
Annual Report 2009



NEWSNETWORK

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Preface

In 2009, News Network took various programmes and some of them were for multiple years, and those will continue till 2010. The programmes include short- and long-term skill development training for local journalists, development of female journalists, civic education, and news-features on various social issues. The organization is also providing educational support to the most neglected Harijan children.

International organization like UNESCO, Free Voice, Royal Danish Embassy in Dhaka, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, USAID and Anne Frank-Fonds are providing assistance for implementing the programmes.

The annual report contains the details of its activities, achievements and expenditures.

Shahiduzzaman
Editor, NewsNetwork

Executive Summary

The News Network's programmes carried out in 2009 were more or less similar with the ones implemented in 2008. But, in some cases its areas of activities were expanded compared to the previous year. This year the projects, supported by Free Voice, UNESCO and Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, were completed successfully. Besides, the organisation signed a new-partnership agreement with USAID for implementing an 18-month long project. The Royal Danish Embassy in Dhaka and Anne Frank-Fonds renewed their support to News Network.

The project supported by the Royal Danish Embassy is 'Programme for Building Teenagers as Good Citizens, Phase I' and it was completed in February 2008. But the project got the renewal as 'Phase II' in the same year and it will continue till February 2010. This time the programme will cover 10 districts and the number of directed beneficiaries is about 6500 students.

The Netherlands-based Free Voice funded 'Development Programme for Female Journalists' completed in April 2009. Eighty female graduates received six months' training on journalism. Its main objective was to motivate them to take up journalism as their profession. By the time many of them joined different news media houses either as reporters or sub-editors, and doing well. With the support News Network also trained up 20 female journalists working in Chittagoang, the second largest city of Bangladesh.

In the last quarter of the year, two senior Free Voice officials from the Netherlands visited the News Network office and they were happy with the implementation of the project and they in principle agreed to continue their partnership with News Network in 2010.

The Switzerland-based Anne Frank - Fonds(AFF) also renewed their support to 'Educational Support Programme for Harijan Children' and approved a fresh grant for the year 2010.

The USAID is funding to conduct a six-month training programme undertaken for 40 female graduates and beginners on journalism. The project started in June 2009 and continued till December 2010.

Besides, the organisation continuing an exchange programme of news items with Women Feature Service, a New Delhi- based international news-feature agency.

Major Activities of the Year

1. Provided six-month fellowships to female graduates on journalism, including skill development training, motivation and internship in mainstream news media houses.
2. Organising training for young journalists working at district level.
3. Arranging motivational lectures and essay competition for the 14-15 age group school students on how to be good citizens
4. Continuing educational support to Harijan children in Bogra town, a northern district headquarters
5. Preparing profiles of selected minorities groups of the country.

The budget for 2009 was revised and finally it stood at BDT. 9,308,736 and the expenditure was BDT. 8,347,244.79

The annual audit of the organisation and the audit of the completed projects were separately done in time.



Programmes

Supported by



United Nations
Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization



Royal Danish Embassy



TAIWAN FOUNDATION
for DEMOCRACY

財團法人臺灣民主基金會



ANNE FRANK-Fonds

1. Projects at a glance

Projects	Supported by	Project Period	Total Project Cost		Expenditure 2009		Project Status
			BDT	USD	BDT	USD	
Development Programme for Female Journalists	Free Voice	1 Feb 2007 - 30 April 2009	95,90,500	138,993	976,968	14,159	Completed
Fellowship Program for Women Journalists	USAID	17 July 2009 - 31 Dec 2010	977,883	14,172	954,437	13832	Ongoing
Capacity Building of Young Journalists	UNESCO	11 Oct 2008 - 10 Oct 2009	17,49,888	25,000	17,30,267	25,076	Completed
Programme for Building Teenagers as Good Citizens, Phase II	Royal Danish Embassy	1 Dec 2008 - 28 Feb 2010	47,76,656	69,227	40,47,247	58,657	Ongoing
Programme for Promoting Human Rights of Ethnic Minorities	Taiwan Foundation for Democracy	1 Jan 2008 - 30 June 2009	2,84,847	4,128	280,750	4,069	Completed
Education Programme for Harijan Children, Phase I	Anne Frank-Fonds	1 July 2008 - 31 Dec 2009	4,96,462	7,195	357,576	5,182	Completed

2. Progress of the Projects

2.1 Projects for the female journalists supported by Free Voice and USAID

News Network is implementing two different projects to promote female journalists with support from the Free Voice and USAID. 'Development Programme for Female Journalists', a two-year-three-month long Free Voice funded project completed successfully in April 2009. On the other hand, 'Fellowship Program for Women Journalists', an 18-month long USAID-supported project, will complete in December 2010.

The aims and objectives of both the projects are to increase the number of skilled female journalists in Bangladesh. But the implementing strategies, methods and activities of them were different from each other.

Free Voice supported programme

The Free Voice-supported project, 'Development Programme for Female Journalists', was launched in February 2007.

Most of its activities completed in 2008, where 80 female graduates were awarded a six-month basic training on practical journalism. Meanwhile, many of them have joined journalism and are doing well.

In 2009, only a weeklong professional skill development training programme was organized in Chittagoang. Twenty female journalists, working in different national and local print and electronic media, participated in the programme. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Abu Yusuf Alam, Vice Chancellor of Chittagong University, while AMN Siddiqui, Chittagong Divisional Commissioner (Chief Government Executive Officer of the Division), was present as chief guest at the closing session, and distributed certificates among the participants.

Editors of local newspapers, senior journalists of different media houses were present on the occasion.



AMN Siddiqui, Chittagong Divisional Commissioner, was the chief guest at the closing session and distributed certificates among the participants. They all are seen in the picture

The training programme dealt with techniques of information gathering, reporting, news-feature writing, editing, and news analysis, discussion on current affairs, and motivational lectures on ethics of journalism, professional and social responsibilities, sensible journalism and on professional safety measures.

USAID supported programme

A number of changes brought in the USAID-supported programme. Particularly, this project gave more emphasis on skill development training on investigative reporting, and organizing three-month internships for the fellows in different media houses.

The programme will be implemented in two phases. Each phase will have 20 fellows. Twenty female participants have been awarded fellowship from 15 November 2009 in the first phase. Their three-month in house training will complete on 15 February 2010 and they will be attached with the print and electronic media houses for another three-month internship.

Apart from skill development activities, resource persons also talked about various important socioeconomic and human rights issues, including gender equalities, CEDAW, good governance and transparency, global warming and climate change issues, and right to information for their better understanding.

Under the programmes, the fellows are also getting options to meet the country's some important personalities and experts for experience sharing on different subjects.

As part of the training, the fellows produced several items, which were also released to print media for publication and most of them were published with due credit. One of them have been reprinted in this report.

Vigorous campaign against dowry is needed to save millions of women

By Jharna Moni

For parents nothing can be more heartbreaking than seeing their young daughter's corpse covered with white sheets. Rozina Akhter's parents had to see such a dreadful scene a few weeks back.

The dead body of their beloved daughter, Rozina, 20, was placed on a van at Bishwamvarpur police station, Sunamganj. No, she did not die in any road accident nor from any disease. She was killed by her husband for dowry.

Rozina was married off with Al Amin from the same upazila barely eight months ago. A few days after the marriage, the greedy husband began pressing Rozina for bringing money from her father, a demand difficult for her dad to meet.

Having failed to get the dowry, Al Amin got ferocious and intensified torture on Rozina. On the fateful day, there was an altercation between them. At one stage, Amin strangled



Jharna Moni, a News Network former fellow, now serving as a Reporter of daily Bhorer Kagoj. Her fellowship was supported by the Free Voice.

Rozina to death. Later, he confessed to the police that he killed his wife.

On September 3, 2007, there was a piece of news in different national dailies with a headline "Housewife commits suicide by setting herself on fire".

Shimul Rani Saha from Habiganj district burnt herself to death having failed to endure the inhuman torture by her husband and in-laws. She even did not think about her six-month-old daughter. Her brother filed a case in this connection which is still under trial.

The deaths of Rozina and Shimul are not something unusual in the country. Thousands of women like them are dying due to dowry, a social menace. Not that there is no law to deal with dowry. Law is there with provisions of stringent punishments, but there is a lack of campaign about the enforcement of the law.

A law was enacted in 1980 for preventing dowry. Despite that taking dowry could not be stopped. According to experts, the law should be made more effective and time-befitting by amending a few of its provisions, or else, it will not be possible to get rid of this curse.

There is no accurate statistics as to how many happy families are broken due to dowry. It is not known exactly how many women like Shimul commit suicide. Dowry not only affects women, but also affects the whole society. Many families lose everything to meet the demand for dowries.

On many occasions, marriages cannot take place for dowries. For instance, Dhaka University's Ria (not her real name) had an affair with a man for four years. But, she could not marry the man she loved because his parents would not approve the marriage without dowry.

According to Women Oppression Cell of Women Affairs Department, the number of women-related cases, mostly dowry-related ones, has gone past 2,500 in the current year. But the actual figure is said to be much higher.

Bangladesh Mohila Parishad compiled clippings from 12 national dailies. According to them, in 2006 a total of 274 women were murdered and 122 tortured for dowries. And the number is increasing day by day.

As stated earlier, an anti-dowry law was enacted with provisions for stringent punishments for the offenders. There is another law titled 'Women and Children Oppression Prevention Act, 2000'. Section 11 of this law also deals with dowry-related crimes. It states a person will be awarded death penalty for causing death to a woman for dowry and life imprisonment for attempted murder for causing injuries.

But the effectiveness of the laws is now in question. Many believe that the laws have failed to play any significant role in preventing dowry. "People forget about laws if they are not properly enforced," says Supreme Court lawyer Tobarok Hussain.

Many lawyers, human rights workers and civil society members blame the upper class for

keeping the dowry custom alive. They are of the opinion that the upper-class families give generous gifts to brides for maintaining their high status in the society. Giving dowry is like a competition in the upper class, which is affecting the middle and lower-class families.

Echoing them, Bangladesh Women Lawyers Association executive director Salma Ali says, "Following the upper class, middle and lower class-families are leaning towards dowry. Not amendments to the law, rather everyone should be vocal against dowry. And we should not forget about social awareness."

Prof Dr Abdul Hakim, former director of Dhaka University's Social Welfare and Research Institute, says there should be extensive publicity of the law. The government, NGOs and media have a vital role to play in this regard. People will have to be made aware about their responsibilities. Preventive programmes should be undertaken at the union level.

Human rights activists, lawyers and social scientists emphasized more on the publicity of law and increasing public awareness than amending the law. A recent survey shows that 80 percent men and 90 percent women are not aware of the law. Due to lack of publicity and enforcement, the law has become ineffective and millions of women are being tortured.

While compiling the report, the writer talked to 25 men and women belonging to different professions, and 18 of them have said extensive publicity and enforcement of the law could solve the ever-deteriorating dowry problem.

However stringent the law is, it does not serve the purpose if people do not know about it and respect it. Therefore, mass awareness; publicity and strict enforcement will have to be ensured to get rid of the social menace.



2.2 Capacity Building of Young Journalists, supported by UNESCO

UNESCO for the second time approved another twelve-month project to continue the capacity building of young journalists working in the districts and divisional headquarters. It was launched on 11 October 2008 and continued till 10 October 2009. With the fund, News Network organised three different one-month training programmes --- the first one in Barisal city, a southern divisional headquarters, the 2nd one in Sylhet city, a north-eastern divisional headquarters and the 3rd one in Rajshahi city, a north-western divisional headquarters. The programme in Barisal was held from 11 January to 10 February 2009, in Sylhet in March 2009 and in Rajshahi in May 2009.

Deputy Commissioner Manzur -E- Elahi attended the inaugural session of the programme in Barisal while Divisional Commissioner Dr. Zafar Ahmed Khan inaugurated the programme in Sylhet. Rajshahi City Mayor Khairuzzaman Liton attended the closing session of the programme in Rajshahi.

Seventy-five journalists, including 20 women, were trained up. The following subjects were included in their motivation and capacity building activities:

1. Press freedom and freedom of expression
2. Basics of reporting and report writing
3. Reporting on women and child rights issues, economic and environment issues
4. Techniques of information gathering, including taking interviews, covering press conferences and other events
5. Investigative reporting and
6. News-feature writing.



Caption: Rajshahi City Mayor Khairuzzaman Liton distributing certificates among the participants

The participants put forward a good number of recommendations about the programmes, including its further development and expansion. Some of them are;

1. Similar programme should be organised in other districts and sub-districts.
2. Such programme can also be organised for news room editors, sub-editors and assistant editors working for both print and electronic media.

3. Capacity building programme, exclusively on global warming and climate change issues.
4. Training for reporting on science, cultural and socioeconomic issues
5. Similar programme for the journalists working for radio stations, including community radios.
6. Organising similar programme for news photographers for both print and electronic media
7. Organising motivational workshops on right to information and access to information
8. Organising workshops and motivational programmes on peace and conflict issues.

2.3 Programme for Building Teenagers as Good Citizens, Phase II, supported by Danish Embassy

The project focused on raising awareness of school students about social responsibilities, human rights, children and women rights, violence against women and other basic rights of the citizenry. And motivate them for promoting peace and tolerance in society.



Students of a girls' school in Jamalpur district town taking part in essay competition.

About 6500 students of 40 schools with equal number of boys' and girls' schools of 10 districts brought under the programme. The districts were: 1. Brahmanbaria, 2. Rajshahi, 3. Jamalpur, 4. Faridpur, 5. Sylhet, 6. Kuistia, 7. Jessore, 8. Dinajpur, 9. Feni, 10 Patuakhali.

The project activities were motivational lectures on how to be a good citizen for school students, essay competition and award distribution ceremony, and interaction meetings with teachers.

Copies of the book Amader Odhikar (our rights)) and cartoons for developing civic sense and responsibilities prepared by News Network were distributed among the students. Some of its copies, including motivation lecture guideline on "How to be a good citizen" were given to school authorities for their further use in classrooms.

The contents of Amader Odhikar were: Universal Declaration of Human Rights, UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women and UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

All the materials prepared in Bengali and were easily understandable.

It drew the attention of different levels. Teachers of the schools highly appreciated the programme and said that it was a great initiative to motivate the students, particularly making the children aware not only about their rights and social responsibilities but also about how to become good citizens and develop their civic sense.

Several interaction meetings were organised with the teachers. They put forward a good number of recommendations for further improving the programme and its expansion.



A teacher of Brahammonbaria school delivering his speech in an interaction meeting

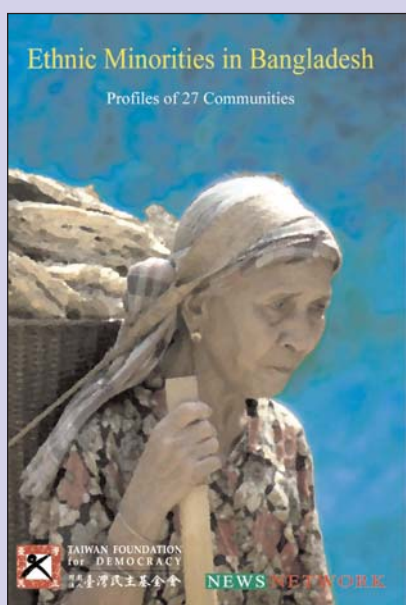
Some of their recommendations were;

- This programme should be organized regularly without any long interval.
- Teachers and guardians should also be involved in the programme.
- Including topics of moral values into textbooks.
- Building teachers as good citizens.
- Promoting peace and stability in society.
- Removing corruption and building Bangladesh as a dignified country.
- Corruption issues should be included in curricula to make students aware of it.
- Motivating religious institutions to come forward and take part in building a good society.
- Political leaders should have commitments to society.
- Promoting patriotism among the students.
- Carrying out effective activities at grassroots level for poverty alleviation
- Investing more in education sector
- Taking special measures to attract talented people to teaching (primary to university level).
- Offering attractive salaries to the teachers.
- Appointment of teachers must be transparent.

The award distribution ceremony will be organised in February 2010. At that time 30 winners (student) of essay competition will be invited to join the function to be held in the capital city of Dhaka for receiving their prize money and certificates.

2.4 Programme for Promoting Human Rights of Ethnic Minorities, supported by Taiwan Foundation for Democracy (TFD)

Under this programme News Network published a book titled "Ethnic Minorities in Bangladesh", where the contents are the profiles of major 27 minority groups. It highlights their socioeconomic and human rights conditions. Due to lack of resources News Network



could not prepare the profiles of all the ethnic minority groups living in Bangladesh. However, the objective of the project is to identify their problems, sufferings and promote their human and democratic rights. The programme ended in 2009. News Network believes the book will be useful to many quarters, including experts, politicians, organizations working for them and policymakers.

The book says: Bangladesh, a country of 150 million people, is rich with various cultures and communities. Although it is predominantly a Muslim country, Hindus account for 10 percent of Bangladesh's total population, while Christians and Buddhists constitute less than two percent.

According to the 1991 population census, the total number of ethnic population in Bangladesh is 12,05,978 who constitute 1.13 percent of the

country's total population. The same census also mentioned 27 ethnic groups living in Bangladesh. Experts and ethnic community leaders claimed that the total 'Ethnic minorities' population is nearly 3 millions (30 lakh) and they belong to 45 groups, and are using 26 different languages. However, the 2001 census did not mention about the size or groups of the country's indigenous people.

The history of deprivation of the ethnic minorities is long. They suffered at each turn of history like British-introduced Permanent Settlement Act, division of India on the basis of two-nation theory, different racial riots, tri-division movement, Indo-Pak war and independence war of Bangladesh. Many of the ethnic minorities became landless during political and social changes brought about by these historical landmarks.

After 1947, vast tracts of land of the ethnic minorities were illegally grabbed. Their lands were grabbed either through false documents or having those recorded as vested property. Non-ethnic minorities captured the lands of ethnic minorities by forging official documents. Besides, the ethnic minorities who left the country during various movements or revolts did not get back their lands after their return.

A recently published survey, conducted by a minority community organisation, shows that a total of 1,983 families in 10 northwestern districts of Bangladesh lost as much as an acre of land each to evictions in the past decade or so. It happened so because there is a lack of adequate laws in the country to protect the rights of the ethnic minorities. The lone act (S.A. Anti-act 1950, clause 97) is not enough to protect their rights. Now some 85 per cent



Garo People discussing their problems in a meeting.

people of about 15 lakh ethnic minorities in the country's northwestern region are landless. The number of the landless ethnic minorities was only 20-25 per cent before division of India in 1947.

An official of an ethnic minority organisation in Rajshahi said, "We

consider lands as gifts of God. We were the history's first cultivators. We have been farming the lands for hundreds of years, generation after generation. So, we did not think it necessary to register land in our names we have been cultivating for years."

The ethnic minorities launched a number of movements against the then rulers during British-Pakistan regimes to establish their rights to lands, but could not bring any positive result. "And due to this failure, the ethnic minorities are now day-labourers on their own lands," he explains.

In the CHT, most of the indigenous inhabitants are refugees. They first became refugees in 1964. About one hundred thousand highlanders became refugees due to the artificial lake created after the construction of the Kaptai Dam. Of them, 10,000 became refugees in India

as they did not get any compensation or any place to live in. Due to construction of the Kaptai Lake, 54,000 acres of agricultural land went under water.

In 1996, a peace accord signed between the government and Parbatiya Chattagram Janasanghatai Samity (PCJSS), the then rebel group leader. To rehabilitate all the refugee families is the major component of the peace accord.

A list of internal refugee families was prepared. According to that list, the number of internal refugee families in the three hill districts was 128,364. Of them, the number of indigenous refugee families stood at 90,208 while the number of non-indigenous refugee families 38,156.

In 1998, the Awami League government formed a taskforce on refugees and internal refugees. The first meeting of the taskforce was held on March 21, 1998. In that meeting, the government talked about rehabilitating Bangali refugees along with indigenous ones.

But, PCJSS leaders strongly objected to the proposition. The issue was raised again in the next meeting on October 1, 1998. The PCJSS leaders again objected. In May 2000, in the 10th meeting of the taskforce, it was proposed from the government side that due to humanitarian ground Bangalis were to be rehabilitated along with the indigenous people. The PCJSS leaders again strongly objected to the notion saying that rehabilitating Bangali refugees would be a clear violation of the accord.

The brief profiles of the 27 ethnic groups as counted in the 1991 census were discussed in the book. According to the census, the largest ethnic group living in plain land is Santal while Chakma is the largest group living in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT). However, Chakma is the largest among the country's ethnic groups.

To change the present odd situation, massive activities need to be taken for multiple years.

Who are indigenous people?

United Nations human rights bodies, International Labour Organisation (ILO), the World Bank and international law apply four criteria to distinguish indigenous people:

- Indigenous people usually live within (or maintain attachments to) geographically distinct ancestral territories.
- They tend to maintain distinct social, economic, and political institutions within their territories.
- They typically aspire to remain distinct culturally, geographically and institutionally, rather than assimilate fully into a national society.
- They self-identify as indigenous or tribal.

2.5 Education Programme for Harijan Children

It's an ongoing Switzerland-based Anne Frank-Fonds(AFF)-supported educational project for Harijan Children in Bogra. The project started in 2008. Two elementary schools for Harijan children have been set up in Bogra city, a northern district of the country.

The schools have been opened with class one for the 5-year olds and the classes will gradually be expanded the following years when the old batches will complete their initial classes.

Harijans are the poorest of the poor in the country. They are living in an inhuman condition, as they have very little access to education, healthcare, sanitation and safe water. They are also called 'Dalits' as they came from the lower cast of the Hindu community. The exact size of the Harijan population in Bangladesh is not known. They are likely to be several millions scattered across the country.

Harijans deserve a better deal from society. The kids of these harijan families remain uneducated. They are also victims of social violence and intolerance with women and children being the worst victims.



Harijan Children are in the school

Finance

5. BUDGET 2009

Sl.	Head of Account	Free Voice	Royal Danish Embassy	UNESCO	Taiwan Foundation for Democracy	Anne Frank-Fonds	DAI/USAID	News Network	Total
1	Internship programme for the female journalists	221,047	0	1,706,600	0	0	297,360	9,000	2,234,007
2	Training program for the female journalists	590,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	590,500
3	Interaction with the female journalists and important personalities	0	400,000	0	0	0	0	0	400,000
4	Publishing Books	88,000	0	0	245,700	0	0	0	333,700
5	Motivational lectures on human rights and other related issues	0	1,675,000	0	0	0	0	0	1,675,000
6	Essay competition	0	1,460,000	0	0	0	0	10,000	1,470,000
7	Workshop and award ceremony for the students	0	714,000	0	0	0	0	0	714,000
8	Telephone, fax, postage & other utilities	0	126,000	14,700	0	0	47,522	0	188,222
9	Office supplies & conveyance	0	120,000	14,700	0	7,652	26,903	0	169,255
10	Office rent & Rent for school rooms	0	0	0	0	132,000	70,000	0	202,000
11	Salary and honorarium (Including teachers honorarium)	50,400	420,000	14,000	0	130,000	154,000	10,000	778,400
12	Audit fee	18,000	20,000	0	0	12,000	0	0	50,000
13	Cost of information gathering	0	0	0	0	0	0	18,000	18,000
14	Editing	0	0	0	0	0	0	17,000	17,000
15	Honorarium for feature writers	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	5,000
16	Educational materials	0	0	0	0	38,000	0	0	38,000
17	Dress/Uniforms	0	0	0	0	75,000	0	0	75,000
18	Training Module, Materials and guideline	0	0	0	0	0	114,752	0	114,752
19	Office equipment	0	0	0	0	0	235,900	0	235,900
	Total	967,947	4,935,000	1,750,000	245,700	394,652	946,437	69,000	9,308,736

2. Financial Statement

NEWS NETWORK
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 2009

PARTICULARS	DETAILS	AMOUNT
RECEIPTS:		
OPENING BALANCE (01.01.2009)		
Cash in hand	1,613.74	
Cash at Bank	<u>13,53,211.25</u>	13,54,824.99
FUND INFLOW		
Fund received from:		
FREE VOICE	17,83,066.40	
ROYAL DANISH EMBASSY, DHAKA	47,58,657.40	
DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVE INC.- (DAI)/USAID	9,77,883.00	
UNESCO	<u>8,22,000.00</u>	83,41,606.80
Advance recovery		1,59,500.00
Sale of different publication		98,264.90
Bank interest		18,500.23
Subscription from the Executive members		<u>2,100.00</u>
TOTAL TK.		<u>99,74,796.92</u>
PAYMENTS:		
FUND OUTFLOW		
Salaries		6,24,400.00
Internship programme for journalists		22,37,492.00
Training for the female journalists		5,45,500.00
Training Module		1,14,752.00
Interaction		4,00,000.00
Publication		3,30,000.00
Telephone, internet & other utilities		1,68,759.00
Conveyance		10,607.00
Office rent		98,000.00
Office supplies		1,65,436.79
Office equipment		2,35,900.00
Audit fee		32,000.00
Information gathering		18,000.00
Editing		17,000.00
Honorarium for feature writers		5,000.00
Rent for school rooms		1,32,000.00
Educational materials		26,730.00
Dress/Uniforms		50,250.00
Teachers honorarium		1,30,000.00
Communication cost		30,867.00
Motivational lectures on human rights		16,71,330.00
Essay competition		13,00,031.00
Bank Charge		3,190.00
Loan refunded		8,41,000.00
Advances		1,14,000.00
CLOSING BALANCE (31.12.2009)		
Cash in hand	12,238.00	
Cash at Bank	<u>6,60,314.13</u>	6,72,552.13
TOTAL TK.		<u>99,74,796.92</u>

3. Project wise budget and expenditure

Name of the project (s)	Budget	Expenditure	Variation
Fellowship programme for capacity building of young journalists funded by UNESCO	17,50,000.00	17,15,266.89	+ 34,733.11
Programme for building teenager as good citizen funded by Royal Danish Embassy	49,35,000.00	40,27,247.00	+ 9,07,753.00
Development programme for female journalists funded by the Free Voice Netherlanda	9,67,947.00	9,67,967.90	- 20.90
Programme for promoting human rights of ethnic minorities funded by Taiwan Foundation	2,45,700.00	2,40,000.00	+ 5,700.00
Education programme for harijan children funded by Anne Frank Fonds Switzerland	3,94,652.00	3,47,576.00	+ 47,047.00
Fellowship programme for female journalists funded by DAI / USAID	9,46,437.00	9,46,437.00	-----
News Network	69,000.00	1,02,750.00	- 33,750.00
Total Taka	93,08,736.00	83,47,244.79	+ 9,61,491.21



**M. M. HOSSAIN & COMPANY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**

PRINCIPAL:
MD. MOAZZEM HOSSAIN
FCA

HEAD OFFICE:
MOUCHAK TOWER (4TH FLOOR)
ROOM - 512
83/B NEW CIRCULAR ROAD
DHAKA-1217, BANGLADESH
PH: 9353216

**FORM FD-4
CERTIFICATE GIVEN BY THE AUDITORS**

We have audited the accounts of NEWS NETWORK Dhanmondi, Dhaka Registration no. FDR-922, dated 20.3.1995 for the Year ended 31st December, 2009 and examined all relevant books and vouchers and certify that according to audited accounts.

1. The brought forward foreign donation at the beginning of year 1st January, 2009 was Tk. 82,640.10
2. The foreign donation amounting to Tk. 83,41,606.80 was received by the organization during the period.
3. The balance of unutilized foreign donations by the organization at 31st December, 2009 Tk. 1,79,752.11
4. Foreign donation amounting to Tk. 82,44,494.79 have been utilized for the following purposes (shown project wise).

NAME OF THE PROJECT:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fellowship programme for capacity building of young journalists 2. Programme for building teenager as good citizen 3. Development programme for female journalists 4. Programme for promoting human rights of ethnic minorities 5. Education programme for harijan children 6. Fellowship programme for women journalists
FUNDING AGENCY:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. UNESCO 2. ROYAL DANISH EMBASSY, DHAKA 3. FREE VOICE 4. TAIWAN FOUNDATION FOR DEMOCRACY 5. ANNE FRANK - FONDS 6. DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVE INC.- (DAI)/USAID

Name of the project (s)	Budget for this year	Amount spent this year	Difference
Fellowship programme for capacity building of young journalists	17,50,000.00	17,15,266.89	+ 34,733.11
Programme for building teenager as good citizen	49,35,000.00	40,27,247.00	+ 9,07,753.00
Development programme for female journalists	9,67,947.00	9,67,967.90	- 20.90
Programme for promoting human rights of ethnic minorities	2,45,700.00	2,40,000.00	+ 5,700.00
Education programme for harijan children	3,94,652.00	3,47,576.00	+ 47,076.00
Fellowship programme for female journalists	9,46,437.00	9,46,437.00	-----
Local contribution by News Network	69,000.00	1,02,750.00	- 33,750.00
Total Taka	93,08,736.00	83,47,244.79	+ 9,61,491.21

Total expenditure in BDT. 83,47,244.79 (Equivalent USD 120,975 / EURO 83,472)

5. The organization maintained the accounts of foreign donations and records relating their to in the manner specified in section 5 of the foreign donation (voluntary activities).
6. The information furnished above is correct and checked by us.

Moazzem Hossain

M. M. HOSSAIN AND COMPANY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Dated: 10.02.2010

NGO BUREAU- Enlisted No. 92 ABBU/NIP-2 Auditor's Ta /450-4/2005-1150 Dated 11-05-2008



5. BUDGET - 2010									
Sl.	Head of Account	Free voice funded project	Danish funded project	USAID funded project	Anne Frank fonds funded project	Unesco funded project	Taiwan foundation funded project	News Network contribution	Total
1	Honorarium & other expenses for fellows	14,89,200	0	0	0	0	0	0	14,89,200
2	English language course	4,48,800	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,48,800
3	Training Module preparation	2,19,000	0	5,22,248	0	0	0	0	7,41,248
4	Skill development training	5,71,200	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,71,200
5	Capacity building for journalists in 3 hill districts	0	0	0	0	16,58,300	0	0	16,58,300
5	Internship for female journalists	53,550	0	33,80,140	0	0	0	0	34,33,690
6	Experience sharing with important persons on different issues	0	0	1,40,000	0	0	0	0	1,40,000
7	Final fellowship experience sharing conference	0	0	1,29,500	0	0	0	0	1,29,500
8	Module for ToT	1,68,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,68,000
9	Workshop and award ceremony for the students	0	7,29,000	0	0	0	0	0	7,29,000
10	Telephone, fax, postage & other utilities	1,53,000	0	2,22,478	10,000	11,850	0	0	3,97,328
11	Office supplies & conveyance	91,800	0	1,17,097	0	9850	5,000	17,000	2,40,747
12	Office rent & Rent for school rooms	2,75,400	0	2,48,600	1,44,000	0	0	0	6,68,000
13	Salary and honorarium (Including teachers honorarium	7,34,400	0	6,59,000	1,30,000	0	0	0	15,23,400
14	Audit fee	25,500	20,000	0	0	0	10,000	24,000	79,500
15	ToT training	27,90,912	0	0	0	0	0	30,000	28,20,912
16	Educational materials	0	0	0	40,000	0	0	0	40,000
17	Office equipment	1,88,700	0	1,05,100	0	0	0	0	2,93,800
18	Workshop	0	0	0	0	0	1,60,000	0	1,60,000
19	Wages for Aiea	0	0	0	26,000	0	0	0	26,000
	Total	72,09,462	7,49,000	55,24,163	3,50,000	16,80,000	1,75,000	66,000	1,57,58,625

Set up in 1994 to meet the readers' need and bridge the information gap, News Network has become a leading news-feature agency of Bangladesh. By the time, the agency has been able to earn the appreciation of all quarters for its comprehensive works and its success can be measured by the acceptance of our newspapers as well as the readers.

NewsNetwork prepares news-features, news analysis and graphics, and conducts studies/surveys on various issues like democracy, environment, gender and rights of women and children. It also has a regular training programme for local journalists, aiming to develop their skills.

Other activities of the agency include organising workshops, seminars, symposiums and dialogues on crucial social issues. The agency also provides client specific services to different national and international organisations.

For further information please contact us.

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