



Editorial

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It is a gratification for me to know that, National Nutrition Services (NNS) is going to publish 9th issue of it's newsletter. This newsletter gives some programmatic information to understand the current nutrition information and interventions of NNS that will guide policy makers and others to plan effectively for the future nutrition services in Bangladesh.

I hope that the facility specific data will guide and help the policy makers and other concerned to take future step in improving the Nutritional status of mother and child in equitable manner. It also reflects different nutrition related activities taken by NNS and it's partners throughout the country.

The maternal & child malnutrition rate in Bangladesh is still remaining high though some remarkable progress has been made in recent years. NNS is trying hard to meet the targets and then it will be an enormous achievement and milestone for our country.

Thanks to honorable Secretary, MoH&FW and the Director Generals of both DGHS & DGFP for their continuous support to NNS, and acknowledge the contribution of health managers and other service providers who collaborate with NNS. Finally, I would also like to acknowledge the commitment and efforts of the hard working professionals of Nutrition Information and Planning Unit (NIPU) in making this newsletter a successful monitoring, knowledge & information sharing and advocacy tool for improving the nutritional activities for the population of Bangladesh.

I am hopeful that NNS will continue developing newsletter and share with all stakeholders.

Dr. A.B.M Muzharul Islam

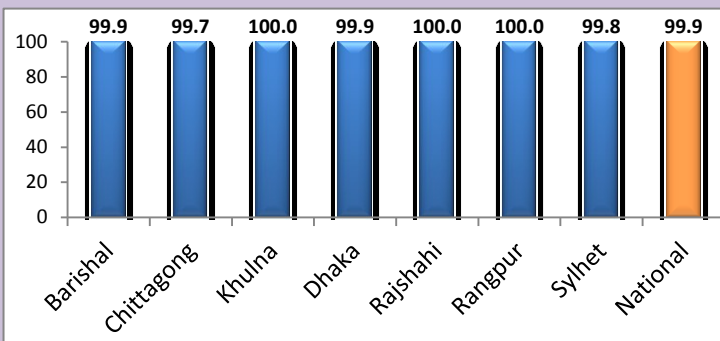


Figure 1: Coverage of consumption of Vitamin A around the country

National Vitamin A plus Campaign 2016



Picture 1: National Vitamin A plus Campaign 2016

National Vitamin-A plus Campaign 2016 was observed on July 16, 2016 from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm throughout the country. Zahid Maleque, MP, Honorable State Minister, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare inaugurated the national Vitamin-A Plus Campaign-2016 on 16th July, 2016 at Kurmitola General Hospital, Dhaka. Director General- Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Director General- Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP), officials from IPHN and National Nutrition Services (NNS) were also present at the inauguration ceremony.

A blue-colored high-power Vitamin-A capsule (100000 I.U.) was given to children aged between 06 and 11 months while red-colored Vitamin-A capsule (200000 I.U.) was given to children aged between 12 to 59 months. In addition to 120,000 permanent health centres 20,000 satellite centres were also established to observe Vitamin-A plus Campaign-2016. Officials from NNS, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Directorate General of Health Services and IPHN visited different districts and Upazillas to supervise and monitor the campaigns Program. Thus Bangladesh successfully continues to maintain high (99.9%) universal coverage of Vitamin A in all divisions to prevent Vitamin-A deficiency disorders which have consequences on child morbidity and mortality (Figure -1).

Key Highlights (June- August 2016)

Inaugural ceremony of "World Breastfeeding Week 2016"

The glorious inaugural ceremony of the World Breastfeeding Week-2016 in Bangladesh was held on 2nd August 2016 at the Osmani Smrity Milonayoton, Dhaka at 11.00 am.

The Honorable Minister, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Mr. Mohammad Nasim MP, inaugurated the World Breastfeeding Week 2016 as the Chief Guest. While prof. Dr. Deen Mohammad Noorul Huq, the Director General, Directorate General of Health Services, Mr. Mohd. Wahid Hossain NDC, Director General, Directorate General of Family Planning, were present as the Guests of Honor, Ms. Roxana Quader, the Additional Secretary (PH & WHO) MOHFW welcomed the audiences while Dr. A.B.M. Muzharul Islam, Director, Institute of Public Health Nutrition (IPHN) and Line Director, NNS and Professor Dr. S.K Roy, the Chairperson & Board of Trustees of BBF were present as speakers.



Picture 2: The Honorable Minister, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) Mohammad Nasim, MP and other distinguish guests on the inaugural ceremony.

The ceremony was Chaired by Syed Manjurul Islam, Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. About one thousand participants attended in this ceremony. Representatives from different ministries, medical colleges, professional societies, high officials and other development partners, stakeholders, NGOs, volunteers, students and nurses were present at that inaugural session.

The ceremony was started with recitation from Holy Quran, Bible, Geeta and Tripitok. Ms. Roxana Quader, Additional Secretary, MOHFW welcomed all the participants and gave her welcome speech. Key note Speaker was Prof. Dr. S. K. Roy, in his speech he describe the objectives of WBW 16, 17 indicators of SDGs, present child nutritional status and the present NNS projects. He also reminded the demerits of Breast Milk Substitute (BMS) and the WHA resolution regarding BMS.

Honorable Chief Guest Mohammad Nasim, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) thanked Prof. Dr. S. K. Roy and BBF team for their wonderful work. Vote of thanks was given by Dr. A B M Muzharul Islam, Director, IPHN and Line Director, NNS.

After the inauguration ceremony Honorable Minister, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and other dignitaries visited the "Breastfeeding and Nutrition Fair". Every participants received IEC material (Cover Folder, Action folder, Poster, Souvenir, leaflet, copy of BMS ACT 2013, etc) & refreshment.

WBW' 16 observation by the Medical College Hospitals and other institutions

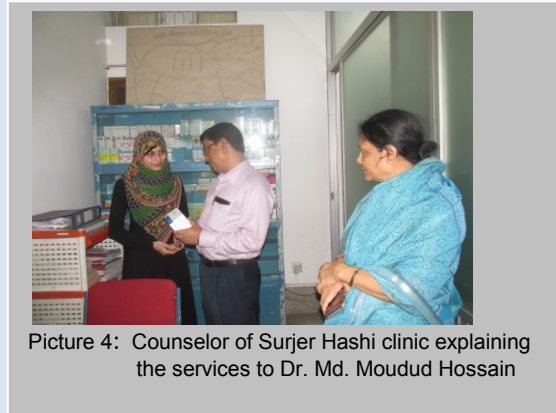
The World Breastfeeding Week 2016 has been celebrated by the all government medical college hospitals through seminar and an hour long session on the importance of breastfeeding. Information materials like posters, folders and leaflets are being sent to the medical college hospitals beforehand. IPHN is providing a financial support to the 7 divisional level hospitals, nursing colleges, universities, 64 district hospitals and 496 Upazila health complexes. Upon completion of the celebration, they are asked to send reports to the central level.



Picture: 3 Divisional level Seminar

Field visit to IMAGE and NISHKRITI, Chittagong

NGO Health Service Delivery Project (NHSDP) is a USAID and DFID co-funded largest health initiative in Bangladesh. Through 388 clinics and more than ten thousand outreach centers, the project delivers essential service package (ESP) of primary health care to the least advantaged at an affordable cost. In accordance with Government of Bangladesh's commitment, the NHSDP aims to reduce the prevalence of malnutrition of children, adolescents and women of the underprivileged section of the society. This year, National Nutrition Services (NNS) of IPHN and NHSDP have signed an agreement and as a part of that Dr. Md. Moudud Hossain, Deputy Director, DGHS and Program Manager NNS, IPHN and Dr. Md. Moinul Haque, Planning & MIS Specialist-NNS visited SH Clinics of NISHKRITI and IMAGE—two partner NGOs of NHSDP on 21 and 22nd August, 2016.



Picture 4: Counselor of Surjer Hashi clinic explaining the services to Dr. Md. Moudud Hossain

During this visit, the Project Directors and Clinic Managers briefed the team about Surjer Hashi clinic activities, the services offered and also the logistic and commodity support these clinics are receiving from NNS. Dr. Hossain and Dr. Haque talked to the Counselors, Paramedics, Medical Doctors and Nutrition Field Staff (NFS) of the two clinics, observed the nutrition activities provided from these clinics to pregnant and post-partum mothers and under two children. The clinics of IMAGE and NISHKRITI received technical assistance from Concern Worldwide to mainstream nutrition since 2012 and the NFS are based at the clinics as part of the plan. The NNS officials keenly listened to the Paramedics and NFS on how Growth Monitoring and Promotion (GMP) is being done at the clinics, information recorded and mothers being counseled based on the child's measurements.



Picture 5: Dr. Md. Moudud Hossain in discussion with one pregnant mother who came for service in the SH clinic

Dr. Md. Moudud Hossain discussed with the Medical Officer and Paramedics about the nutrition and IYCF counseling to pregnant and lactating mothers, supplements provided (IFA tablets, Calcium tablets and post-partum Vitamin- A capsules). NNS officials also received feedback from the clients who came for services in the clinics. NHSDP's nutrition indicators and the MIS system were also explained to the team. Team from NNS greatly appreciated the nutrition activities of NHSDP and at the same time reiterated the scope for more intensive services eg. intensive nutrition counseling and provision of supplementation to pregnant and lactating mothers who come to take services from the clinics.

10th PFN meeting



Picture 6: Participants of the 10th PFN meeting



Picture 7: Participants of the 10th PFN meeting

10th quarterly Partners Forum for Nutrition (PFN) meeting was held on 18 August 2016 at IPHN Conference Room with stakeholders and partners of NNS. The meeting was held with a view to strengthen the collaboration among GoB-NGO working in the Nutrition field. The Chair person, Dr. Md. Moudud Hossain, Deputy Director, DGHS & Program Manager, NNS welcomed the participants and formally inaugurated the meeting.

He gave thanks to all for supporting IPHN on Nutritional activities. Dr. K M Azad, Asstt. Director, DGHS and DPM, NNS narrated the objectives of the meeting and anchored the meeting. Dr. Md. Moinul Haque, Planning & MIS Specialist, NNS shared 9th PFN meeting minutes. A total number of 26 people from GOB and NGOs were participated in the 10th PFN meeting.

Dr. Rais Udding Ahmed, DPM, MCH services, DGFP gave presentation on Scaling Up of Nutrition Activities. Mr. Ali Reza, DCOP, SPRING gave Presentation on “Community Nutrition Champions” linking the Government System and the community.

He explained about the SPRING’s Approach and Activities.

Dr. Ireen Akhter Chowdhury, Nutrition Officer UNICEF discussed about the Anaemia situation of Bangladesh.

Ms. Monira Parveen, Nutrition Program Officer, WFP presented on Current Nutrition Interventions of WFP Bangladesh.

Strengthening Online MIS Tools

A workshop on “Updating online Reporting Tools to strengthen Nutrition Information System” was held in the IPHN Conference Room, Dhaka on 18th July 2016 with the support of MaMoni-Save the Children.

The Chair Person, Dr. Tapan Kumar Biswas, Deputy Director, IPHN & PM, NNS welcomed the participants and formally inaugurated the meeting.

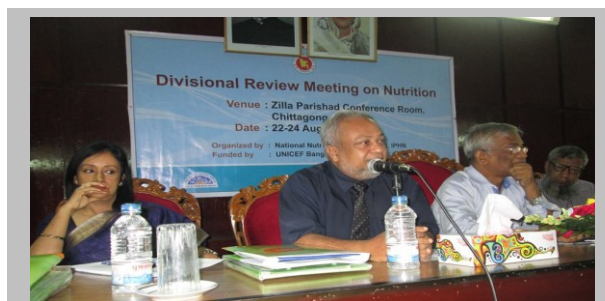
Main objective of the workshop was to update the existing online CC and IMCI-N Corner Reporting Format to strengthen Nutrition Information System (NIS). A presentation on existing nutrition reporting system and its indicator has been shared by Dr. Md. Moinul Haque, Planning and MIS specialist, NNS. He has shown the difficulties on existing format and drawn attention of the forum to review it and provide feedback. Two groups have been formed for group work. Both of the group came up with different feedbacks.

Finally, it was decided that a small group will be formed as technical review team to overview and finalize the required changes in the existing reporting format & indicators and a small meeting will be held with key inter-OP policy makers to be agreed on the necessary changes.

Chittagong Divisional Review Meeting



Picture 9: Participants of the review meeting



Picture 10: Participants of the review meeting

Divisional Review Meeting on nutrition for Chittagong Division were held in the Conference Room, District Commissioner's Office, Chittagong on 22-24 August, 2016. IPHN/NNS organized the meeting with support from UNICEF.

Dr. Mohammad Azizur Rahman Siddiqui, Civil Surgeon of Chittagong & Acting Divisional Director (Health) Chittagong Division chaired the meeting. Dr. A.B.M. Muzharul Islam, Director, IPHN & Line Director, NNS was present as the Chief Guest. Among other Resource Persons, there were Dr. Md. Moudud Hossain, Program Manager, NNS; Dr. Md. Moinul Haque, Planning Specialist, NIPU, NNS; Mohammad. Nurul Alam, Divisional Director- Family Planning, Chittagong Division, Dr. Mohammad Abdur Rahid, Additional Director (Admin), Dr. Mohsin Ali, Nutrition Specialist, UNICEF, Bangladesh Country Office, Mrs. Madhuri Banarjee, Chief, Field Operation, Chittagong Division, Dr. U-Ba Swee Chowdhury, Nutrition Officer, UNICEF, Chittagong Division. All Civil Surgeons and UH&FPO (Or representative of UH&FPO) and DNSOs of 2 districts were present in the meeting. Sayed Kamrul Anwar, Assistant Chief (MIS), Director Health Office, Chittagong division moderated the program.

At the beginning, Civil Surgeon of Feni District delivered an introductory speech. He welcomed and thanked all the participants. He thanked the Director-IPHN& line Director NNS, Program manager-NNS and UNICEF for organizing this important meeting. In his brief speech, he cited that the meeting will help to make aware the sub-national, district and sub-district level managers to strengthen the nutrition mainstreaming activities and improve quality of nutrition services of the division through collective efforts.

Dr. A.B.M Muzharul Islam, Director IPHN highlighted some of the observation of pervious NVAC and requested to ensure and give priority of all types of nutrition activity delivered from district and community level in his speech.

Madhuri Banerjee, Chief of Field Office, Unicef in her speech discussed about the importance of divisional review meeting for the mainstreaming of nutrition as well as the role and support of UNICEF to implement DNI in Chittagong Division.

Dr. Md. Moudud Hossain, Program Manager, NNS presented an overview of NNS highlighting specific objectives, nutrition service delivery at facility level, priority activities of NNS, capacity building, service delivery, mainstreaming of nutrition, DNI's, Nutrition indicator integrating in reporting system, key stakeholders, NNS progress by indicators and also logistics supply status. He also shared his field visit experiences in different health facilities. He described in detail the gaps, bottlenecks and quality of service delivery as well as priority issues to address strengthening facilities through utilization of existing resources.

Dr. Md. Moinul Haque, Planning & MIS Specialist, NIPU, NNS, shared district wise nutrition reporting and service delivery performance. He presented the indicator wise performance of nutrition information of IMCN corner, CCs and SAM reports. He also shared the district wise list of facilities those are not provided report on a regular basis.

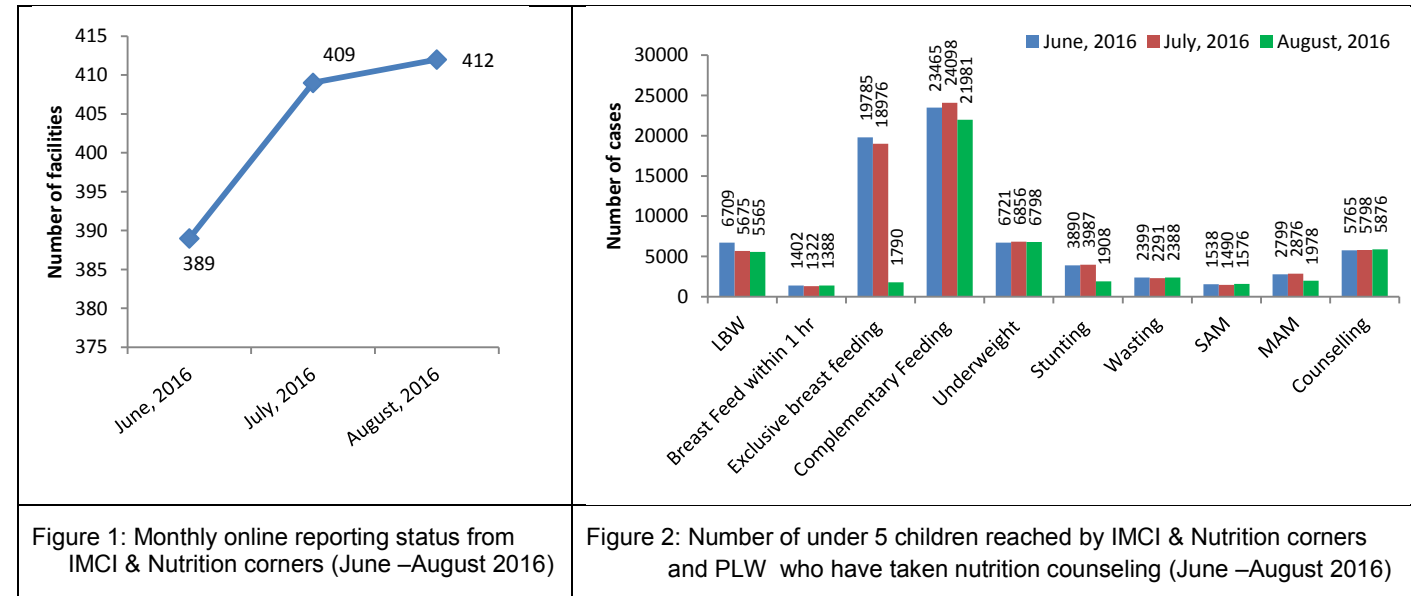
Zonal Nutrition Officer, Chittagong requested to invite representative from Chittagong City Corporation from next review meeting. He also gave emphasis to organize divisional review meeting on regular basis.

COVERAGE OF NUTRITION SERVICES

Nutrition Services from IMCI-N corners

Figure 1 shows the online reporting status of IMCI & Nutrition corners from June- August 2016, compiled by HMIS software. Currently almost 400 IMCI & Nutrition Corners from upazila and district levels are reporting on nutrition related indicators through online HMIS software. In August 2016, the reporting number was bit higher which was 412 IMCI & Nutrition corners.

Monthly Progress Report On IMCI & Nutrition Corners

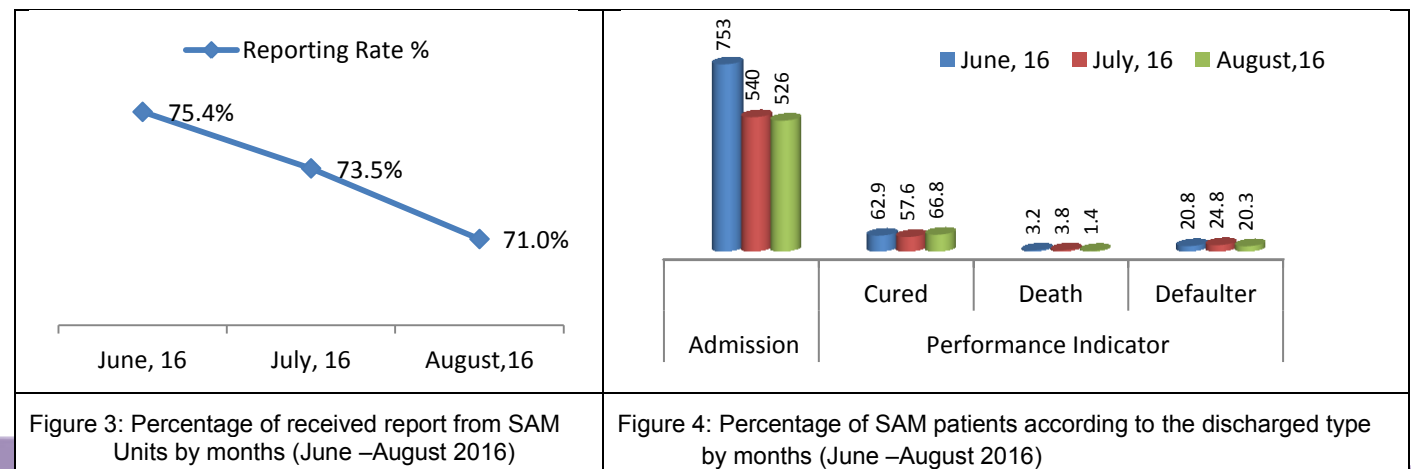


Source: Online HMIS, MIS-DGHS

Nutrition Services from SAM units

Figure 3 shows the number of SAM facilities which provided SAM information in June- August 2016. These facilities have been providing reports to online DG-MIS software. It is shown that the reporting rate, June was higher (75%) than the month of June & August 2016. It seems several facilities are still sending reports via email, therefore its not being showing in the MIS. Some of the urban facilities are been named twice in the DGHS server, ex; Institute of Child Health & Shishu Sastho Foundation. IPHN is identifying these types of error and taking necessary steps.

Figure 4 shows the status of discharged patients from different SAM units in those months. Among these, the Cure-Rate of August is higher (67%) than those in the month of June and July. On the other hand, defaulter rates are also higher. The main reason for this seems the discontinuation of stay in the facility for the sake of completing the full treatment for SAM. However, the cure rate is increasing gradually which is a progress indicator.



Source: SAM units

Nutrition Services from Community Clinic

Figure 5 shows, the number of community clinics sending nutrition related aggregated online reports in August 2016 through HMIS data management software DHIS2. The figure shows the reporting tendency is increasing day by day. At present the about 7840 Community Clinics which are reporting on nutrition service data through online every month.

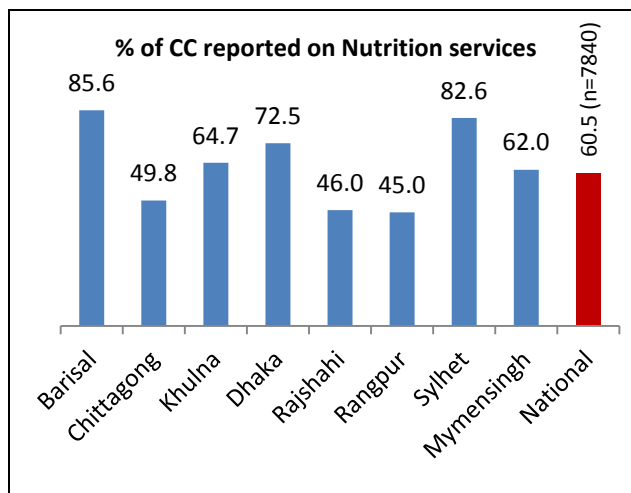


Figure 5: Percentage of CCs providing monthly nutrition related online aggregated report (August 2016)

Figure 6 shows the graphs of services provided in Community Clinics from July –August 2016 collected from online HMIS software. The graph shows that the IYCF practice and counseling have been increasing in the last 3 months in the Community Clinics.

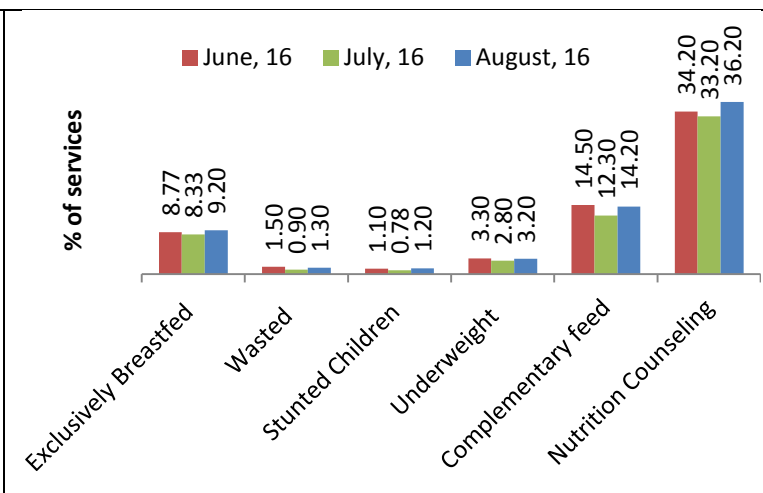


Figure 6: Percentage of under 5 children reached by Community Clinics (June –August 2016)

Source: Online HMIS, MIS-DGHS

Tea Garden online reporting on Nutrition

Figure 7 shows, the percentage of tea garden clinics of Kulaura upazilla, Maulavibazar who has received orientation online reporting on nutrition are sending aggregated reports from June – August 2016 through HMIS data management software DHIS2. The figure shows the reporting tendency is not satisfied. At present 15% of the tea garden clinics reporting out of 13 facilities who received the orientation on nutrition reporting through NNS.

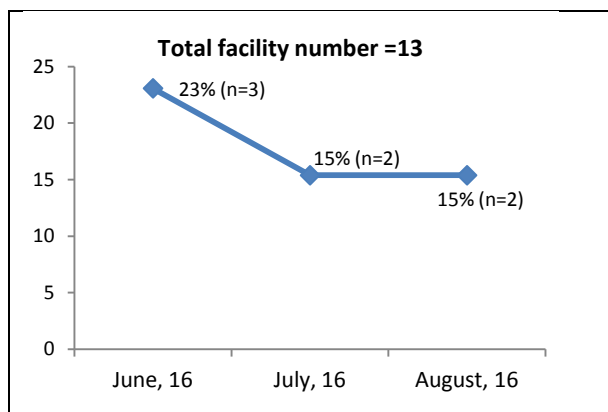


Figure 7: Percentage of received nutrition report from selected tea gardens (June –August 2016)

Figure 8 shows the graphs of services provided from the tea garden clinics of Kularua from June – August 2016 collected from online HMIS software. The graph shows that the anemia rate is very high. On the other hand, Exclusive breast feeding is quite well but the under weight is also a matter of concern.

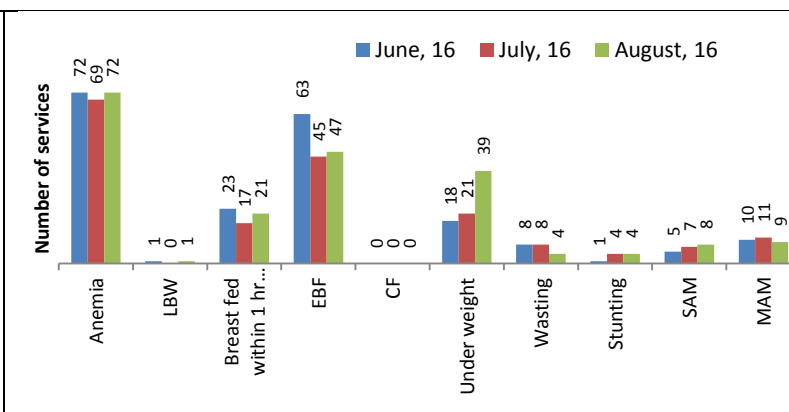


Figure 8: : Number of under 5 children reached by tea garden clinics who have taken nutrition services (June –August 2016)

Source: Online HMIS, MIS-DGHS

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Content compilation and analysis

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Acknowledgement

Nutrition Information & Planning Unit (NIPU), NNS, IPHN

UNICEF, Bangladesh



Published by: National Nutrition Services (NNS)

Institute of Public Health Nutrition (IPHN)

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