

Report

Workshop on Setting up Internet Radio and Technical Study Tour on Community Radio Station



23 February – 2 March, 2011
New Delhi, India

Co-organized



Commonwealth of Educational Media
Centre for Asia, Delhi, India



Rupantar, Bangladesh

A workshop on *Setting up Internet Radio during and Technical Study Tour on Community Radio Station* was held from 23 February – 2 March, 2011 at Lalitpur, UP, Chanderi, MP, Gurgaon, Haryana and New Delhi in India. 6 representatives from 5 organizations (Rupantar, RDRS Bangladesh, Ministry of Agriculture, Proyas Manobik Unnayan Society and CCD Bangladesh) of Bangladesh attended the Workshop. The tour was organized by Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia-CEMCA.

Arrival in Delhi 23 June 2011

Four Bangladeshi representatives from Rupantar, Proyas Manobik Unnayan Society and CCD Bangladesh arrived at Delhi on 23 February, 2011. However, representatives of RDRS Bangladesh and Agriculture Information Service, Ministry of Agriculture, Bangladesh reached Delhi on 24 and 25 February, 2011 due to visa dilemma.

1. Internet Radio Workshop 24 – 25 February, 2011, Delhi

A two-day workshop on *Setting up Internet Radio* at Reliance Web World Centre, South Extension, Delhi, was organized by CEMCA on 24 – 25 February, 2011. *Pema Eden Samdup* from CEMCA coordinated the workshop along with two facilitators (experts) *Kalinga Athulathmudali* from Srilanka and *Khor Kok Yeow*, Seniro Instructor, IT department of Wawasan Open University, Indonesia. Community Radio Representatives from different states of India also joined the workshop.



The sessions delivered practical knowledge of streaming audio/video through internet. Such as, the compressed format like MP3 is the most popular, besides any kind of files can be delivered through a website or an FTP site. Audio/Video files flow from the internet directly to the user's sound card. Streaming makes it possible to deliver a continuous broadcast over the internet.

Facilitators discussed that being interactive, web radio allows listener's to control and choose the content being played & Interaction is carried through text messages, e-mail, forums and chat. Internet radio websites offer live and on demand audio programs. It offers a great variety of music and clarity of signal is also far better than the terrestrial radio. In addition to that, it has the advantage of measuring the audience, directly setup by broadcasters.

Technical requirements for Internet Radio are:

Annexure 6

- A well configured computer
- 512 mb internet connection
- Server of High bandwidth
- Software from Open source. Such as: Winamp with Shoutcast Plugin: MAC OS – Butt, Shoutcast: Windows/MAC/Linux and Audacity.

The workshop provided hands on training using <http://techkatha.com> and <http://www.archive.org> to air programmes.



Learning

The workshop is very helpful for Rupantar, as we are going to start Internet Radio very soon. We would utilize our workshop knowledge to set up an internet version of the same.

2. BES EXPO 2011

On 24 Feb evening we visited *BES EXPO 2011* on Terrestrial & Satellite Broadcasting (India's biggest broadcast technology show) at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

BES EXPO exhibited products, equipment, systems & services related to terrestrial & satellite broadcasting for Radio, TV, studio & post-production by manufacturers, dealers, distributors and suppliers. Equipment and technology displayed in the expo were Cable, Video, Audio, Multimedia, Broadband, Networking, Automation, Video Streaming, Graphics & Animation, Production & Post Production, Archiving.



3. Chanderi Ke Awaj 90.4 Mhz 25 – 26 February, 2011

We started our journey by train to Lalitpur of Northern Pradesh to visit community radio station *Chanderi Ke Awaj 90.4 MHz* at night and reached there by the next early morning. Satish Nagaraji and Tej Prokajs Jadav joined us for this visit.

After getting fresh at Hotel Tana Bana run by Madhya Pradesh Tourism, we visited the



Chanderi Ki Awaaz Community Radio Station, located at Bunkar Vikas Sanstha Pancham Nagar Colony, Rajghat Road, Ashok Nagar, Chanderi. Inhabitants of the Chanderi live on *weaving*. The community youth team of Bunkar Vikas Sanstha (a tiny weaver's co-operative) runs the station. The team was formed in a community radio training by One World South Asia, in 2008.



Around fifty young members of this community were trained in basic radio production. Five production teams were formed; who have produced more than 100 radio programmes on social and relevant issues like livelihood, health, education, gender, environment, traditional arts and ecotourism (promotional activity).

Raaj, Sabana, Shima, Nazir Aktar, Puja and Yasmeen work (write script, record, edit and produce programmes) in this station along with many other volunteers from the community.

The CR station *Chanderi Ki Awaaz* is unique as the materials used to build the studio are egg trays, foam sheets, paper & table cloths. Waste tubes of old cycles were utilized to make the studio soundproof. This low cost studio is an example of a team work of volunteers from the community. Very soon the modern and well-equipped studio will be inaugurated (contributed by the community), informed the community people with happiness.

At the end of day, visiting of historical places of *Chanderi* was exciting. Legend of Indian music *Boiju Bawa* was born here. Moreover, we paved our foot on the *Chanderi Fort*, which was conquest by Mughal Emperor Babur by overnight battle. The myth says, Babur's soldier made a road through the mount and conquered.

4. Lalit Lok-Wani Community Radio Station 90.4 Mhz 26 - 27 February, 2011

On 26 February afternoon, we started towards *Lalit Lok-Wani* Community Radio Station, situated at Lalitpur. Sai Joyti, a local NGO supervises this station with the support from UNICEF. *Lalit Lok-Wani* Community Radio Station started broadcasting on 3 September, 2010.



Mr. Ajoy Srivastava, Station Manager introduced his 15 staffs of Lok-wani. Later on, there was a discussion about program

content and collecting interview from different villages. Station Manager informed that the programme on *Stop Child Marriage* had a remarkable effect in the society.

We started for Delhi by overnight train with some hazards. The tickets were cancelled for not confirmed by us. In this circumstance, we had to come by another train and reached Delhi in the following morning.

5. Demonstration at CEMCA, Delhi 28 February, 2011

On 28 February, Mr. Zahir Koradia from Gram Vaani conducted a demonstration about transmission software (*Grins Automation Software*). Later, we had a discussion with Dr. R. Sreedher, Head of CEMCA and Rukmini Vemraju, Programme Officer about the visit at Chanderi & Lalitpur and made some remarks about establishing Community Radio Station at Bangladesh.



In the afternoon, we went to One World South Asia accompanied by Rukmini Vemraju and Monica Sharma of CEMCA. One World South Asia has audio content exchange bank for community radio named *Ek Duniya Anek Awaaz* (One World Many Voices).

6. Gurgaon Ki Awaaz Community Radio Station FM 107.8 1 March, 2011

The next visit to *Gurgaon Ki Awaaz Community Radio Station* located at Udyog Vihar, Gurgaon was made on 1 March, 2011. Rukmini Vemraju and Monica Sharma accompanied the team. TRF, a local NGO run this station. *Gurgaon Ki Awaaz* broadcast programmes in three languages (Hariani, Hindi and Vojpuri). Station manager Ms. Arti explained the activities of the station and CR production team.



Later, Nurunobi Shanto and Pabel Rahman from Bangladesh recited poem in Bengali with Hindi narration to be broadcast from *Gurgaon Ki Awaaz*.

7. Visit of Qutub Minar

A visit to Qutub Minar, famous historic site was made in the late afternoon. The construction of Qutub Minar was commenced by Qutb-ud-din Aibak, who won Delhi from the Prithviraj.

8. Departure for Dhaka

The team returned to Dhaka on 2 March, 2011 after having a successful tour safely.

Learning

1. Community Radio is in fact the *Voice of Voiceless* for marginalized people;
2. Community involvement is the prime requirement for a CR to be successful;
3. Community participation and use of Local knowledge and materials can help reducing cost of Programme Production and Studio decoration as well;
4. Strong network with service providers should be built;
5. We can create CR programme bank like One World South Asia to be exchanged and shared amongst us;
6. Programme based fund mobilization (e.g. fund for Community Learning Programmes) will be contributing to run CR;



Observation

1. Community Radio should not broadcast those entertainment programmes like film songs or nationwide popular songs which are available in the other entertainment media;
2. Community people are very much eager to sustain the CR station and its activities;

Special Thanks

We express our cordial gratitude to CEMCA, and all *Community Radio Stations* for giving the opportunity to visit their Community Radio initiatives.

This study tour helped us to build the capacity of community radio stations for developing technical know-how on community radio in Bangladesh. In addition to that, practical knowledge about CRS Technical site, transmission equipment and transmitter management software would guide us to set up standard Community Radio Stations in Bangladesh.

Reported by

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March, 2011

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