

# Midwifery-led Maternal Health



Shah Hussain Imam, Associate Editor, *The Daily Star* Bangladesh has made significant progress in improving maternal health but much still remains to be done. One of the key healthcare components that improve maternal health outcome is the presence of a professional birth attendant at every delivery. Although proportion of deliveries attended by trained providers has almost tripled from 16% in 2004 to 42% in 2014 [BDHS 2014] the number of deliveries with professional attendant remains low. In spite of efforts to make care equitable, lack of professional attendants at birth is particularly an issue amongst the poorest, least educated and those living in rural areas.

Dr Shamina Sharmin, Maternal Health Specialist, UNFPA  
In Bangladesh, still home delivery is 63% and delivery with no skill birth attendant is 58%. Delivery at facility among the poorest quintal is only 15% and delivery with skill birth attendant is only 18%. We want to reach this quintal of the population.

As per the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM), midwives have to successfully complete the midwifery education programme approved by ICM. They need to be registered and licensed to practice midwifery and use the title midwife. According to World Midwifery Report, a trained midwife can provide 87% of the essential care needed for women and newborns. So a skilled midwife can lessen the extra workload of doctor and nurses.

The current status of midwifery led care is that the government has already approved 3000 posts for midwives who will be posted in four per Upazila and one per Union Health Family Welfare Centres in phased recruitment of 500 each year from next year. Till now 1289 certified midwives are already working in the government health facilities. They have become midwives through UNFPA supported programme for six months basic course on midwifery training. One of the focus areas of UNFPA is establishing midwifery led maternal and neonatal health services to ensure emergency obstetric care that is EMOC services throughout the country. UNFPA is supporting the government of Bangladesh in four critical areas so that we can establish the midwifery programme, regulation and licensing for midwives, quality education and faculty development and demand creation in the community.

Argentina Matavel Piccin, UNFPA Representative in Bangladesh  
I want to focus on two issues: quality of midwifery education and training and acceptability of a midwife in the community. Quality training will ensure quality service and quality service will lead to acceptability. Our curriculum maintains international standards. We need to ensure effective transfer of the skills mentioned in the curriculums.

Zahid Malik MP, Honourable State Minister for Ministry of Health & Family Welfare  
Investing in midwives is an investment for future. In Bangladesh still 60 % deliveries do not happen in health facilities. We need to encourage delivery at facilities. Bangladesh spends only \$27 per person for health. Bangladesh needs to arrange more funds for midwives.

Recently UNFPA and The Daily Star organised a roundtable on “Midwifery-led Maternal Health”. Here we publish a summary of the discussion – Editor

## PARTICIPANTS



Out of pocket expenditure is also very high in Bangladesh. We need to reduce this expense and make the midwifery services available for poor people.

We will request the government to raise the budget for the health sector. This sector receives only 4.5 percent of the total budget. And in terms of GDP, it is only 1 percent. In developed countries, the health sector constitutes nine percent of the total GDP.

Dr Habibe Millat, Honourable Member of Parliament  
The budget is going to be placed next month. We need to talk about increasing budget for health sector because without proper budget we will not be able address a priority sector like midwifery.

In our country when a woman gets pregnant she is used to have limited movement. She has to go through an exceptional lifestyle. But a woman can lead normal life even during her pregnancy following certain lifestyle. We need to make people aware about this issue. Media can help us disseminate this message. We also need to address issues like child marriage that is one of the major reasons behind maternal mortality. We need a social movement to stop such harmful practices.

Dr Jahir Uddin Ahmed, Interim Chairperson, Dept. of Midwifery and Nursing, BRAC University  
I would like to focus on quality of midwifery training. To ensure quality training we need regular monitoring and capacity building mechanism for the trainers. BRAC University has been operating midwifery training successfully. We need more support from the government and the donors.

Dr Momena Khatun, Senior Health Adviser, DFATD-Canada

By the end of this year trained midwives will be deployed in various areas of the country. After deployment we have to ensure that they stay there and provide the required services. Here post-training follow up is very important. The Directorate of Nursing has to be empowered as the Directorate General of Nursing and Midwives. Only then they can raise their voice, look after the needs of midwives and achieve their goals.

Monica Fong, WHO  
To ensure quality of midwifery training we need to do impact evaluation of the existing curriculum. We need to see whether effective transfer of skills is happening or not. Acceptability will come with quality. When a woman will get good services in a health facility she will feel comfortable to go there again and again and the community will follow her. It will automatically increase acceptability of midwives in the community.

Professor Saria Tasnim, Executive Director, ICMH  
Midwifery as a profession is one of the oldest vocations in the world, because it deals with childbirth. But the definition of midwife varies from country to country. As it is a new entry point of our health service, we have to define it in very straight terms. There are potential scopes for conflict of interest among medical professionals. So we need to address that first.

Professor Ferdousy Islam, Head of the Department of Gynaecology, DMCH  
I think we are in the right track regarding maternal health.

Because of a strong political commitment the midwifery curriculum has gained momentum. Midwifery is a very respectable job so we need to prepare our midwives to provide quality service. In order to do that, we need to run quality training sessions as well. Supervision and monitoring is also a must to ensure quality midwifery service in the country.

Ismat Bhuiyan, Midwife Programme Director, BRAC University  
Maternal mortality has reduced significantly. But it is still high compared to the other countries, particularly in remote areas. So we need to give more attention to the 63 percent deliveries that happen at home. And over 90 percent of these deliveries are attended by unqualified attendants.


Dr Tapash Ranjan Das, Deputy Director, MCH, DGFP  
In the next few months, the freshly graduated midwives are going to enter the actual professional field. And the ministry might take a few more months to deploy them to different Upazila health complexes. By December 2015, 525 students will be graduated and there are around 480 Upazila health complexes in different Upazilas. I think it is a very critical situation for us because we need more midwives to provide proper services all around the country.

Halima Akhter, President, Bangladesh Midwifery Society  
We need proper laboratories and infrastructure for the students training in midwifery to ensure quality education and services. I believe that midwives cannot help to reduce maternal mortality rates solely through text book knowledge and skills. We also need modern technology to achieve our goals.

Dr SAJ Md. Musa, UNFPA  
The developed countries follow two kinds of approach. One is the Caseload Midwifery approach and the second is the group midwifery approach. Now depending on the situation, we need to decide which approach we are going to choose in our country. We have to sit with the stakeholders to decide on this matter. Finally, we need to focus on designing the package of service delivery at different levels. We should focus on the development of the midwifery culture in medical institutions as well.

Goutam Aleh Sarker, JS, MOH&FW  
The Government has already launched 31 institutions and nursing colleges training in midwifery all around the country. With the help of the UNFPA, we have already trained 1300 nurses. And the government has already allocated 3000 posts for midwives. But we will need to implement this phase by phase. In the first year, we will recruit 600 midwives and the rest of the recruitments will be followed in the consequent years. I believe that these initiatives will change the maternity health scenario in the country.

Nelofar Farhad, Deputy Director, Directorate of Nursing Services  
I think we should adopt community based recruitment. A midwife from a particular union knows better about her own community. So we should recruit them from their place of origin. It can be a way of reducing conflicts between the patient and the midwife.



### গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

ফায়ার সার্ভিস ও সিভিল ডিফেন্স অধিদপ্তর  
কাজী আলাউদ্দিন রোড, ঢাকা

স্মারক নং এফএসওসিডি/রেশন/ক-০১/২০১৩/৫১৯৫ তারিখঃ ১২/২/১৪২২ বঙ্গাব্দঃ ২৬/৫/২০১৫ খ্রিঃ

## উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১।	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	ঃ ফায়ার সার্ভিস ও সিভিল ডিফেন্স অধিদপ্তরের অধিনস্থ জেলার সংশ্লিষ্ট সহকারী পরিচালকের দপ্তর।
২।	সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি	ঃ স্থানীয় উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র (OTM)।
৩।	অর্থের উৎস	ঃ রাজস্ব বাজেট (রেশন খাত)।
৪।	টেন্ডারের নাম	ঃ ক) ভোজ্য তৈল সরবরাহ (বিএসটিআই অনুমোদিত ১ লিটার, ২ লিটার, ৫ লিটার প্লাস্টিক কন্টেইনারে সরবরাহ যোগ্য)। খ) মস্তর ডাল (উন্নতমানের ছোটদানা)।
৫।	টেন্ডারদাতার যোগ্যতা	ঃ বিভিন্ন পোশাকধারী প্রতিষ্ঠানে রেশন সামগ্রী সরবরাহকারী/প্রকৃত ব্যবসায়ী/আমদানীকারক প্রতিষ্ঠান।
৬।	টেন্ডার সিডিউল বিক্রির তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ ০২/০৬/২০১৫ তারিখ হতে ২২/০৬/২০১৫ তারিখ পর্যন্ত (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়)।
৭।	সিডিউলের মূল্য	ঃ প্রতিটি সিডিউলের মূল্য ৪০০/- (চারশত) টাকা, ৭৫০/- (সাতশত পঞ্চাশ) টাকা (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে)।
৮।	টেন্ডার সিডিউল প্রাপ্তির স্থান ও সরবরাহের স্থান	ঃ সহকারী পরিচালকের দপ্তর, ঢাকা, ময়মনসিংহ, জামালপুর, টাংগাইল, ফরিদপুর, চট্টগ্রাম, বান্দরবান, রাঙ্গামাটি, কুমিল্লা, নোয়াখালী, সিলেট, খুলনা, যশোর, কুষ্টিয়া, রাজশাহী, পাবনা, বগুড়া, বরিশাল, রংপুর ও দিনাজপুর।
৯।	টেন্ডার দাখিলের স্থান	ঃ -এ-
১০।	টেন্ডার দাখিলের তারিখ	ঃ ২৩/০৬/২০১৫ তারিখ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১১।	টেন্ডার জামানত	ঃ সংশ্লিষ্ট সহকারী পরিচালক কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত (সিডিউল মোতাবেক)।
১২।	টেন্ডার খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ ২৩/০৬/২০১৫ তারিখ বেলা ১২.১৫ ঘটিকা।
১৩।	সরবরাহের সময়	ঃ কার্যাদেশ প্রাপ্তির পর ৭ (সাত) দিন।
১৪।	টেন্ডারের বৈধতা	ঃ দরপত্র দাখিলের পর কমপক্ষে ১২০ (একশত বিশ) দিন।
১৫।	পিপিআর-২০০৮ এর নীতিমালা ও টেন্ডার সিডিউলের শর্তাবলী প্রতিপালন সাপেক্ষে টেন্ডার দাখিল করতে হবে।	
১৬।	টেন্ডার দাখিল ও খোলার দিন যদি সরকার কর্তৃক ছুটি ঘোষণা করা হয়, সে ক্ষেত্রে পরবর্তী কার্য দিবস টেন্ডার দাখিল ও খোলার তারিখ হিসেবে গণ্য হবে। টেন্ডার খোলার সময় টেন্ডারদাতা/প্রতিনিধি উপস্থিত থাকতে পারবেন।	
১৭।	কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক কার্যাদেশের জন্য নির্বাচিত টেন্ডার দাতাকে কার্যাদেশের পূর্বে কার্য সম্পাদন জামানত বাবদ মোট মূল্যের ১০% হারে (শতকরা দশ) টাকা (ফেরতযোগ্য) পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/ব্যাংক গ্যারান্টি মাধ্যমে সংশ্লিষ্ট জেলার সহকারী পরিচালক এর বরাবরে প্রদান করে ছুটিপত্র সম্পাদন করতে হবে।	
১৮।	কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন দপত্র গ্রহণ/বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।	

মেজর এ কে এম শাকিল নেওয়াজ  
পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও অর্থ)  
জিডি-১৯৬১  
অতিরিক্ত দায়িত্ব



### বাংলাদেশ গ্যাস ফিল্ডস কোম্পানি লিমিটেড

(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানি)

## Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Ltd.

(A Company of Petrobangla)

“গ্যাস জাতীয় সম্পদ। এর অপচয় রোধ করে জাতীয় দায়িত্ব পালন করুন।”


“বিশুদ্ধ ও জ্বালানি নিরাপত্তা সর্বোচ্চ অগ্রাধিকার।”

## International Tender Notice

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/Energy & Mineral Resources Division.
2.	Procuring entity	Bangladesh Gas fields Co. Ltd. (A Company of Petrobangla).
3.	Procuring entity district	Brahmanbaria.
4.	Invitation Ref. No.	Tender Ref. No. BGFC/L/GOODS(FP)/173 Dated May 24, 2015.
5.	Invitation for	Procurement of Globe Valve, Gate Valve and Plug Valve.
6.	Procurement method	Open tendering method.
7.	Budget & source of fund	Own resources of BGFC.
8.	Tender selling schedule	a) Date & time Tender documents will be available between 0900 hrs & 1400 hrs (BST) on all working days (Sunday to Thursday) from May 28, 2015 to July 08, 2015. b) Place BGFC's Liaison Office at Petrocentre (14th Floor), 3, Kawan Bazar C/A, Dhaka. Tender documents will be sold on payment of BDT 1,500.00 (non-refundable). c) Price of Tender Document
9.	Tender receiving and opening	a) Time and date of tender receiving i) Up to July 08, 2015 during office hour, ii) On July 09, 2015 up to 1100 hrs (BST). b) Time and date of tender opening On July 09, 2015 at 1115 hrs (BST). c) Place BGFC's Liaison Office at Petrocentre (14th Floor), 3, Kawan Bazar C/A, Dhaka. If it is not possible to receive/open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances the same will be received/opened on the next working day at the same time and same place.
10.	Eligibility of tenderer	Reputed firms and suppliers from all countries except Israel with international experience: a) Overall 07 years experience. b) Minimum 05 years experience in supplying similar materials to other than the tenderer's own country.
11.	Description of materials	Globe Valve, Gate Valve and Plug Valve.
12.	Tender security amount	BDT 4,00,000.00 or USD 5,150.00.
13.	Delivery time	120 days from the date of opening L/C.
14.	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Taufiqur Rahman Tapu.
15.	Designation of official inviting tender	General Manager (Technical Services).
16.	Address of official inviting tender	Bangladesh Gas Fields Co. Ltd. (BGFC), Head Office, Birashar, Bhrahmanbaria-3400, Bangladesh, Telephone No. 0851-58141, Fax No. 0851-58758/58510 E-mail: prbgfcl@gmail.com/dgmpr@bgfcl.org.bd
17.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders.	

28.10.0001.001.03.009.14/46(FP)  
GD-1952

Md. Taufiqur Rahman Tapu  
General Manager (Technical Services)



### পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ

## POWER GRID COMPANY OF BANGLADESH LTD.

(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Institution of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB) Bhaban New Bhaban (4th floor) 8/A, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.

Web: www.pgcb.org.bd

IFB No. 01/PGCB/Sec(SSD&QC)/2015/4097

Date: 25 May, 2015

## INVITATION FOR BIDS

### Procurement of Plant Design, Supply and Installation of Package 4: 132/33kV Substations at Mahastangarh, Barisal(N), Jaldhaka and Saidpur on Turnkey Basis

Loan Agreement No: BD-P70  
Reference Identification No: PGCB/JICA/BD-P70/P4  
Deadline for submission of Bid: 12 July 2015,

- The Government of the people's Republic of Bangladesh has received a loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) toward the cost of National Power Transmission Network Development Project. It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the National Power Transmission Network Development Project.
- Bidding will be conducted through procedures in accordance with the applicable Guidelines for Procurement under Japanese ODA Loans, and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries, as defined in the Loan Agreement.
- The Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Limited now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for Package 4: “Plant Design, Supply and Installation of 132/33kV Substations at Mahastangarh, Barisal (North), Jaldhaka and Saidpur on Turnkey Basis”. International Competitive Bidding will be conducted in accordance with JICA's Single Stage Two Envelop Bidding Procedure.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the head office of the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Limited (PGCB), Institution of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB) Bhaban (4th floor), 8/A Ramna, Dhaka-1000; E-mail: se-design@pgcb.org.bd or Web: www.pgcb.org.bd.
- A complete set of the Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of USD 270.00 (United States Dollar two hundred seventy only) or Bangladesh Taka 20,000.00 (Taka twenty thousand only) in the form of Pay Order/Demand Draft in favor of the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd.. The Bidding Document may be sent through a courier for an additional fee of Bangladesh Taka 1,000.00 (local delivery) or US\$ 120.00 (International delivery) in the form of Pay Order/Demand Draft in favour of Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd.
- Bids must be delivered to the above mentioned address on or before 11.00 AM (Bangladesh Standard Time) on 12 July 2015, and must be accompanied by a Bid Security of USD 423,000.00 (US Dollar Four hundred twenty three thousand) only.
- Bids will be opened at 11.05 AM (Bangladesh Standard Time) on 12 July 2015, at the head office of the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Limited (PGCB), Institution of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB) Bhaban (4th Floor), Ramna, Dhaka-1000 in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

(Md. Ashraf Hossain)  
Company Secretary