



## Editorial

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Government of the People's Republic of  
Bangladesh

I am delighted to announce the publication of the 7<sup>th</sup> issue of a quarterly Newsletter published by NNS, IPHN. This newsletter intends to share and document NNS's performance in reaching the population of Bangladesh with critical, proven nutrition interventions as per the NNS Operational Plan.

The newsletter reports on some programmatic information and decisions, activities, progress and coverage of NNS supported services at facility and community level nutrition activities, including the service status of IMCI & Nutrition corners and Community Clinics. The newsletter also covers different approaches taken by government and its partners.

I thank the respectable Secretary, MoH&FW, and the Director Generals of DGHS & DGFP for their continuous support to NNS, and acknowledge the contribution of health managers and other service providers who collaborate with NNS. Finally, I would also like to acknowledge the commitment and efforts of the hard working professionals of Nutrition Information and Planning Unit (NIPU) in making this newsletter a successful monitoring, knowledge sharing and advocacy tool for improving the nutritional activities for the population of Bangladesh.



Dr. Md. Quamrul Islam

## National Vitamin A plus Campaign 2015



Picture 1: Launching of National Vitamin A plus Campaign

National Vitamin-A plus Campaign 2015 (second round) was observed on November 14, 2015 from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm throughout the country. The Honorable President of People's Republic of Bangladesh H.E Md. Abdul Hamid inaugurated the national Vitamin-A Plus Campaign-2015 on 13th November, 2015 at Bangabhaban. Honorable Minister- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Honorable State Minister- MoHFW, Secretary-MoHFW, former Advisor to Prime Minister of Health, Family Welfare and social welfare, Director General- Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Director General- Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP), officials from IPHN and National Nutrition Services (NNS) were also present at Bangabhaban during the inauguration ceremony.

A blue-colored high-power Vitamin-A capsule (100000 I.U.) was given to children aged between 06 and 11 months while red-colored Vitamin-A capsule (200000 I.U.) was given to children aged between 12 to 59 months. In addition to 120,000 permanent health centres 20,000 satellite centres were also established to observe Vitamin-A plus Campaign-2015. Officials from NNS, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Directorate General of Health Services and IPHN visited different districts and Upazillas to supervise and monitor the campaigns Program. Thus Bangladesh successfully continues to maintain high (99.8%) universal coverage of Vitamin A in all divisions to prevent Vitamin-A deficiency disorders which have consequences on child morbidity and mortality (Figure -1).

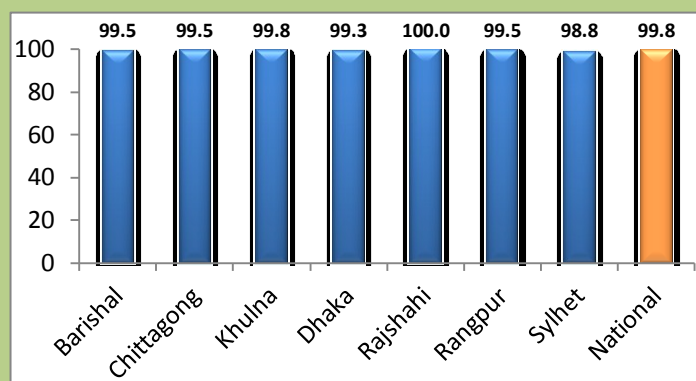


Figure 1: Coverage of consumption of Vitamin A around the country

## Key Highlights (October- December 2015)

### 7<sup>th</sup> Partners Forum for Nutrition (PFN) meeting

7th quarterly Partners Forum for Nutrition (PFN) meeting was held on 23 November 2015 at IPHN Conference Room with stakeholders and partners of NNS. The meeting was held with a view to strengthen the collaboration among GoB-NGO working in the Nutrition field. Dr. Md. Quamrul Islam, Director, IPHN & Line Director-NNS and the Chairperson of the meeting addressed his welcome speech. He gave thanks to all for supporting IPHN on Nutritional activities. Dr. K M Azad, DPM, NNS narrated the objectives of the meeting and anchored the meeting. Dr. Moinul Haque, Planning Specialist, NNS shared 6<sup>th</sup> PFN meeting minutes.

Discussions took place on to develop a standard format for progress sharing, mapping of MoU signed organizations and to develop a "ToR" for PFN forum. Suggestion also came to preserve HKI mapping update with IPHN. According to the agenda MI, WFP, SSMF presented their presentations. Dr. Md. Moudud Hossain, Deputy Director, DGHS & Programme Manager, NNS, IPHN, thanked to MI for sponsoring the event. He also mentioned that draft ToR and NGO working area Mapping will be shared in the next meeting. With his speech, he adjourned the meeting with thanks.



Picture 2: Participants of the PFN meeting



Picture 3: Participants of the PFN meeting

### NIS Training for Statisticians

A day-long training was organized for district levels Statisticians on the basics of online reporting on Nutrition issue for monitoring and routine nutrition data recording & reporting for improving nutritional activities and nutrition information system.

The training for first batch was held on 24 November 2015 and 21 participants attended in this training session. The 2nd batch was held in 25 November 2015 where 19 participants attended and the 3<sup>rd</sup> batch was held in 26 November 2015 where 18 participants attended. The trainings were organized at IPHN conference Room at Mohakhali, Dhaka.



Picture 4: Participants of the training session



## Tea garden orientation on online service reporting

On 10 December 2015; for the first ever time web based Tea Estate health and nutrition service reporting has started in Bangladesh from Kulaura upazila of Moulvibazar district under DHIS2 application of DGHS website. Service providers from different tea gardens received the orientation on the online reporting system. In the training session, Md. Nezam Uddin Biswas, Information and Planning Officer, NIPU/NNS was the main trainer for web based reporting.



Picture 5: Training on web-based reporting was conducted by Md. Nezam Uddin Biswas



Picture 6: Director, IPHN and Line Director, NNS is distributing laptops and internet connections among the Manager of tea estates at Kulaura

The Director of IPHN and Line Director NNS Dr. Md. Quamrul Islam attended the occasion as a Chief Guest and launched the online reporting activities by distributing laptops and internet connections among the tea estate authorities of the Kulaura upazila.

Dr. Munir Ahmed, UH&FPO Kulaura Chaired the Program, The Deputy Director of IPHN and Program Manager of NNS Dr. Moudud Hossain, Kulaura Upazila Nirbahi Officer Mr. Nazmul Hasan, NNS Planning specialist Dr. Moinul Haque, Upazila Family Planning Officer Mr. Modhusudan Paul Chowdhury, Medical Officer Public Health Nutrition Dr. Abu Baker Naser, Senior Advisor of Save the Children Dr. Golam Mothabbir Mia, Project Manager-TCM project of Save the Children Dr. Hasinul Islam and Managers of tea estates are also present there.

It is important to mention that the web based reporting formats and service recording registers have been developed for tea gardens through a series of orientation, training, meeting and national level workshop lead by Institute of Public Health Nutrition for last few months. The initiative was a joint effort of Institute of Public Health and Nutrition and Tackling Childhood Malnutrition project of Save the Children in Bangladesh. Total twelve Tea Estates of the upazila are serving NNS service packages through their tea garden hospitals and dispensaries among children under five age group, adolescents and pregnant and lactating women. The web based report has titled and shown as 'Tea Garden Monthly Reporting Form' in DHIS2 central database.

## Scaling up IFA program

The National Technical Advisory Committee Meeting on Improving the coverage and compliance of Iron Folic Acid (IFA) supplements among pregnant mothers for reducing anaemia in Bangladesh was held on December 24, 2015 at IPHN Conference Room. Dr. Md. Quamrul Islam, Director, IPHN & Line Director-NNS and the Chairperson of the meeting thanked Micronutrient Initiative for scaling up of IFA program further in 6 districts (Sunamganj, Kishoreganj, Sherpur, Noakhali, Bogra and Sirajganj) in year 2 and continue support in all the 10 districts (including earlier 4 districts in year 1 (Jamalpur, Gaibandha, Barishal and Jessore).



Picture 7: Participants of meeting at IPHN Conference room

## Sharing Meeting of Digital Resources

Prof. Dr. Abul Kalam Azad, Additional Director General (Planning and Development) and Line Director MIS, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), chaired a meeting on 01 November, 2015 at MIS, DGHS to discuss about “Digital Resources” and how to effectively disseminate, promote, utilize and scale-up digital resources for Social and Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) that were developed in collaboration with BKMI.

The following resources were shared during the meeting:

- HPN SBCC eToolkit for Field Workers
- Digital Archives of IPHN and BHE
- SBCC eLearning courses for Program Managers and Planners
- SBCC eToolkit for Program Managers and Planners



Picture 8: Participants of the sharing meeting of Digital Resources

## 4th BCC team meeting of NNS/IPHN

4<sup>th</sup> BCC Team Meeting was organized on 04 November 2015 at IPHN Conference Room to finalize the draft sketches & illustrations for Flip Chart to review and finalize TV spot, Drama and songs for Television and Bangladesh Betar.

## SHIKHA Project Dissemination

The USAID's SHIKHA project update sharing meeting was held at the Conference Room of the Institute of Public Health Nutrition (IPHN) on 23 November 2015. Dr. Md. Moudud Hossain, Program Manager-NNS, IPHN welcomed the participants and formally inaugurated the meeting. The discussion started with a brief presentation on SHIKHA project achievements and tools used in the project. The project shared that how project toolkits are contributing in changing practice at household level by USAID supported SHIKHA project in Southern Bangladesh. The project shared concept of pregnant women dietary counseling food plate and requested to NNS for endorsement of the Food Plate through MOH&FW's IEC technical committee. So that government and other stakeholders can use the same as national tool on maternal dietary counseling during pregnancy. It was discussed and decided that SHIKHA will submit a concept note and request letter on food plate to NNS/IPHN for further endorsement process.



Picture 9: Participants of SHIKHA Project dissemination meeting



## Divisional Review Meeting at Sylhet

A day long "Sylhet Divisional Review Meeting on Nutrition" was held on 08 December 2015 at the Conference Room of Divisional Family Planning Office, Alampur, Sylhet with all Civil Surgeons, Deputy Directors Family Planning, Upazilla Health & Family Planning Officers (UHFPO's) of Sylhet, Sunamganj, Habiganj and Maulavibazar. The meeting was jointly chaired by Dr. Goura Moni Sinha, Director (Health), Sylhet Division and Md. Kutub Uddin Director (Family Planning), Sylhet Division. Chief Guest of the meeting was Dr. Md. Ehteshanul Huq Chowdhury, Director (Admin), DGHS. The special guests were Dr. Md. Sharif, Director MCH-FP, DGFP; Dr. Md. Quamrul Islam, Director IPHN and Line Director NNS. The meeting was also attended by Dr. Md Moudud Hossain, Deputy Director, DGHS & Programme Manager, NNS; Dr. Md. Moinul Haque, Planning Specialist, NIPU, NNS; Kazi Dil Afroza Islam, Chief, UNICEF-Sylhet and ZNO & DNSOs of UNICEF- Sylhet region.

The priority talking points shared in the meeting were objectives of the meeting, overview of NNS, logistics management & LMIS, field experiences, reporting status and performance of each upazilla and districts through power point presentation, open discussion, Q & A session and speech delivery.



Picture 10: Participants of the Sylhet Divisional Review Meeting



Picture 11: Participants of the Sylhet Divisional Review Meeting

## Divisional Review Meeting at Rangpur



Picture 12: Participants of the Rangpur Divisional Review Meeting



Picture 13: Participants of the Rangpur Divisional Review Meeting

"Rangpur Divisional Review Meeting on Nutrition" was held on 20-21 December, 2015 at the Civil Surgeon Conference Room, Sadar Hospital, Rangpur with all Civil Surgeons, Deputy Directors Family Planning, Upazilla Health & Family Planning Officers (UHFPO's) of Rangpur, Dinajpur, Panchagarh, Nilhamari, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Thakurgaon and Gaibandha. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Md. Anisur Rahman, Director (Health), Rangpur Division. Chief Guest of the meeting was Dr. Md. Quamrul Islam, Director- IPHN and Line Director, National Nutrition Services (NNS), DGHS. The meeting was also attended by Dr. Md Moudud Hossain, Deputy Director, DGHS & Programme Manager, NNS, Dr. Md. Mahfuzur Rahman, Deputy Director (Health), Rangpur Division, Dr. Mohsin Ali, Nutrition Specialist, UNICEF, Dr. Md. Moinul Haque, Planning Specialist, NIPU, NNS and ZNO & DNSOs of UNICEF- Bogra region.

The priority taking points shared in the meeting were objectives of the meeting, overview of NNS, logistics management & LMIS, field experiences, reporting status and performance of each upazilla and districts through power point presentation, open discussion, Q & A session and speech delivery.

## COVERAGE OF NUTRITION SERVICES

### Nutrition Services from IMCI-N corners

Figure 1 shows the online reporting status of IMCI & Nutrition corners from October-December 2015, compiled by HMIS software. Currently almost 97.7% of IMCI & Nutrition Corners from upazila and district levels are reporting on nutrition related indicators through online HMIS software. In December 2015, online reporting came from 476 IMCI & Nutrition corners including nutrition service data.

#### Monthly Progress Report On IMCI-N Corners

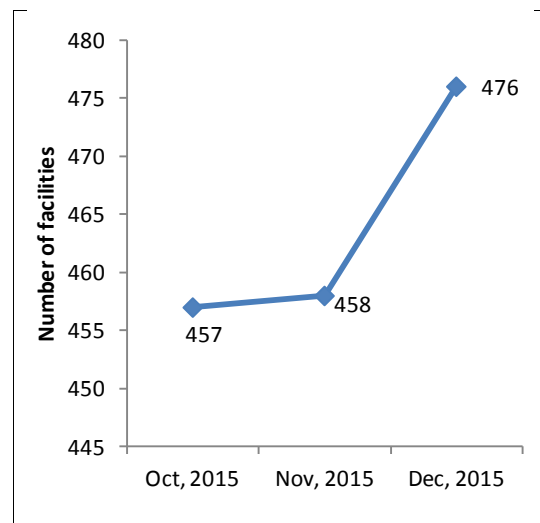


Figure 1: Monthly online reporting status from IMCI & Nutrition corners (Oct –Dec 2015)

Figure 2 shows, the graphs of provided services from the IMCI & Nutrition corners from **October-December 2015**. The graph shows that IYCF practices have been increasing in the last three reporting months.

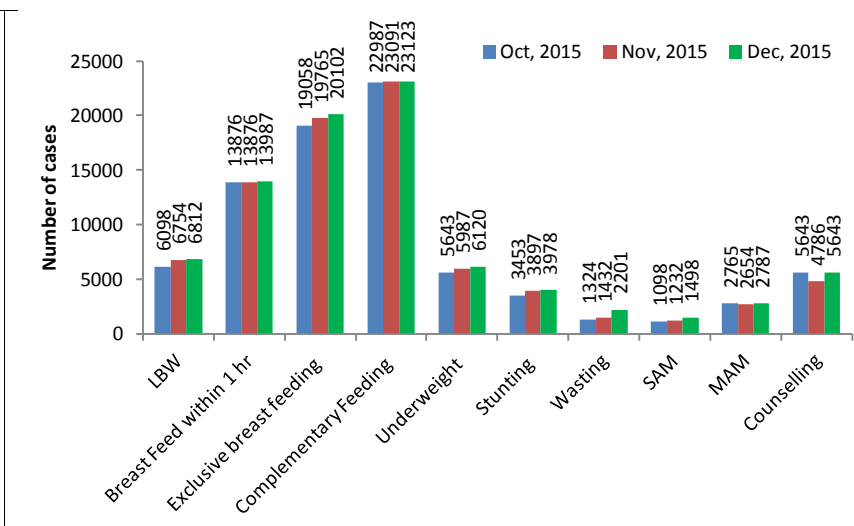


Figure 2: Number of under 5 children reached by IMCI & Nutrition corners and PLW who have taken nutrition counseling (Oct –Dec 2015)

### Nutrition Services from SAM units

Source: Online HMIS, MIS-DGHS

Figure 3 shows the number of SAM facilities which provided SAM information in Sept–November 2015. These facilities have been providing reports to IPHN through e-mail or postal services. It is shown that the reporting rate, November is higher (84%) than the month of October 2015.

Figure 4 shows the status of discharged patients from different SAM units in those months. Among these, the Cure-Rate of August is higher (74.7%) than those in the month of September. On the other hand, defaulter rates are also higher than transferred or referred patients. It may be a reflection of the management of severe acute malnutrition the relevant SAM units which might have been improving with time.

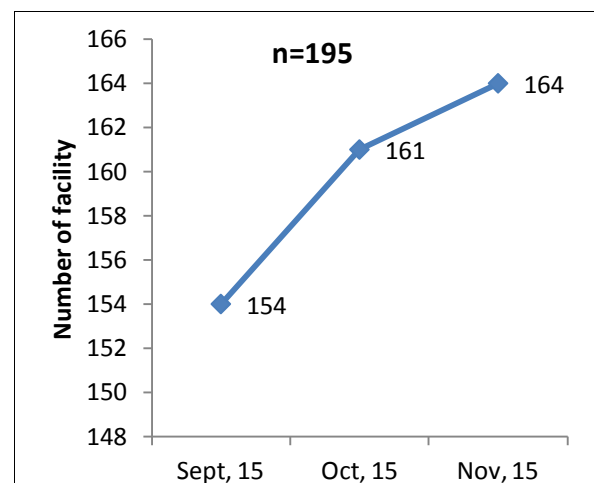


Figure 3: Percentage of received report from SAM Units by months (Sept–November 2015)

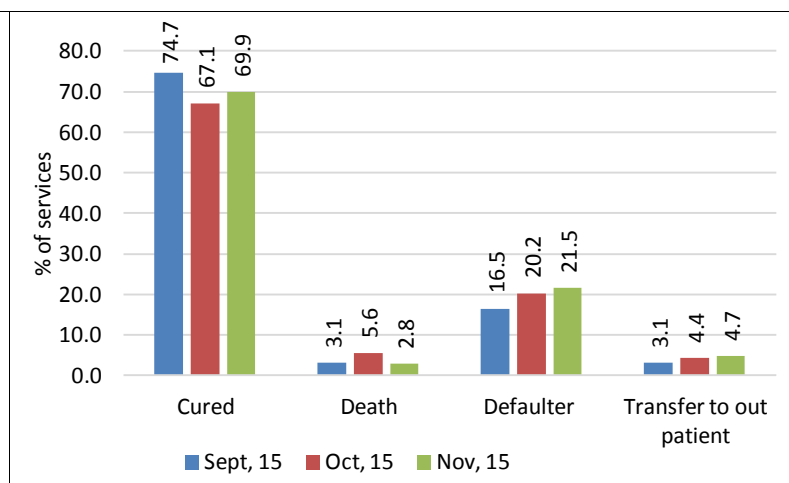


Figure 4: Percentage of SAM patients according to the discharged type by months (Sept–November 2015)

## Nutrition Services from Community Clinic

Figure 5 shows, the number of community clinics sending aggregated online reports from October –December 2015 through HMIS data management software DHIS2. The figure shows the reporting tendency is increasing day by day. At present the reporting has increased more than 12000 Community Clinics which are reporting through online every month.

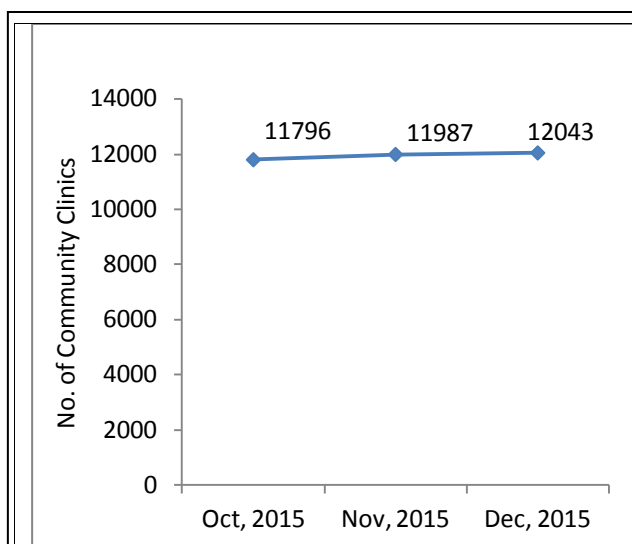


Figure 5: Number of CCs providing monthly online aggregated report (Oct –Dec 2015)

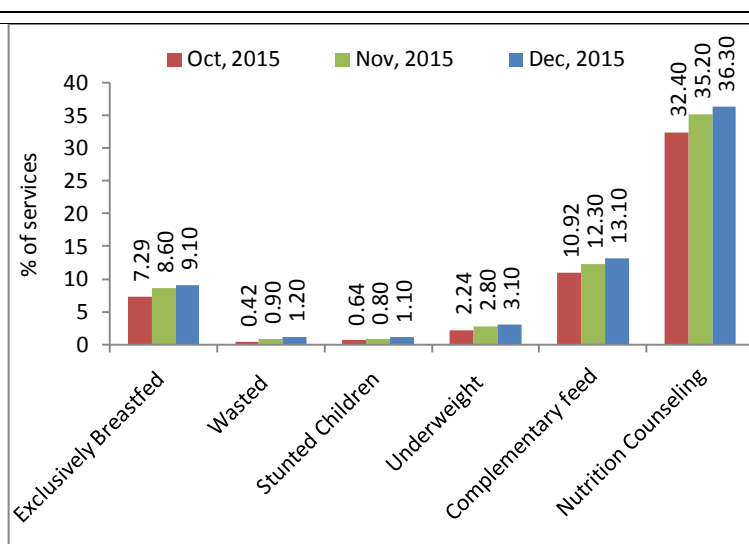


Figure 6: Percentage of under 5 children reached by Community Clinics (Oct –Dec 2015)

Source: Online HMIS, MIS-DGHS

## DGFP Reporting and Service Status

Figure 7 shows, the number of services provided in the UH&FWC in the last reporting month, collected from DG-Family Planning, through its online information system. In this graph, counseling is comparatively high.

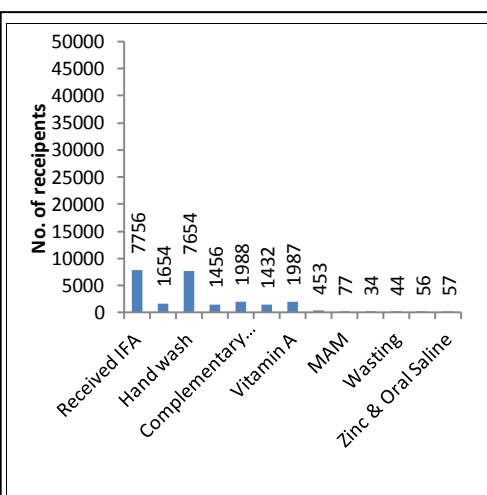


Figure 7: Number of service provided by UH&FWC in the month of Dec, 2015

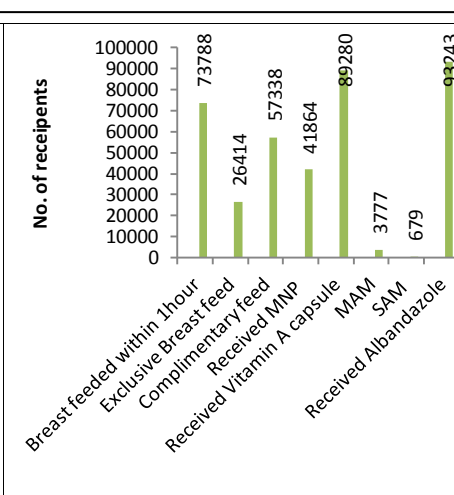


Figure 8: Number of service Provided by FWA in the month of Dec, 2015

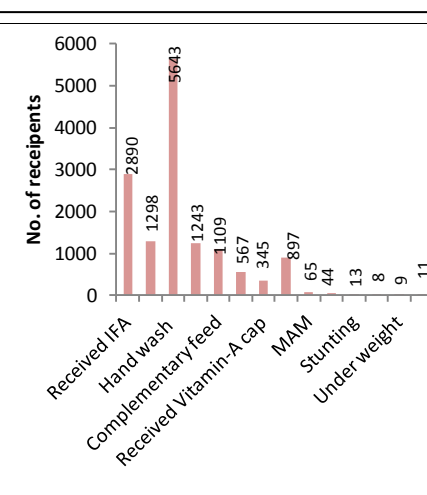


Figure 9: Number of Service provided by Satellite Clinic in the month of Dec, 2015

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