-Van Program, DGFP; **BHE**: School Health Promotion Program & **IPHN**: Engagement of Journalists: Way forward to combat malnutrition, DGHS; **SPRING**: Tippy Tap, **Social Marketing Company** :A Social Business Model through involving local community and A New Strategy for Community Mobilization by using Tools in Group Meetings and Health Sessions, **EngenderHealth**: Sustainable Community Links through Peers, **Eminence**: Mother-Friendly Workplace Model for appropriate IYCF) submitted eight of their best practices presentations before the audiences. Unlike the other presentations, the AV-Van program of IEM Unit "Bioscop: has been acclaimed by the audiences as it was a role-play by the artists escorted with folk music at the end making the audiences nostalgic of their childhood memories.

The major objective of this program was to share ideas of HPN SBCC activities of various partner organizations in order to spark discussions about how to scale up successful practices and how to innovate new strategies for attaining better outcomes in the Health Population and Nutrition Sector in Bangladesh.

Ms. Roxana Quader, Additional Secretary (PH & WH), MOHFW and Mr. Md. Nur Hossain Talukder, Director General, DGFP inaugurated the Share Fair at Emmanuelle, Gulshan, Dhaka on 30 March, 2015 in a very festive mood. A mentionable number of audiences from the BCC WG along with participating organizations enjoyed the day-long



presentations. BCC WG has organized the Fair with the financial and technical assistances from the USAID and BKMI respectively. BCC WG has the planning to continue the program every year.



15th Meeting of the BCC Working Group Held

The 15th Meeting of the BCC Working Group was held at the IPHN Conference Room, Mohakhali, Dhaka on 09 February, 2015. Additional Secretary (PH & WHO), MOHFW Ms Roxana Quader graced the occasion as the Chief Guest while Director, IPHN & Line Director NNS, DGHS Dr. Md. Shah Nawaz chaired the program. IEM Unit, DGFP, BHE & IPHN, DGHS, NHSDP, UNICEF, BRAC, WFP, BBF (Bangladesh Breastfeeding Foundation) and BCC WG Subgroup representatives shared their previous three months and forthcoming activities on BCC Zakia Akhter, Deputy Director (PM), IEM Unit, DGFP shared about the completion of social and behavior service packages for the year 2014-15 ranging from RFP, EO tender floating for different activities like TV spot for different FP, MCH issues, Radio spots, short films on permanent methods, long acting methods, MCH issues, Newspaper advertisements, outdoor media (bill board) etc. She also shared about a big gathering on Child Marriage Prevention held in Sirajganj on 3rd January, 2015 with the kind presence of Honorable Minister, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and local MP as Chief Guest and Special Guest respectively with the support from UNFPA. Dr. Moudud Hossain, Deputy Director, IPHN, DGHS shared the ongoing activities like six posters on different nutrition issues, six comic stories for school children and the status of Nutrition Advocacy and Communication Strategy. Mr. Md. Mukhlesur Rahman, DPM, BHE, DGHS introduced their newly developed website with the guests.

The Chief Guest thanked all participants for the nice and well-timed presentations. She observed that if we could prevent child marriage then we would be able to prevent child malnutrition; hence she suggested organizing events – division or district wise. It will be helpful to preventing child marriage, she added.

She further mentioned that the NNS Communication and Advocacy Strategy is with the Ministry, it will be approved soon (within a week) after getting comments from different ministries. She suggested that if the future nutrition activities of NNS are shared with her and with the secretary then they can provide input on how to improve. She also requested all the organizations to take IEC Technical Committee approval during material development. When developing BCC materials unity and harmony need to be there she observed.

The Chief Guest also mentioned that BCC Working Group has completed many activities in HPN Sector. She suggested that any issues to work under IEC technical Group can be discussed and shared with her to get a solution. She thanked all and showed her gratitude and formally closed the meeting.

Thanks to the following contributors:

Mr. Md. Jamal Hossain, Zakia Akhter, Sati Rani Dey, Mohammad Badsha Hossain, Mukti Rani Shil.

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Questions, comments or suggestions?

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