



Bangladesh



World Health
Organization

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR

South-East Asia

Controlling Rubella

A reflection of how Bangladesh
overcame rubella and congenital
rubella syndrome

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Controlling Rubella: A reflection of how Bangladesh overcame rubella and congenital rubella syndrome

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“ Investing in immunizations
means investing in the
world’s future.”

— Ban Ki-moon, Former Secretary-General, United Nations

FOREWORD

Bangladesh has made commendable strides in overcoming the scourge of rubella and saving large numbers of unborn children from the life-long disabilities congenital rubella syndrome (CRS) is responsible for.

The country has shown leadership and determination, achieving the goal of controlling rubella and CRS two years ahead of the target set by Member States at the Sixty-sixth session of the Regional Committee in September 2013.

Through concerted and steadfast commitment to these aims, and by working with the World Health Organization and other development partners, cases of rubella have decreased from well over 1000 cases in 2009–2010 to 299 cases in 2017.

The country now seeks to better the Regional goal: It aims at complete elimination of rubella. Given the many steps Bangladesh has taken to strengthen health systems, I am confident of its success. Its effective data systems, rapid response mechanisms, and committed health staff have created the framework for the country to consolidate and build on the many gains it has made.

It is, therefore, with great pleasure that I extend my warmest congratulations to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, H.E. Sheikh Hasina, officers and staff of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, as well as the people of Bangladesh for their noteworthy achievements.



Dr Poonam Khetrpal Singh

Regional Director

WHO South-East Asia Region



163 038 357

TOTAL POPULATION



7

DIVISIONS



3 727 704

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