

5. Civil Registration and Vital Statistics

Agenda item 3(c)

Mr. Chairperson, thank you for giving me the floor.

We know, Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) is a priority agenda nationally and globally which will facilitate to better service delivery and ensure Universal Declaration of Human rights signed over 60 Years ago. This also conforms to SDG target 16.9 "Provide legal identity for all including birth registration" Under goal 16.

It may be mentioned that, ESCAP organized a Ministerial conference in November 2014 on CRVS with the slogan "get everyone in the picture" with the objective of strengthening Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in the ESCAP Region. The Honorable Planning Minister of Bangladesh (Mr. A H M Mustafa Kamal, FCA, MP) chaired the conference. We know, in the conference, year 2015-2024 has been declared as a CRVS decade of the ESCAP Region.

In the context of Bangladesh Civil Registration and Vital Statistics are implemented by different Ministries. The birth and death registration is done by Ministry of Local government under Birth and Death Registration Act 2004 (amended in 2013).

The vital statistics is not collected for statistical purpose throughout the country it is done on sample basis. Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) has been collecting Population and Vital events on a sample basis since 1980 to provide estimate of population and demographic indicators using Chandra Shekaran-Deming technique dual records system.

Mr. Chair,

The special feature of this system is to collect vital events as and when it occurs by a locally recruited female registrar termed as Local Register (System-1). On the other hand, under a second system another group of officials from District/Upazila Statistical office of BBS also collect the data independently from the same area on a quarterly basis (system-2).

Having the filled up questionnaires from the two systems, data are matched in the headquarters by a pre-designed matching process and the demographic rate & ratios are calculated using Chandra Shekaran and Deming technique. But the system needs to be integrated with Civil Registration to generate vital statistics at all levels.

Following the decision of the Ministerial Conference of CRVS in ESCAP Region, Bangladesh government formed a high level committee to oversee the matter and a CRVS secretariat has been formed under Cabinet Division.

The Secretariat is looking after the CRVS activities of the line Ministries. An inter-ministerial working group is also working on it. Some pilot activities has been taken to integrate the whole CRVS system to ensure registration of all vital events and to produce required vital statistics for planning and development.

Thanks again Mr. Chair person.