

Radio Meghna is moving forward for socio-economic development of local communities

2nd Anniversary of Radio Meghna
18 February 2017; Chafassion, Bhola

Charfassion Upazilla is located in the south of Bhola Island. Non-governmental organization COAST has been working tirelessly for last 18 years for the socio-economic development of the poor, vulnerable, and disadvantaged people and providing various services as well. Subsequently COAST Trust believes that the community radio is a great medium to provide the doorsteps services for awareness, habit-change, entertainment and contemporary information to the common people of community level. So COAST Trust has established Radio Meghna at Charfassion on February 18, 2015 with a lot of efforts, hopes and dreams. The aim of Radio Meghna to provide participatory interactive radio program to the coastal marginal population to create awareness on climate change and human rights, foster active citizenship and to build capacity to deal with disasters.



Also COAST trust established Radio Meghna by the following major issues which are:

1. To ensure security for small sea fisheries and isolated small islander through interaction with the law enforcement authorities of the coastal area.
2. To take a role to develop natural fisheries management by the help of local fisheries and authorities of Meghna basin.

3. To

developing the role of the coastal food security for farmers through capacity building to various types of food production for the most climate change affected people.

4. To build women's equality and fairness and prevent child marriage and domestic violence.
5. To eliminate the digital gap between urban and rural areas and help to increase knowledge and use of information and technology among the people for establishing digital justice.
6. In order to develop local communities, local adolescence girls play the active role as a radio



presenter and ensure women's participation in information technology.

7. COAST Trust strongly believes in accountability, transparency and feedback makes a person as well as an organization. Therefore, the general audience is encouraged to actively participate the local radio program to develop appropriate and sustainable ways in which human rights and democratic citizenship will be the main practice.

2nd Anniversary Program:



Radio Meghna spent two years by following those goals and objectives. On 18 February 2017, COAST Trust and Radio Meghna have organized a special rally with civil society and audience. Radio Meghna President Mr. Mohammad Monwar Hossain, Upazila Executive Officer, Charfassion-Bhola, led the rally at 10 o'clock from the terrace of the main roads around the market and finished at Charfassion Brajagopal Town Hall at 11:30 am.

We have ensured active participation of civil society and audience with our Radio program and management by the rally. Our values volunteer, local culture, global knowledge, participatory and rights to know. Also desired radio audience is poor families, women and girls, small fishers, marginal farmers and the marginalized and disadvantaged populations. Like every year in order to prosperous radio, Radio Meghna has organized a quiz competition. The duration of quiz competition was from 2 to 17 February, 2017 and the question was Rabindhanath Tagore won the Nobel for which poem? The more messages to the audience to write down the correct answer to this question will be the first. Thus, the second and 3rd will be eligible. Prizes have been distributed among the winners on 18 February 2017 on the occasion of anniversary of Radio Meghna.



Guests at the anniversary quiz competition distributed prizes among the winners who are:

1. 1st prize winner: Shakhaoat Hossain Shimulis receiving the prize from Honorable Joyal Abedin Akhon, Chairman- Upazilla Parishad, Charfassion- Bhola.
2. 2nd prize winner FerdousAra Lima is receiving the prize From Honorable Mohammad Monoar Hossain, Upazilla Executive Officer, Charfassion-Bhola.



- 3rd prize winner Jahidul Islam Akbor is receiving the prize from Honorable Hironmoy Biswas, Upazilla Animal Resources Officer, Charfassion-Bhola.

Listeners Feedback:

Broadcasting areas of Radio Meghna are Meghna basin, Isolated Small Island (Charfassion, Monpura), river erosion and cyclone-prone areas. But all the people still can't hear radio because of low frequency. So they want the frequency to increase in the frequency. For promotion of Radio Meghna fitted banners/ signboards to special place, and put sicker to auto rickshaw, bus etc. According to their opinion today's rally was really good.



Strong aspects of the Anniversary program:

1. Self-initiative appears to have been fully participating.
2. Upazilla Chairman and municipality Counselor were present there.
3. Government Officers were present there.
4. Journalists were present there.
5. Online media and local and national newspapers have covered the program.

Weak aspects of the anniversary program:

1. Did not organize cultural program and discussion meeting.



Joyanal Abedin Akhon, Chairman- Upazilla Parishad, Charfassion, Mohammad Monoar Hossain, Upazilla Executive Officer, Charfassion, Hironmoy Biswas, Animal Resources Officer, Charfassion, Municipality Counselor, Journalist, Chorfassion Police Representatives, Businessmen, Teachers, Students, Listeners of Radio Meghna, COAST Trust Regional Program Coordinator Mr. Nur-E-Alom, staff of microcredit, staff of ECM project, staff of CLS project, all the staff of BMTC and Radio Meghna were among others present at the rally.

Achievement of Radio Meghna of last two years:

1. Create skilled adolescent Radio presenter, producer, Technical and news presenter.
2. Time duration of on air has increased from 2 hours to 6 hours.
3. Increased the time of News.
4. Has participated as a media partner in various development fair.
5. In addition to the regular program, broadcasted various types of governmental event program.

6. Broadcasted cyclone warning message 24 hours during Roanu (55 hours), Komen (17 hours), Nada (19 hours).
7. Radio Meghna has a website and a Facebook page. Also Radio Meghna broadcast its program through online.
8. Radio Meghna arranges regular meeting with advisory committee.
9. Staff of Radio Meghna and intern have good relation with stakeholder.

The online and local and national newspaper coverage:

Online: www.bholabani.com

Local Newspapers:

1. Daily SongbadSokal
2. Daily BhorerAlo
3. Daily ProthomSokal
4. Daily Ongikar

National Newspaper:

1. Daily Ittefaq



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