

# HIS, eHealth & MBT | September 2012

Monthly Newsletter



## Editorial Note

This is my pleasure to publish the first issue of "HIS, eHealth & MBT" Newsletter, September 2012 from Management Information Systems (MIS) of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS). Our department is working hard to rapidly develop an electronic system of data collection from across health system and making them available for generating evidence for appropriate decision making by the health policy makers and managers. The other purpose of electronic system, we call "eHealth" is to delivering health services through Internet and mobile phones. Another important program, our department is now carrying out, is Medical Biotechnology, which began from 2011-12. We will publish monthly progress in this newsletter on these three programs. I sincerely hope that our readers will appreciate this endeavor. We wish you the best.

### Professor Dr Abul Kalam Azad

Additional Director General (Planning & Development) &  
Director, MIS  
DGHS

## Current eHealth & eServices of MIS, DGHS

The eHealth & eServices of MIS, DGHS, which are currently available, include Health Service through Mobile, Telemedicine, Telemedicine in Community Clinics, Telemedicine Service in Union Information & Service Centers, Complaints-Suggestions through SMS, Pregnancy Care Advice through SMS, Health Statistics by SMS, Hospital Automation, Office Attendance Monitoring System, Online Population Health Registry, Human Resource Databases, Online Processing of Medical-Dental Admission Tests, ADP Progress Monitoring System, GIS in Health Service, Schedule Management Software, Bulk SMS, Digital Training Facility and Internet Connectivity across the Health Systems. Our other work is on Medical Biotechnology. We goal for improving health information system and eHealth and medical biotechnology and developing infrastructure and environment necessary for these.

## Editorial Board

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Shahid Dr. Milon Bhaban  
MIS office is located in this  
building

## September 2012

### Coordination meeting for aligning Health Information System



MIS organized a multi-stakeholders coordination meeting on HIS on 24 September 2012

MIS organized a coordination meeting with different HIS stakeholders, such as, MIS-DGFP, Community Clinics project, CDC-DGHS, EPI-DGHS and NTP-DGHS to discuss on the way of harmonization and alignment of data collection process for Health Information System. The meeting was held on 24 September 2012 at MIS, DGHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka. Representatives from ICDDR,B and Measure Evaluation were also invited to provide valuable suggestions in building better coordination mechanism. The meeting was presided by Professor Dr Abul Kalam Azad, Additional Director General (Planning & Development) & Director, Management Information System (MIS), DGHS. He was given responsibility from MOHFW in a meeting held on 6 August 2012 to hold this coordination meeting with a view to develop a common format of data collection for DGHS and DGFP and other stakeholders. The stakeholders present in the meeting expressed their interests to use DHIS2.9 software for collecting and reporting data.

### Workshop on ICD 10



Workshop on ICD-10

MIS, DGHS organized a 5-day long workshop to develop a training manual for the Master Trainers of ICD 10 from 30 Sept to 4 Oct 2012. Important partners and academicians were invited. Representative from ICDDR,B was also invited. The workshop was held at IT Lab of MIS, Mohakhali, Dhaka. Dr Chand Sultana, Chief, Health Information Unit of MIS, DGHS managed the workshop.

### Complaints-Suggestions Box received Global Recognition

A feature on SMS-based Complaints-Suggestions Box of MIS, DGHS has recently been published in "The National Bureau of Asian Research" Journal. This is a global recognition and would inspire staffs of MIS, DGHS to further promote accountability in public health services. In the Impact & Innovation Series, September 2012, the journal wrote "In Bangladesh, a patient arrives at a public hospital expecting care, but discovers that, again, his doctor did not arrive for work. On the wall, a stark sign prompts patients to send a text message describing any problem that they are experiencing with hospital service. The patient sends a short message to awaiting Ministry of Health officials, who respond in real time, calling the hospital to identify a solution." In a feature under 'Accountability Programs across Sectors' the total implication of Complaints and Suggestions Box has been described. "Complaints-Suggestions" through SMS is an exciting and effective innovation added to the existing service line of MIS of DGHS.

SMS-BASED  
COMPLAINTS-  
SUGGESTIONS  
BOX FEATURED IN  
"THE NATIONAL  
BUREAU OF ASIAN  
RESEARCH"  
JOURNAL

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### **Workshop on Nutrition Information System (NIS)**

National Nutrition Services (NNS) organized a 2-days workshop on developing nutrition indicators from 10 to 11 September 2012 from 10 am to 5 pm at 'Shomadhan Hall' of Lakeshore Hotel, Dhaka. Representatives from all the development partners were invited to discuss on the proposed 18 indicators of NIS. After the workshop, a specification sheet with details information for each NIS indicator was developed. Professor Dr Abul Kalam Azad, Additional Director General (Planning & Development) and Director, Management Information System (MIS) and Professor Dr Md Ekhlashur Rahman, Director, IPHN and Line Director, NNS were present in the meeting. Both of them, in their speech, appreciated the efforts for developing the indicators. It was emphasized in the workshop to use DHIS2.9 software to collect field based information.



Workshop on Nutrition Information System (NIS)

### **Development of National Core Health Indicators**

A meeting on development of National Core Health Indicators was held on 14 August 2012. Chaired by Professor Dr Abul Kalam Azad, Additional Director General (Planning & Development) & Director, Management Information System (MIS) of DGHS, the meeting was attended by representatives of different development partners working in health sector of Bangladesh. The meeting discussed two issues: (i) To develop a set of core national health indicators with data definitions, data collection and estimation processes; (ii) To create an environment for sharing data and information infrastructures and resources; and 3) To collaborate between partners for improving the data availability, quality, analysis and dissemination. Decision was made to continue dialogue on this issue and take the agenda forward for implementation.

### **Recent MIS, DGHS Publications**

MIS, DGHS recently published "Annual Health Bulletin 2012" and "Our eHealth". "Annual Health Bulletin 2012" is a part of yearly series but current version contains improved elements. "Our eHealth" overviews all the HIS, eHealth and Medical Biotechnology services and programs currently delivered by MIS, DGHS. The publications will soon be available on the website: [www.dghs.gov.bd](http://www.dghs.gov.bd).

MIS RECENTLY  
PUBLISHED  
"ANNUAL HEALTH  
BULLETIN 2012" &  
"OUR EHEALTH"

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### MIS is providing laptops to the community clinics



MIS is providing laptops to  
Community Clinics

Community clinics, located in the rural areas of Bangladesh, already started receiving laptop computers with Internet connection. Over 200 community clinics in different parts of the country received their laptops. Before 2012 ends, another 3,500 and by the next year, all of the remaining community clinics will be supplied with laptops and Internet connections. The Management Information System is providing laptops to the community clinics to use for multiple purposes, viz., telemedicine, updating local health data, giving health education to citizens and training of health staffs. The laptops have wireless internet connection and in-built web camera and audio system.

### Effort to strengthen Medical Biotechnology capacity in selected medical colleges of Bangladesh

The MIS, DGHS started a Medical Biotechnology (MBT) program from fiscal 2011-12 under Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Development Program (HPNSDP 2011-16). Under this program, a number of medical and dental teachers, scientists, policy makers, health managers and journalists were given orientation. Review of existing undergraduate medical curriculum was also done to incorporate provisions of teaching of appropriate contents to medical and dental students. In orientation meetings with medical teachers and scientists, it was revealed that minimum level research and diagnostic capacities in medical and dental colleges and hospitals will be have to built at the shortest possible time and to further build on the existing capacity. Referring to a survey report, the participants recommended to start with strengthening laboratory capacities of the medical colleges where some laboratory facilities already exist, say, providing additional equipment and continued supply of required reagents. The MIS, DGHS has found this recommendation most rationale and therefore, has undertaken measures for assisting those laboratories to strengthen their MBT capacities. The assistance will be provided in fiscal 2012-13.

