

ADVERTISEMENT

Temporary engagement of a pre-intern medical graduate for addressing the capacity gap in successful completion of UNICEF sponsored activities to develop BCC material and other maternal nutrition care related activities, at Family Health Bureau in 2026.

Duties and responsibilities

- To assist the development of presentations, flip charts, posters, digitalization of maternal weight monitoring charts, the revision of Antenatal Sessions Guide for Healthcare Workers, the publication of new booklets on maternal health and nutrition and the expansion of the current cartoon booklet on danger signals into both digital and printed versions required to fully implement the revised Basic Maternal Care manual.
- To assist the development of a resource package to prevent maternal malnutrition (both under and over nutrition).
- Performing any other task assigned by the Director (Maternal and Child Health) or his representative.

Desired qualifications and experience for the post

- Pre-intern medical graduate with M.B.B.S. or equal qualifications.
- Ability to work with Microsoft Office applications and other software
- Good command of English and Sinhala and/or Tamil languages.
- Excellent communication skills

Duration

- For a period of five (5) months (AUGUST 2026 – DECEMBER 2026)

Nature of work:

- **Full time/ part time** : Full time
- **No of days per week** : Five (5) days (should be willing to work during the weekend, if required)
- **Place of work** : Family Health Bureau (should be willing to travel, if required)
- **Working hours per day** : Eight (8) hours - 8.30 am to 4.15 pm (should be willing to work extra hours, if required)

Monthly remuneration: LKR. 94,265.00 (Basic Salary - LKR. 76,465.00 plus Cost of Living Allowance – LKR. 17,800.00)

Candidates are requested to email a completed CV including copies of relevant documents, and contact details before 04.08.2026 to fhbmaternalcare@gmail.com

Terms of reference (TOR) for Temporary engagement of a pre-intern medical graduate for addressing the capacity gap in successful completion of UNICEF sponsored activities to develop BCC material and other maternal nutrition care related activities, at Family Health Bureau in 2026.

Background

The previous maternal care guide, which was intended for field healthcare providers in Sri Lanka, was published in 2011. It was replaced with the Basic Maternal Care Manual, guided by the existing Maternal and Child Health Policy of Sri Lanka, National Strategic Plan on Maternal and Newborn Health and new evidence-based knowledge on managing pregnant and postpartum women, to improve the quality of care provided during antenatal and postpartum periods. The new Basic Maternal Care Manual also caters to the staff of non-specialized healthcare institutions. The Maternal Care Unit of Family Health Bureau, in collaboration with other stakeholders who manage pregnant and postpartum women, prepared the new manual for healthcare providers, with the financial assistance of UNICEF. The Sinhala, Tamil and English versions of the manual were distributed to healthcare institutions island-wide.

All the healthcare providers who manage pregnant and postpartum mothers (which include Medical Officers of Health and other field health staff, staff of non-specialized hospitals, including the Medical Officers, Nursing Officers and Institutional Midwives) are being trained on the updated content of the new Manual for Healthcare Providers on Basic Maternal Care. Behavior Change Communication (BCC) material is required to complement the training of the healthcare staff. Furthermore, it was identified in Reviews of Maternal Deaths that the first delay contributed to many maternal deaths.

Sri Lanka is currently experiencing a double burden of malnutrition. The prevalence of low body-mass index among pregnant women in their first trimester has declined marginally from 15.5% in 2019 to 14.1% in 2024. In contrast, there has been a marked increase in overweight & obesity from 29.9% in 2019 to 33.3% in 2021 and over the years it has continued to increase.

Gestational weight gain has a significant impact on the health and nutritional status of both the mother and the baby. As per the survey conducted during the nutrition month 2023 and 2024, it was found that 23.9% of pregnant women in 2023 and 26.0% in 2024 had achieved more than the recommended gestational weight gain, while 38.9% of pregnant women in 2023 and 38.1% in 2024 had gained less than the recommended weight gain during pregnancy. There was a significant relationship between poor gestational weight gain with the low birthweight and small for gestational age of the babies they delivered in both years. Furthermore, the percentage of low birthweight has gradually increased from 12.3% in 2019 to 14.6% in 2024. Therefore, it was decided to develop a resource package to prevent maternal malnutrition (both under and overnutrition).

Activity

It was decided to increase awareness among general public as well as among antenatal & postpartum women by developing of IEC materials on ectopic pregnancy, danger signals during the antenatal and postpartum periods as well as to update the existing videos on danger signals. Updating the Antenatal Sessions Guide for Healthcare Workers along with development of IEC materials to complement it and to ensure uniformity of the information provided to antenatal women were identified as essential activities. Also, it was decided to publish a new booklet on maternal health and nutrition to expand the current cartoon booklet on danger signals into both digital and printed versions.

To address the maternal malnutrition, a series of activities to enhance capacity of healthcare workers and to improve knowledge, attitudes and beliefs among antenatal women on micronutrient supplementation are planned starting with the Nutrition Month 2026. To complement these activities, development of IEC materials is required. In addition, monitoring of weight gain using a digitalized weight gain chart is of utmost importance to identify and provide targeted interventions for antenatal women who fall beyond the recommended levels of weight gain during the pregnancy, which cannot be achieved with the current printed chart available in the pregnancy record (H512A). Thus, it was decided to digitalize the weight gain chart as a component of the initiative to address the maternal malnutrition. The proposed materials are to be developed in all three languages.

Out of the above, the remaining activities are expected to be completed by the end of 2026. A fulltime officer with a medical background with skills of coordination & analysis is needed for continuation of the above essential activities to be carried out for a period of 5 months starting from August 2026 at the Maternal Care Unit of FHB.

A pre-intern medical graduate is required to attend to following duties and responsibilities, for a period of five (5) months in Maternal Care Unit of Family Health Bureau.

Duties and responsibilities

- To assist the development of presentations, flip charts, posters, digitalization of maternal weight monitoring charts, the revision of Antenatal Sessions Guide for Healthcare Workers, the publication of new booklets on maternal health and nutrition and the expansion of the current cartoon booklet on danger signals into both digital and printed versions required to fully implement the revised Basic Maternal Care manual.
- To assist the development of a resource package to prevent maternal malnutrition (both under and over nutrition).
- Performing any other task assigned by the Director (Maternal and Child Health) or his representative.

Desired qualifications and experience for the post

- Pre-intern medical graduate with M.B.B.S. or equal qualifications.
- Ability to work with Microsoft Office applications and other software
- Good command of English and Sinhala and/or Tamil languages.
- Excellent communication skills

Duration

For a period of (5 months (August 2026 – December 2026)

Nature of work:

- **Full time/ part time** : Full time
- **No of days per week** : Five (5) days (should be willing to work during the weekend, if required)
- **Place of work** : Family Health Bureau (should be willing to travel, if required)
- **Working hours per day** : Eight (8) hours - 8.30 am to 4.15 pm (should be willing to work extra hours, if required)

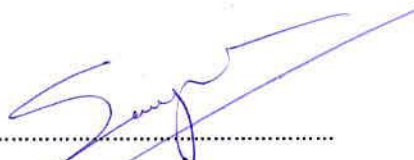
Monthly remuneration: LKR. 94,265.00 (Basic Salary - LKR. 76,465.00 plus Cost of Living Allowance – LKR. 17,800.00)

NB :

- The selection of pre-intern medical graduate will be conducted via interviews, with final decisions made by the Family Health Bureau, Ministry of Health.
- The pre-intern medical graduate is eligible only for the benefits specified by the Ministry of Health or the funding agency, with no additional privileges or claims.
- The Director (Maternal and Child Health) reserves the right to adjust or amend the scope of work as needed.


.....
Director (Maternal and Child Health)
Dr. Chandima Siritunga
MBBS, MSc. MD Community Medicine
Director Maternal and Child Health
Family Health Bureau

Dat: 17/7/2026


.....
Dr. S.S.P. Godakandage
Coordinating Consultant

Date : 16/7/2026

Temporary engagement of a pre-intern medical graduate for addressing the capacity gap in successful completion of UNICEF sponsored activities to develop BCC material and other maternal nutrition care related activities, at Family Health Bureau in 2026.

Gantt chart

Task	Time frame				
	August 2026	September 2026	October 2026	November 2026	December 2026
Drafting BCC materials.					
Drafting resource package to prevent maternal malnutrition.					
Finalizing BCC materials with the input from the working groups formed.					

දුරකථන) 0112669192 , 0112675011
தொலைபேசி) 0112694033, 0112675280
Telephone) 0112675449

ෆැක්ස්) 0112693866
பெக்ஸ்) 0112693869
Fax) 0112692913

විද්‍යුත් තැපෑල) postmaster@health.gov.lk
மின்னஞ்சல் முகவரி)
e-mail)

වෙබ් අඩවිය) www.health.gov.lk
இணையத்தளம்)
website)



සුවසිරිපාය
சுவசிரிபாய
SUWASIRIPAYA

මගේ අංකය)
எனது இல)
My No.) HPD/UNICEF/ 44 /2026/FHB

ඔබේ අංකය)
உமது இல)
Your No.)

දිනය)
திகதி)
Date) 07. 2026

සෞඛ්‍ය හා ජනමාධ්‍ය අමාත්‍යාංශය
சுகாதார மற்றும் வெகுஜன ஊடக அமைச்சு
Ministry of Health & Mass Media

Director (Maternal & Child Health),
Family Health Bureau.

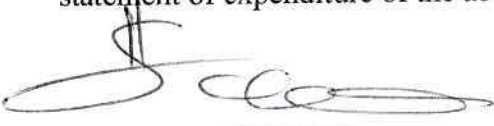
Addressing the capacity gap in successful completion of UNICEF sponsored activities to develop BCC material and other maternal nutrition care related activities at Family Health Bureau in 2026, through the temporary engagement of a pre – intern medical graduate

Reference is made to your letter No. FHB/MCU/UNICEF/2026 dated 20/06/2026 on the above subject.

Secretary, Health & Mass Media has given approval to carry out the above activity as requested by you. Subjected to follow the Government recruitment procedures for recruit Pre-Intern Medical Graduate for six months to Maternal Care Unit of Family Health Bureau according to given TOR.

Total cost of the estimated budget is Rs. 565,590.00 (94,265.00 x 6 months) -(Five hundred sixty-five thousand and five hundred ninety only) UNICEF has agreed to facilitating the recruitment of a new Pre - Intern Medical officer.

After carrying out the above activity, please submit your Project Progress Report (PPR) with statement of expenditure of the activity to UNICEF with copy to DDG (Planning).


Dr. Anil Samaranayake
Director (International Health)

Sgd. Dr. Anil Jasinghe
Secretary, Health & Mass Media

Cc: UNICEF