# The State of Maternal, Newborn and Child Health in Bangladesh

Prof. (Dr.) Mohammod Shahidullah

Chairman, Dept. of Neonatology and

Pro-Vice Chancellor, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) Dhaka, Bangladesh

# About Bangladesh

Area: 147,570 sq km

Population: 150 million

Population density: 1000/sqkm

Annual births: 3.5 million

Overall literacy rate: 50% (2004)

Per capita income: US\$ around 600

Life expectancy at birth: 66.7 yrs



# Millennium Development Goals 4 & 5

M	DGs	Target	Bangladesh Target
MDG Reduc Morta	e Child	Reduce by two- thirds by 2015, the under-five mortality rate	<ul> <li>Reduce under-five mortality rate from 151 deaths per thousand live births in 1990 to 50 by 2015</li> </ul>
MDG Impro Mater Health	ving nal	Reduce by three quarters, by 2015, the maternal mortality ratio	<ul> <li>Reduce the Maternal Mortality Ratio from 574 to 143 deaths per 100,000 live births by 2015</li> <li>Achieve 50% skilled attendance at delivery by 2010</li> </ul>

Source: MDGs: Bangladesh Progress Report, February 2005

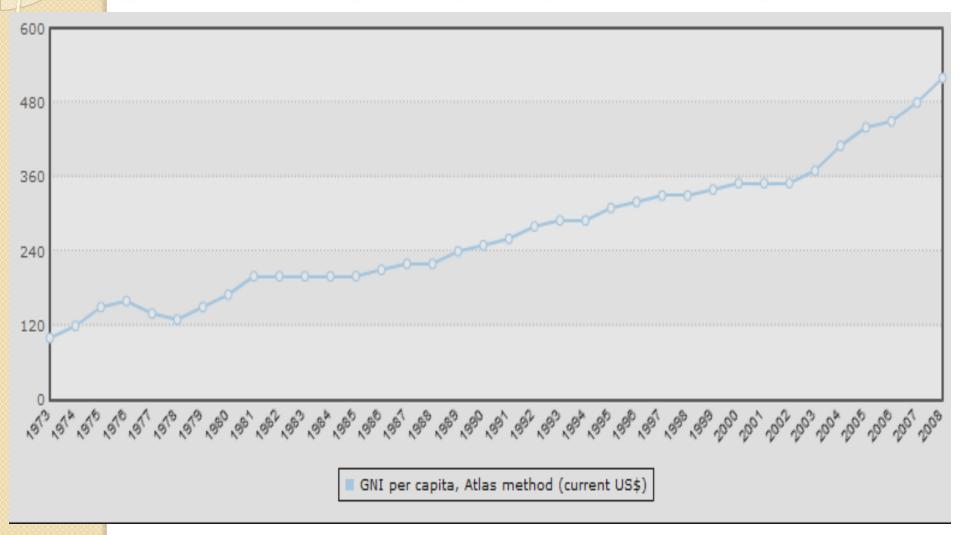
# Highest Level Political Commitment Vision 2021

The government,
especially
the Ministry of Health
and Family Welfare,
is committed to
focus on ensuring
proper safety-net for
the poor, vulnerable,
and marginalized people.



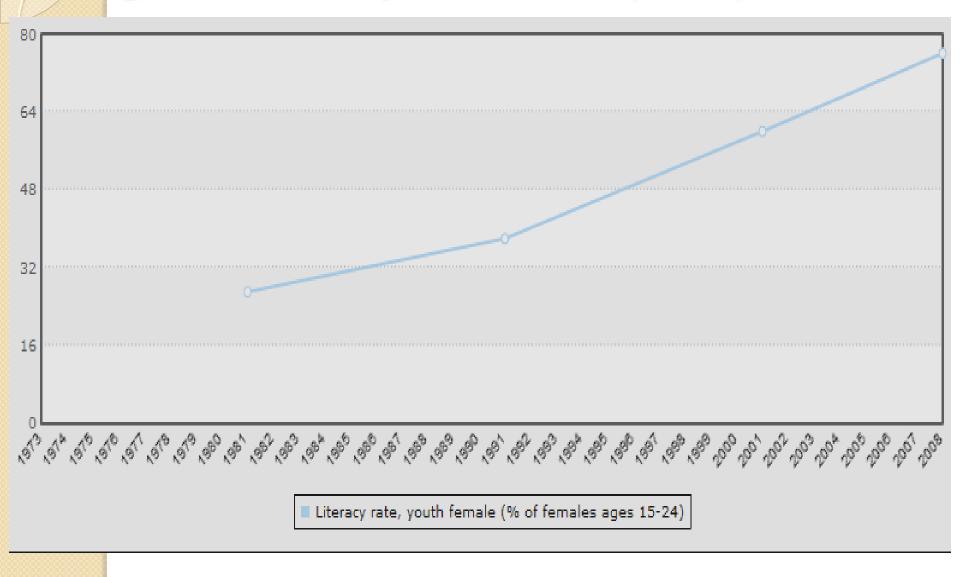
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

## Bangladesh: GNI per capita (current US\$)



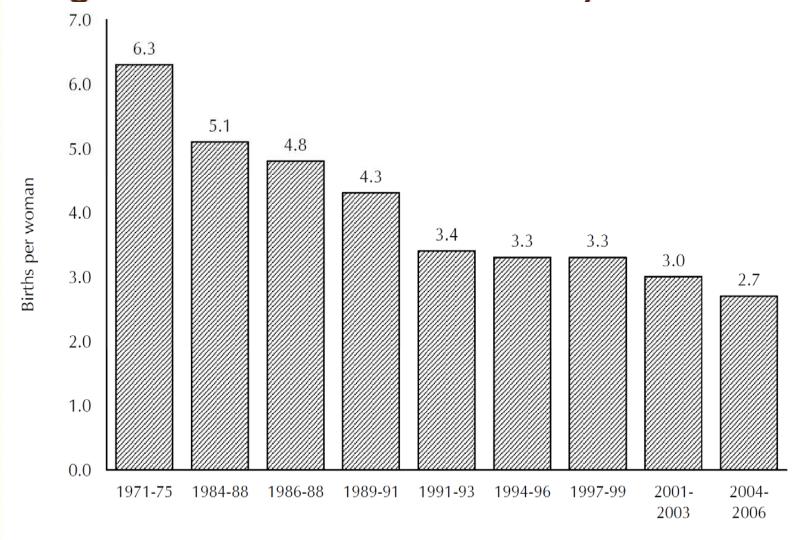
Per capita GNI has been increasing steadily in Bangladesh, from \$100 in 1973 to \$520 in 2008. In the last 6 years (2002-8), the increase has been almost 50%

## Bangladesh: Literacy rate, female (15-24)



Gains in female literacy has been impressive

#### Bangladesh: Trends in Total Fertility Rate

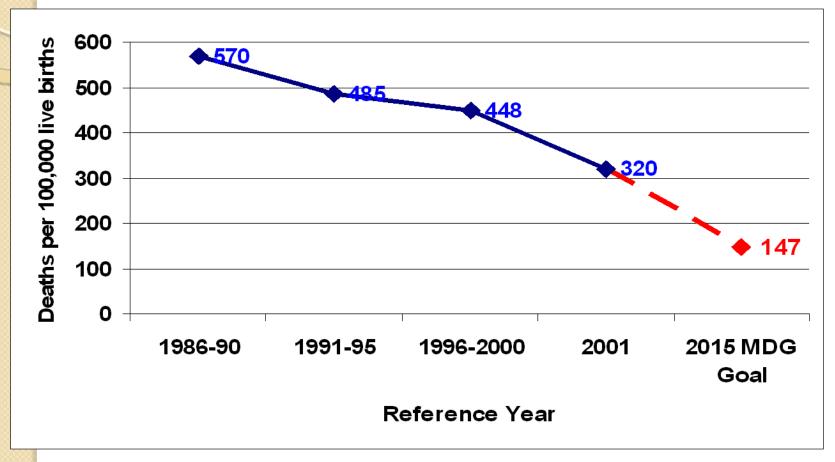


In 90s TFR was in a plateau and then, it has again started to decline.

Bangladesh is an exemplar for achievement in TFR decline

#### **MDG5: Trend in Maternal Mortality Ratio**

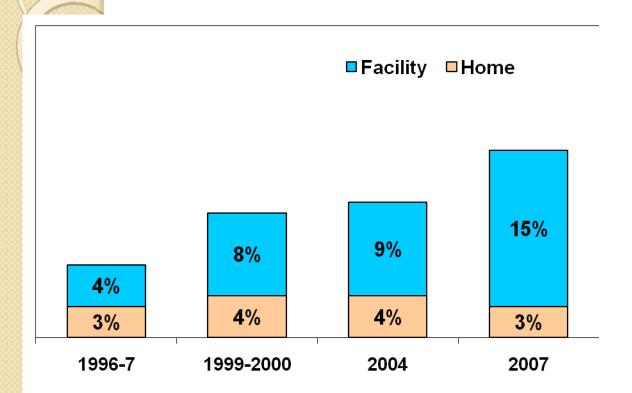
(Source: Bangladesh Maternal Health Services and Maternal Mortality Survey 2001)



Maternal mortality is slowly declining, The country is not on track for MDG 5.

Source: BDHS

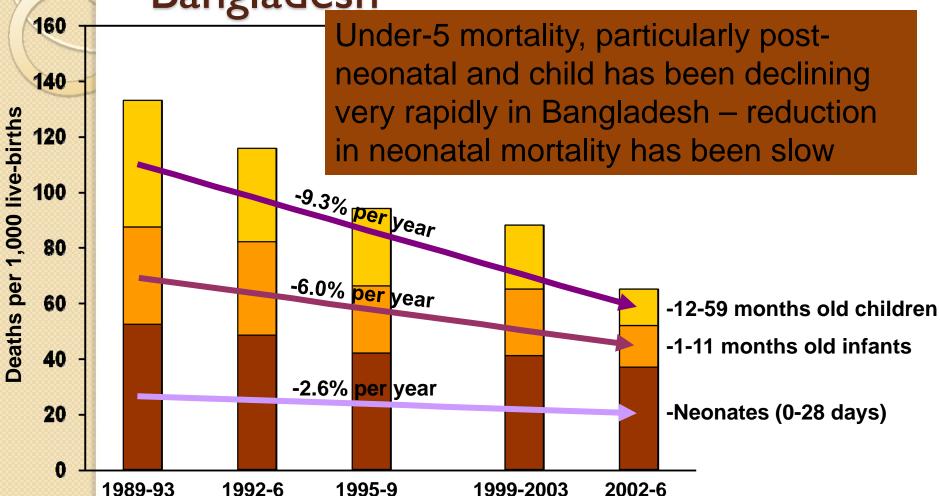
# Facility Delivery Has Increased But Not Home Delivery By Skilled Attendants



Increases in skilled attendance at deliveries has been entirely due to increases in facility deliveries, particularly in private facilities

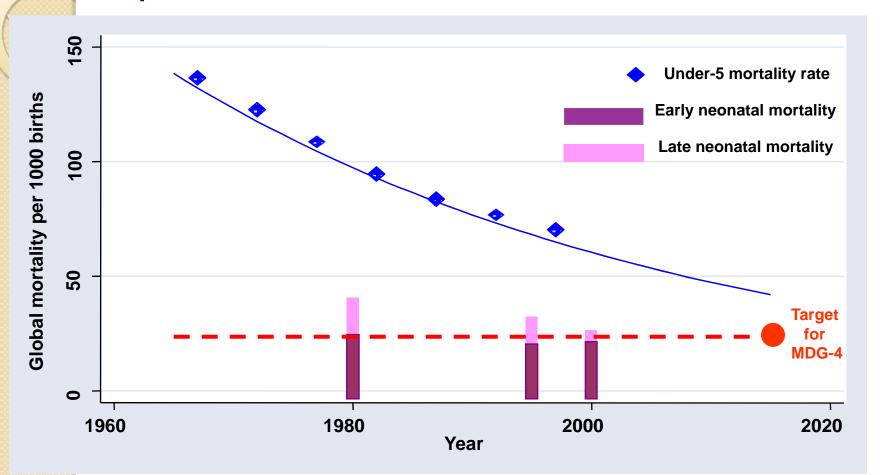
**Source: Bangladesh Demographic and Health Surveys** 

Under-5 child mortality in Bangladesh



Source: Bangladesh Demographic and Health Surveys, 1993-4, 1996-7, 1999-2000, 2004, 2007

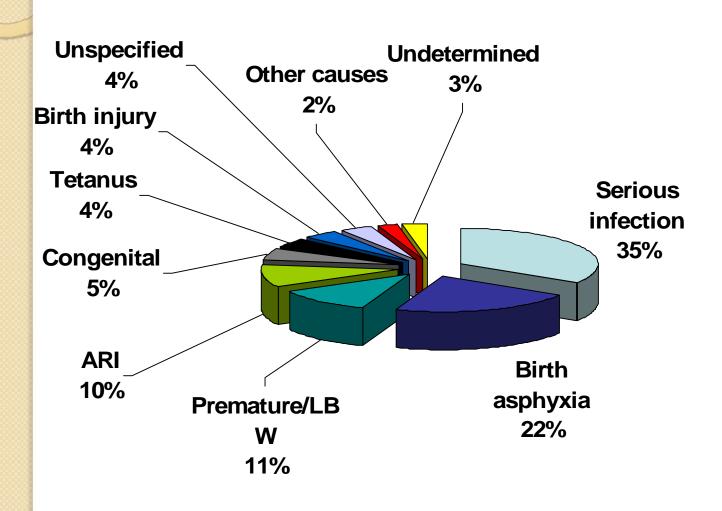
# Neonatal deaths and the Millennium Development Goals



Millennium Development Goal 4 can only be achieved if neonatal deaths are addressed - missing from current programs

Source: The Lancet 2005

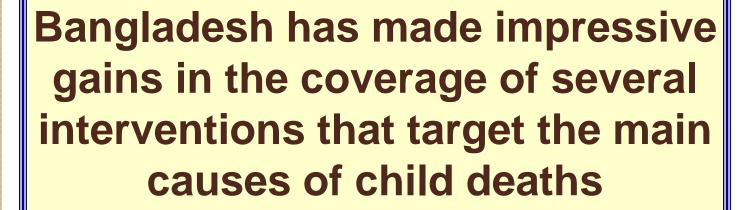
#### Causes of Neonatal Deaths: BDHS 2004



#### Postnatal Care of Newborns is Low

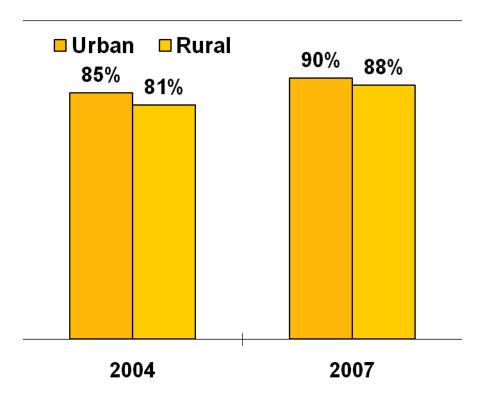
Less than onefifth of newborns
receive care from
a trained provider
within 2 days of
birth

Table 9.9.2 Timing of first postnatal checkup: Children					
	Percentage	Percentage			
	receiving	receiving			
	checkup	checkup within			
	within	2 days of			
	2 days of	delivery from			
	delivery	a medically			
	from any	trained			
	provider	provider <sup>2</sup>			
Residence					
Urban	42.0	35.8			
Rural	23.0	13.9			
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	11.1	5.3			
Second	17.2	7.8			
Middle	20.8	12.2			
Fourth	36.8	23.5			
Highest	53.3	47.9			
Total	27.0	18.5%			



# Vitamin A supplementation

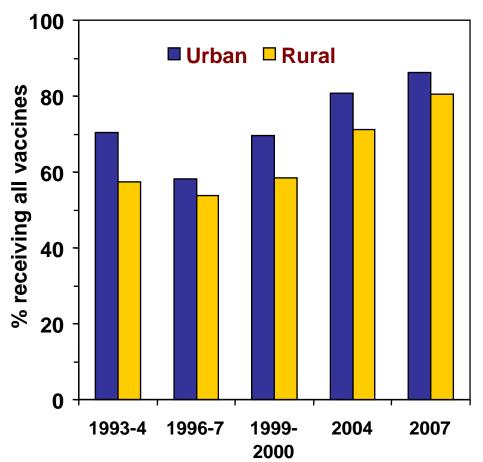
9-59 months old children who received vitamin A supplement in previous 6 months



Coverage of routine vitamin A supplementation of under-5 children is high and has been increasing

Source: Bangladesh Demographic and Health Surveys

## Childhood Immunization



- Significant improvements in child immunization rates need to be sustained
- 86% of 12-23 month old children in urban areas have received ALL vaccines. This is 81% in rural areas



- Maternal mortality is declining but we may not be on track to achieve MDG5. Progress in increasing skilled attendance at delivery has been slow.
- Programme strategies that offer skilled attendance at home delivery and functional facilities for CEmOC are very crucial
- Many interventions, particularly those targeting newborn care (including breastfeeding) at home and facilities require immediate attention
- Care of the sick newborn and child requires access to 24/7 good quality care involving resources in the community, Ist level facilities and referal facilities, that work together

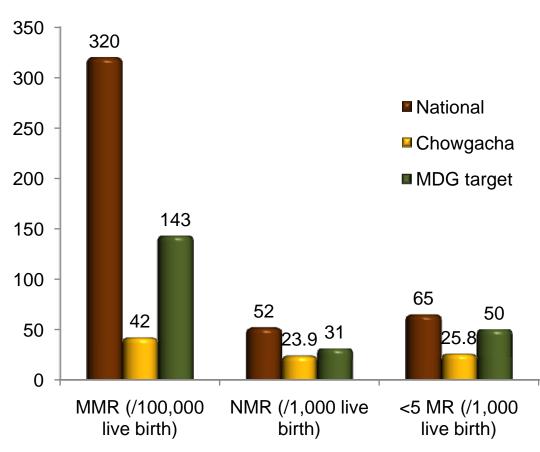


- Bangladesh is on track on track to achieve MDG4.
- Impressive achievements have been made with increasing and sustaining universal coverage for immunization and Vitamin A
- Commendable decline in fertility

## What More Stories to Tell about Bangladesh

UPAZILA HEALTH COMPLEX Chowgacha, Jessore.





#### **Key Success to Chowgacha Model**

- Invigorating sense of owning and sustaining health services at health Complex by the community
- Providing health care services in practice by the selfmotivated doctors to people in Chowgacha;
- Building confidence in the community and mutual trust and respect among doctors, community and patients;
- Promotion of public-private partnership including pharmaceutical companies;
- Promoting women-friendly hospital and 24/7 CEoC services

#### **Future Directions**

- Bangladesh is a country with examples of successful interventions and many gaps and challenges in health system
- Chowgacha lessons from this country could be scaled up throughout the country in phases
- For this to happen, we need firm commitment and practical strategies

## Eventually....

- Good maternal health & survival....
- Good Newborn health & survival ....
- Good Child health & survival...

#### What we have & What we need....

- Political Commitment ...
- Pragmatic programme & action plan...
- Concerted effort between public-private sector....
- Support from the Professional bodies, NGO's, Development partners & Global partners.....

# Thank you