

Metropolitan

Half of women in country risk complications at childbirth

By Staff Correspondent

Three mothers die every hour in the country during child delivery due to different complications, one of the highest in the world, while about 95 per cent of them still have their babies delivered at home by untrained traditional birth attendants.

This was revealed at the National Seminar on Sharing of Experiences of Reproductive Health and Emergency Obstetric Care Activities at Maternal and Child Welfare Centres in Bangladesh jointly organised by Ministry of Health and UNFPA at Hotel Sheraton yesterday.

Papers presented at the seminar also said that about half of the women in the country are acutely malnourished and risk suffering from complications of pregnancies as well as delivering babies weighing less than 2,500 grams or premature delivery.

It also revealed that 94 per cent of the childbirth take place at home under worst possible conditions and very few receive help from trained attendants.

Participants identified inadequate availability of preventive and promotive health care services in the field of antenatal care, poor obstetric techniques during childbirth and more significantly, lack of access to life saving procedures in emergencies.

They also said that the major causes of deaths are obstructed labour, eclampsia, excessive bleeding, and complications of unsafe abortion and injuries.

There is an urgent need to inform general people that reproductive health and Emergency Obstetric Care (EOC) Services are available, affordable and accessible at government institutions," Tahera Ahmed, Assistant Representative of United Nations Population Fund in Bangladesh.

Tahera also said, "Continued support is needed for Maternal and Child Welfare Centre (MCWCs) to help doctors and paramedics to provide the nec-

essary services." However, she said, "The support will not be so much in terms of physical inputs like renovation and equipment, but more on training in clinical and managerial supervision and technical assistance to ensure quality of services."

There are 90 MCWC of which 55 are at district level, 12 at thana level and 23 at union level. The MCWCs are ideal place for mothers for safe delivery as female health workers

manage them. These centres were grossly under utilised because the quality of services was far below than any acceptable standard until introduction of Reproductive Health and EOC services, the seminar was told.

UNFPA's fourth country programme undertook plans to improve the centres under a project titled - 'Strengthening of Reproductive Health Services delivery at MCWCs in Bangladesh'.

Traditional shalish system works in the rural areas

Speakers at seminar say

By DU Correspondent

Speakers at a seminar yesterday stressed the positive points of the traditional *Shalish* System, the non-formal dispute resolution mechanism saying, "decisions of the *shalish* are swift and based on community consensus, which gives it legitimacy."

Addressing the national seminar on 'Law and Human Rights', they said that the *shalish* plays an extremely important role in ensuring acquiescence to prevailing moral codes of conduct on which rural society is based.

In his paper on '*Shalish* System in Bangladesh', Zakir Hossain of Nagorik Uddoyog said, "as there is no set procedure, unlike the necessary formalities in the courts, it can often become a loud and heated event, in which parties, relatives, UP members and other members of the community express their opinion."

He however cautioned that although the traditional *shalish* is cost-effective and speedy, the system, nevertheless, has some inheritable defects within its very structure. The *shalish* system allows the village elite to maintain considerable influence within the community by en-

abling them to exercise their will upon the vulnerable", he said.

During the seminar, Nasreen Huq of Nari Pokkha and Rokomuzzaman of Odhakar Domestic Violence and 'Use and Abuse of Section 54 of Criminal Procedure Code' respectively while Dr. Mizanur Rahman, director of the Human Rights Summer School gave a brief overview on his school.

The speakers said that various governments, which have come to power in Bangladesh, have occasionally abused the provision, section 54, to harass and intimidate members of the political opposition and their families.

"The phrase of the procedure 'with reasonable suspicion' gives the green light to unscrupulous police to misuse and abuse this Section and contravene all constitutional guarantees of the rights to life, liberty and equality before the law", they said.

The seminar was presided over by Dr. Shamsul Bari while Advocate Sigma Huda, Dr. Shahdeen Malik, Ahmed Kamal and Rokeya Khatun took part in the discussion.



The 28th Annual General Meeting of the National Council of Bangladesh Scouts was held at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium yesterday. President and Chief Scout of Bangladesh, Sahabuddin Ahmed giving away the highest award "Silver Tiger" to Saiful Islam Khan, National Commissioner (PR&Publications), Bangladesh Scouts, Manzoor UI Karim, President, Bangladesh Scouts, and M Fazlur Rahman, Chief National Commissioner and Secretary, Ministry of Science & Technology, are also seen in the picture.

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THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF BANGLADESH (ICAB) ELECTION COMMISSION COUNCIL ELECTION 2000 ANNOUNCEMENT

ICAB Council Election 2000 will be held on 28.11.2000 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm without break.

Bio-data of contesting candidates have already been sent to all eligible members. Ballot papers for voters residing outside Dhaka and Chittagong Metropolitan Areas have also been sent for casting their votes by post. Members of Dhaka Regional Constituency residing within Dhaka Metropolitan Area will cast their votes at the Dhaka Polling Station at ICAB Auditorium, Chartered Accountant Bhaban (9th floor), 100 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215 while members of Chittagong Regional Constituency residing within Chittagong Metropolitan Area will cast their votes at Chittagong Polling Station at the office of Chittagong Regional Committee ICAB at HBFC Building (3rd Floor), 1/D, Agrabad Com. Area, Chittagong.

Mohammed Toha FCA
Convener
Election Commission

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International Tender Notice
ICB Tender No. BGS/FP/CFE-06/2000

Description of materials	Cost of tender documents (Non-refundable)	Closing and opening date & time
Cogt and Wrap materials	US\$ 19.00 or Tk. 1,000.00	10.1.2001 at 11.00 hrs. and at 11.15 hrs. respectively.

- The procurement will be financed under Cash Foreign Exchange.
- Eligibility: Manufacturers/suppliers having proven experience of similar works/supply.
- Availability of tender documents: BGS/FP Offices at:
 - Head Office Complex, Chapapur, Comilla, Bangladesh.
 - Liaison Office, House No. 3, Road No. 2/A, Banani, Dhaka-1213, Bangladesh.
 - Sales Department, 137/A, CDA Avenue, Sholasahar, Chittagong, Bangladesh.
- Selling time of tender documents: From 3.12.2000 to 9.1.2001.
- Place of tender receiving: BGS/FP's Liaison Office, House No. 3, Road No. 2/A, Banani, Dhaka-1213, Bangladesh.
- Bid bond amount: 2.5% of the total quoted amount.
- For further information and clarification please contact: Dy. General Manager (Purchase), BGS/FP, Comilla, Bangladesh
Fax No. 880-81-77199, 880-2-8826317
- BGS/FP reserves the right to accept any tender or to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

BG-178/Nov/00
DFP-28450-22/11 G-2074

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BCIC International Tender Notice
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Managing Director, Urea Fertiliser Factory Ltd, Ghorasal, Narsingdi, Bangladesh invites sealed quotation on two envelopes system for supply of 2125 kgs Potassium Nitrate Powder under Tender No UFFL/FP-102.16/2000-2001/575 & 14,070 MT Mono-Ethanol Amine (MEA) under Tender No UFFL/FP-102.01/2000-2001/576 on C&F (C) Chittagong Sea Port basis. Tender will be received up to 11:00 AM on 8-1-2001 & 10-1-2001 respectively. Tender documents will be available at Tk 200/- & 100/- (non-refundable) for each set respectively from (1) Accounts Division, BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka. (2) BCIC, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong & (3) UFFL. The authority reserves the right to accept any tender or the reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

No tender documents will be sold on the date of opening.

BCIC-1055-20/1/2000
DFP-28393-22/11 G-2076

Authorities urged to check HIV/AIDS infiltrations

Journalists yesterday urged the authorities to create an 'enabling environment' immediately to check AIDS/HIV infiltration as the country is surrounded by high prevalent countries like Myanmar and India, reports BSS.

They were speaking at a discussion organised by Bangladesh Manobadhikar Journalists Forum (BMSJF) with the cooperation of UNDP and Health and Family Welfare Department. Anil Ilyas, President of the Forum, presided over the meeting.

The speakers said Bangladesh is fortunate to have a low prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS amid rising trends world-wide.



Munier Chowdhury's birth anniversary today

Today is the 75th anniversary of birth of Shaheed Prof. Munier Chowdhury, says a press release.

On the occasion, Theatre has organised a function at 6:30 pm at the Mahila Samity. The function will be presided over by National Professor Kabir Chowdhury while Prof. Mustafa Nurul Islam will attend as chief guest.

The names of the recipients of Munier Chowdhury Award and Mohammad Zakaria Award for the year 2000, instituted by Theatre, will be announced in the function and the awards would be formally handed over to them. Theatre's latest production 'Choy Beharar Palki' would also be staged.

In a separate function at the National Museum in the morning, eminent painter Saiful Islam will hand over a portrait of Munier Chowdhury to Theatre president Prof. Kabir Chowdhury. The portrait will then be presented to National Museum for preservation.

US embassy IRC timing during Ramadan

The Information Resource Centre (IRC) of the Public Affairs Section of the US mission in Bangladesh will follow a new time schedule during the month of Ramadan, says a press release.

Accordingly, the IRC will be open to users from 10 am to 4 pm Sunday through Wednesday, effective from the first day of Ramadan.

The IRC will go back to its previous schedule after Ramadan.

WVA raffle draw

The Women's Voluntary Association (WVA) organised a Meena Bazar on Friday, says a press release.

Following are the unclaimed winning numbers of Raffle draw of Meena Bazar.

3335, 0817, 0387, 3001, 2076, 3186, 2179, 0990, 0874, 1278, 1944, 2249, 0141, 0112, 2094 and 0634.

The winners have been requested to collect the prizes from WVA office - Road No. 27 (old), House No. 405 (A), Dhanmouhi - (Phone-9116228) within seven days.

নন্দনালী উপশহর প্রকল্প
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Job Opportunity
CORT Bangladesh, an international multidisciplinary research organization invites application for Research Officers and Research Assistants. Applicants must be post-graduate in Social Sciences including Public Health. Good command over written and spoken English with skills in computer desirable. Interested candidates should send the CV to Executive Director, House # 6, Road # 24, Block K, Banani, Dhaka-1212. Closing date: 31 December 2000. C-1216

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Tangail Public Works Division, Tangail

Memo No 2315 Dated: 16-11-2000

Tender Invitation Notice
No 36 (2000-2001)

- Tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 under sealed cover are hereby invited from Public Works Directorate enlisted contractors/contractors' firms, as per financial eligibility, for the undermentioned work. Tenders can be submitted in tender box kept at the office of the undersigned/Public Works Division, Mymensingh/Jamalpur/Sherpur/Kishoreganj/Netrakona/Eden Building/City/Dhaka 1, 2, 3, 4/ Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1, 2, 3/Dhaka Maintenance/Azimpur/Medical College/Dhaka Arboriculture/Mirpur/Savar/Resources/Mohakhali/Motijheel/Narayanganj/Narsingdi/Gazipur/Minikganj Public Works Division/Chittagong/Khulna/Rajshahi Public Works Zone & Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division, Dhaka/Deputy Commissioner, Tangail/Police Super, Tangail & Officer-in-Charge, Tangail Sadar Thana during office hours from the date of purchasing tender schedule up to the last date & time of submitting tender 12-12-2000 till 12:00 Noon, which will be opened on the same day at 12:15 PM in presence (if any) of the attending tenderers. Each tender should be submitted under a sealed cover superscribing the name of work, name & address of contractor.

Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time limit for completion of work	Class of contractor/contractors' firm
Construction of 2nd floor on 1st floor (vertical extension) of Collectorate Building (Block No 3), Financial year 2000-2001.	Tk 44,04,158/-	Tk 88,085/-	6 (six) months	Public Works Directorate's special first class/combined 1st class/1st class & Dhaka Public Works Zone's 2nd class building construction work contractor/contractors' firm

- Contractor/contractors' firm interested to participate in the tender or his/his representative (in case of representative, submitting authorisation letter with the representative's signature attested by contractor/contractors' firm) can purchase the contract document, tender consisting tender schedule, additional terms & conditions, specification and rules & regulations etc against cash payment of the prescribed price Tk 750/- (seven hundred fifty) only per set & Tk 25/- (twenty-five) only for each Bangladesh Form No 2911 (both non-refundable) on production of contractor's enlistment register from the office of the undersigned & Public Works Division, Mymensingh/Jamalpur/Sherpur/Kishoreganj/Netrakona/Eden Building/City/Dhaka-1, 2, 3, 4/ Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1, 2, 3/ Dhaka Maintenance/Azimpur/Medical College/Dhaka Arboriculture/Mirpur/Savar/Resources/Mohakhali/Motijheel/Narayanganj/Narsingdi/Gazipur/Minikganj Public Works Division/prescribed Division of Chittagong/Khulna/Rajshahi Public Works Zone & Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka during office hours up to 11-12-2000. No tender will be sold on the date of opening tender.

DFP-28294-21/11 G-2072
Executive Engineer
Tangail Public Works Division, Tangail.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Introduction of Computer Course in Class IX of Selected Secondary Schools (Govt & Private) Project
Directorate of Secondary & Higher Education
Bangladesh, Dhaka

Tender Notice
Memo No OOD/D/61/2000/17 Dated: 19-11-2000

Tenders in prescribed form under sealed cover are invited from bonafide sole agents/traders/suppliers for purchase of 2 Desktop Computer System, 1 photocopier & 2 aircoolers at PIU of the project titled "Introduction of Computer Course in Class IX of Selected Secondary Schools (Govt & Private) under the Directorate of Secondary & Higher Education. Tender can be purchased through written application in own pad on cash payment of Tk 400/= (four hundred) only from Senior Assistant Secretary, Development, Section-6, Building No 6, Ministry of Education during office hours on all working days from 5-12-2000 to 7-12-2000.

2% (two per cent) of the quoted amount as earnest money should be deposited with the tender. The earnest money should be in favour of "Introduction of Computer Course in Class IX of Selected Secondary Schools (Govt & Private) project through Bank Draft/Pay Order of scheduled bank.

Tenders will be received in box kept at the office chamber of Project Director, "Introduction of Computer Course in Class IX of Selected Secondary Schools (Govt & Private)" Project, Directorate of Secondary & Higher Secondary Education, Siksha Bhaban 5th floor, Room No 605 & Senior Assistant Secretary, Development, Section 6, Building No 6, Ministry of Education up to 4:00 Noon of 10-12-2000. The tenders will be opened on the same day at 12:30 PM in presence (if any) of the tenderers.

The authority is not bound to accept the lowest tender and reserves the right to accept/reject any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason.

DFP-28292-21/11 G-2073
Md Abdur Rahim
Project Director

Compensation demanded for fire victims

By Staff Correspondent

Various workers' associations, left front organisations, women organisations and human rights associations have expressed their deep concern at the fire incident in Chowdhury Towel garments factory at Narsingdi on Saturday night.

The associations include Samulita Nari Samaj, Jatiya Garments Stranik Jote, Garment Tailors Workers League, Karmojibi Nari, Samajtantrik Bangladesh Front, Bangladesh Jatiya Stranik Jote, An O Salisi Kendro, Bangladesh Manobadhikar Samomoy Parishad, Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD), Bangladesh Garments Workers Unity Council and National Garments Workers Federation.

Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (BSD) yesterday staged a procession and a demonstration demanding the punishment of the persons responsible for the accident and proper compensation for the victims and their families. In emergency meeting Jatiya Garments Stranik Jote demanded that at least five lakh taka be paid as compensation to the families of each worker who died in the incident.

Minister for Science and Technology Mohammad Noor Uddin visited the fire ravaged factory at Narsingdi yesterday and he also went to the hospital to see the condition of the injured workers.

In a separate press release National Garments Workers Federation will hold a condolence meeting and observe protest day today in commemoration of the tragic incident.

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority
141-143, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000

Re-Tender Notice
Sealed tenders in prescribed form are invited from bonafide importers/sole agents for purchase of 1 (one) No Computer Brand PC USA, and 1 (one) No UPS-500 VA, Uninterruptible Power Supply USA/Canada.

- Tender No: Croy-31/2000 dated: 7-11-2000.
- Earnest money: 2.5% of the quoted total amount (refundable) through Pay Order/Call Deposit/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in favour of "BIWTA" to be submitted along with the tender as earnest money.
- Price of tender schedule: Tk 50/- (fifty) only.
- Place where tender schedule will be sold: BIWTA, Accounts Deptt, 9th Floor, "BIWTA Bhaban," 141-143, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.
- Place, date and time of receiving tender: Purchase & Stores Deptt, Regional Office, 1st Floor, "BIWTA Bhaban," 141-143, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka and Room No 816, 8th Floor, Bhaban No 6, Ministry of Shipping, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka up to 1500 hours on 07-12-2000.
- Opening date and time of tender: At 1515 hours on 07-12-2000 in presence of the tenderer (if any).

No tender schedule will be sold on the opening day and no tender will be received after schedule date and time. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

PR-119/2000
DFP-28433-22/11 G-2075
Md Golam Molla Mollah
Director
Purchase & Stores Deptt.