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8/19, Sir Syed Road (3rd Floor), Block-A, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207 Phone : +880-2-9134717, +880-2-9137147, E-mail : info@mrdibd.org, Web : www.mrdibd.org

FOREWORD

Annual Report for the year 2015-16 is being published as a regular annual activity of MRDI. The report, by default, is an annual stocktaking of the performances accomplished during the year. We have been publishing the report every year to see ourselves in the mirror and let our stakeholders know what we could and could not achieve. Performances accomplished during the year, opportunities and challenges, policy decisions taken, proactive disclosure of information and the financial report of the organization have been incorporated in the report.

Apart from its regular activities, MRDI came up with some innovative ideas involving the target communities during the year 2015-16. Support of donor agencies, opportunity of working in collaboration with the Information Commission, Cabinet Division and different ministries enabled MRDI to continue its efforts to reach those communities who are in real need of information and services. Political stability and comparatively peaceful situation in the country helped implement the programmes and activities on schedule. Close linkage with and credibility of the partners and policy makers also enhanced organizational image of MRDI.

Challenges have also been there in carrying out the activities and programmes. MRDI maintains the principle of zero compromise on its quality of work. We also continuously try to devise new ideas to address the felt needs of the communities in an innovative way. Quality and innovation involve higher costs. Financial constraint appears as a big challenge towards maintaining quality of work and materializing innovative ideas. Complying with ethical standards in all aspects of programme operations and office administration is another principle that MRDI meticulously follows. Sometimes the organization has to face challenging situation in maintaining this principle. However, MRDI could overcome these challenges during the reporting year applying proper means and strategies.

Complying with its mission, MRDI works relentlessly for enhancing quality and ethical standards of media. Side by side with developing skills of journalists, it is imperative that media consumers should have a certain level of awareness which will help them judge the ethical and qualitative standard of news. With this idea in mind initiated news literacy as topic for discussion and debate, particularly focusing the young segment of the population as target. Another learning programme for the young people this year was financial literacy which aimed to provide basic understanding of finance by the target group.

MRDI continued its efforts in keeping the demandsupply chain of information rolling properly as a part of its right to information advocacy programme. This year, the programme reached deeper into the community. Advocacy on and implementation of CSR interventions also continued.

Hard work and sincere efforts of staff members and guidance of the board members made it possible to implement the programmes of MRDI successfully. Our development partners kept confidence in our capability and sincerity. We are grateful to them. We are also thankful to our implementing partners, community groups at the field level and the beneficiaries for their sincere cooperation.

We are hopeful, challenges faced, experiences gained and lessons learned during this year will guide MRDI to continue its journey onward to realize its vision and attain the mission.

VISION

MRDI, a multi-disciplinary, not-for-profit, non-government organization as well as a company limited by guarantee is engaged in a wide spectrum of social development activities and seeks to render services to national and international organizations, both in the public and the private domains.

MISSION

To endeavor for developing the standard and quality of media, skill & ethics of the media professionals, physical and mental health and well-being of the people and empowerment of women, adolescents, children, minority and other marginalized section of the population.

GOAL

In order to attain the mission and realize the vision, MRDI has set its goal to raise the standard of mass media and media professionals, facilitate welfare of the target population through advocacy, policy modifications and proper utilization of media.

MRDI'S MANDATE

In achieving its goal in order to attain the mission and vision, MRDI implements most of its activities in two approaches. Firstly, capacity building of media and the journalists through issue specific and need-based training and orientation programs. Secondly, advocacy at different levels including policymaking bodies, institutions, professional groups, corporate sector, civil society and the community as a whole. Some activities cover both the capacity building and advocacy approaches. Moreover, MRDI undertakes research and studies on development issues, provides technical assistance and cooperation to other organizations/institutes and partners with government bodies, NGOs/CSOs to promote the causes of public interest. The organization also implements some special interventions and campaigns within and beyond its plan. MRDI has so far played monitoring and supervisory role in implementing some field interventions.

The way MRDI's decisions are taken

MRDI's mandates and activities are managed and implemented by a group of highly qualified professionals under the leadership of its Executive Director and the broader guidance and supervision of the Board of Directors.

Apart from the directors, the full-time staff members including managers, researchers, midlevel and field personnel having specialized skills carry out the organisation's project activities in line with the vision of MRDI.

The organization's credibility in media development activities principally stem from the presence of quality professionals in its fold and the professional consultants associated with the organization under its pooling system.

The consultants, having substantial experiences in their respective areas, help MRDI executive staff members carry out their activities more efficiently and attain the targeted results of each programme.

MRDI follows the Generally Accepted Accounting Procedures (GAAP) and the books of accounts are made on accrual basis. Required books and registers are maintained for the financial recording through Tally ERP 9. All transactions of the organization are made through a scientific & established procedure which is set by the authority through the financial and administrative manual of the organization. Authority of approval, transaction procedure, monitoring & control system, preservation of fund & custody of assets etc. are well defined in this manual.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MRDI, during the year 2015-16, continued its advocacy, awareness creation and capacity building programmes and generated innovative approaches for attainment of its the mission. Some of the initiatives have already been able to demonstrate visible changes and produce sustainable results in the target communities.

Programs of this reporting year focused on promoting ethical journalism, implementing RTIA in a pro-people approach, mainstreaming CSR funds in development interventions, promoting the concept of news literacy and understanding finance by young people.

A comprehensive guideline on ethical reporting on and for children for the print media was developed through consultations with relevant stakeholders and taking interview of key informants in partnership with UNICEF. National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) extended full support and collaboration in developing the guideline. Leading newspapers of the country acknowledged the guideline as an effective tool. The guideline was shared with the media gatekeepers of six divisional towns.

Another partnership with UNICEF initiated the concept of news literacy of the media audience to address the demand side of the media. A national debate competition on news literacy and ethical reporting was organized involving students of schools and colleges of 64 districts of the country. MRDI organized the debate in partnership with Bangladesh Debate Federation (BDF). Debaters were briefed on ethical concepts of reporting on and for children and relevant sections of child law through an orientation session before the debate competition. This gave them an understanding on ethical aspects of media reporting. Monitoring of ethical violation in reporting over media was done regularly and communicated with NHRC. An assessment study was conducted aiming to identify the existing situation of news literacy and ethical conception of readers with particular focus on young people and generate recommendations to improve the situation. Both quantitative and qualitative methodologies like interview with questionnaire, focus group discussion, consultation and key informant interview were applied in conducting the study.

Promoting people's right of access to information is a major focus of MRDI's advocacy programme. RTI awareness raising and capacity building activities continued in the reporting year. Numbers of initiatives were implemented to address the demand and supply sides of information.

MRDI's project with Manusher Jonno Foundation "Promoting Citizens' Access to Information" reached a mature stage in the reporting year and a good number of activities were undertaken to keep the demand-supply chain of information increasingly operative. MRDI developed Information Disclosure Guideline (IDG) for five ministries and concerned departments/divisions in partnership with the Information Commission to help Designated Officers decide on disclosure of information. The IDG was formally handed over to the Cabinet Secretary through a formal ceremony. Organizing the country's first-ever RTI Camp was the most significant activity of the year. MRDI and a citizens' forum Jagrata Nagorik Committee (JANAK) jointly organized the camp at Singhajhuli union of Chowgacha upazila of Jessore to promote citizens' awareness about RTI that would help ensure their access to information. A follow-up camp was organized after two months. An experience sharing meeting was organized with state level policy makers including the Chief Information Commissioner and Secretary (Coordination and Reforms), Cabinet Division at Chowgacha after the camp. Public events including observance of Right to Know day were organized in the project areas.

World Bank through its partnership with DFID supported MRDI to conduct a study for assessing proactive disclosure of information by 54 ministries and divisions of the government. In addition, knowledge sharing and interaction meetings with District Advisory Committee members were organized. Technical assistance was provided to two selected ministries for developing their proactive disclosure guideline.

The initiative also developed Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) materials on RTI including leaflet, comic book and poster to create and strengthen awareness on RTI among different segments of people. Leaflets and the comic book with the messages on RTI Act, benefits and success of RTI particularly target school children who read the issue in their text book.

The initiative to strengthen journalism education at universities in partnership with DW Akademie continued this year. Curriculum of the department of Communication and Journalism of Chittagong University was reviewed and workshop on teaching and learning at tertiary level was organized for the teachers of the department of mass communication and journalism of Rajshahi University. In continuation of previous year's program with DW Akademie, MRDI conducted another situation analysis and sustainability study of community radio in 7 stations of southern and western regions of Bangladesh.

To strengthen advocacy for CSR as a mainstream tool for social development, MRDI under its second phase of partnership with Bangladesh Bank conducted two research studies - one on CSR fund usage by banks and the other on the situation analysis of two disaster prone areas in which CSR intervention can be applied. Reports of the studies were handed over to the Governor of Bangladesh Bank through a ceremony.

As many as eight CSR interventions were implemented by MRDI in remote areas of the country in collaboration with local partner organizations during the reporting year. The interventions covered health, education, poverty reduction, provision of safe water and skills development issues. City Bank Limited, Bank Alfalah, Mutual Trust Bank, Reliance Insurance Limited and HSBC provided funding support for the programs.

Despite financial constraints, MRDI published two issues of its newsletter Tottho Prokash with its own resources out of its commitment to RTI. Two issues of CSR Review were published with the funding support of Mutual Trust Bank and Arab Bangladesh Bank.

MRDI with its organizational strength and limitations continued its on-going activities and took up new interventions to attain its mission. Development and technical partners have been very supportive like previous years. The organization has been able to retain the confidence and support of government ministries, departments and statutory bodies which played a pivotal role in taking forward all its initiatives successfully. Experiences gathered and lessons learnt during the year will definitely help MRDI improve its performances in the year to come.

EVENT OF THE YEAR

RTI Camp ushered in a new horizon

Aleya Begum, mother of a school going child of Shinghajhuli village of Jessore district wanted to know from upazila secondary education office, whether money is required to get text book from the school and if so, how much is to be paid. She also wanted a copy of the government circular in this regard. She got information from the authority and now Aleya and other guardians do not have to pay any money for books for their children.

"My daughter now studies in class viii. For last seven years I have been paying Taka 20 each year for receiving books from the school. This year I got them free. It seems to be a magic to me!" says Aleya.

Claiming information from a government office by a woman of a remote village has been possible due to an RTI camp organized at Shinghajhuli Union of Chowgacha Upazila of Jessore. MRDI organized the weeklong camp to aware people about the change information can bring in their lives and develop the habit of seeking information applying the RTI Act for ensuring transparency and accountability in the governance system. This initiative was a part of Promoting Citizens' Access to Information (PCAI) project in partnership with Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF). Thirty men and women participated in the camp.

A civil society group of the community called Jagrata Nagorik Committee, local district and upazila administration and chairman of the local union parisad extended active support and cooperation in organizing the camp. Presence of dignitaries like the Chief Information Commissioner, Information Commissioner and Secretary (Coordination & Reforms) of the Cabinet Division in the inaugural ceremony heightened the profile of the camp organized in a remote village.

Discussions and interactions took place to sensitize the participants. Then they were oriented on the procedure of seeking information from authorities by using the RTI Act. Finally, the participants submitted RTI application to government and non-government offices seeking information they need for their life and livelihood.





The camp, first of its kind in Bangladesh, could create a vibration in the community about their right to know. Participants developed a feeling of confidence in going through the process of seeking information they need, which they perceived as a difficult task before. The participants prepared and filed 58 RTI applications seeking information from the relevant authorities regarding services and issues that affect their lives.

A follow-up camp was organized after two months to look into the results of the earlier camp. It was found that the RTI camp had a groundbreaking impact. Out of 58 RTI applications, chosen and filed by the applicants themselves, 41 received the information without delay. Fifteen appeals were submitted - 9 for not receiving response and 6 for providing wrong or partial information. Out of them ten applicants received the information they sought and five had to complain to the Information Commission for the information they had applied for.

Side by side with this demand creation, expected result was seen in supply aspect of information which significantly contributed to keeping the demand-supply chain operative and effective in compliance with the objective of the PCAI project. Chairman of Shinghajhuli union parisad responded positively to the request of MRDI to disclose the information of public interest through wall writing. Union parisad budget and the list of beneficiaries of 5 areas of safety net programs including Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) and Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) were written on the walls of the Union Parisad office and the villages of the union for all to see. The villagers can now check whether allowances distribution and beneficiary selection were done following proper rules and conditions. Anyone deprived of the services can ask the authority.

The Shinghajhuli Union Parishad chairman turned into a strong supporter of information disclosure from his position of nurturing culture of secrecy. Proactive disclosure of information through wall writing has been an innovation and a demonstration of courage and commitment by an elected representative.

"I don't want to be involved in corruption and I don't want anyone to indulge in corruption after me," the chairman says.

Shinghajhuli union parisad has created a glowing example. Other unions may follow this example of information disclosure. May be, one day this method will be mandated by the government for the UPs to disclose information.



Focus 2015-16
 Promoting ethical journalism Implementing RTIA in a pro-people approach Mainstreaming CSR funds in development interventions Promoting the concept of news literacy Understanding finance by young people

Accomplishment Highlights

During the reporting year, MRDI has implemented the following projects in partnership with the organizations/agencies mentioned.

Project : Promoting Citizens' Access to Information

Objective	Promote access to information for the people by keeping the demand-supply chain of information increasingly operative.
Development Partner	Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF)
Technical Partner	The Information Commission Bangladesh

Project : Children and Ethical Reporting in Media

Objective	 Develop a guideline on ethical reporting Formal launching and endorsement of the ethical guideline Regular 'compliance monitoring' discussion with media gatekeepers
Development Partner	UNICEF
Technical Partner	National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

Project : Exploring young mind: News literacy and ethics in child reporting

Objective	 Identify the news literacy and ethical conception of readers through a formal assessment Develop capacity of and create a positive mindset among young learners on news literacy and ethical standards of reporting on and for children Earn support of media, civil society and other social stakeholders on promoting news literacy and ethical standards of child reporting
Development Partner	UNICEF
Technical Partner	National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

Project : RTI Awareness Raising and Training Support Activities

Objective	To develop the capacity of the Cabinet Division and the Information Commission to implement and comply with the RTIA
Development Partner	World Bank Group
Strategic Partner	The Information Commission Bangladesh and the Cabinet Division

Project : Participation, Capacity Building, Transparency: Strengthening journalism in Bangladesh

Objective	To establish cooperation in the fields of strengthening journalism education at universities in Bangladesh
Development Partner	DW Akademie
Intervention Partner	 Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Rajshahi University Department of Communication and Journalism, Chittagong University

Project : CSR for Advancement and Social Emancipation (CASE) Phase-2

Objective	 To make success of CSR of banks more visible as a development tool to the policy makers and others and encourage business community to operate need specific CSR activities
	2. To expand CSR interventions in climate change and environment areas
	3. To develop capacity of CSR desk officers on Bangladesh Bank CSR guideline
Financial Support	Bangladesh Bank

Project : Livelihood program for women - Phase 2

Objective	To create livelihood opportunities for 80 poor and marginalized women by providing them with training in tailoring and embroidery.
Corporate Partner	The City Bank Limited
Implementing Partner	Daily Gramer Kagoj, Jessore

Project : Educational support for poor students

Objective	To facilitate smooth continuation of children's education
Corporate Partner	The City Bank Limited
Implementing Partner	Daily Gramer Kagoj, Jessore

Project : Support for secondary level girl students in the northern region

ObjectiveTo support secondary level girl students in continuing their educationCorporate PartnerThe City Bank Limited

Project : Educational support for Dalit Community in Jessore

Objective	To facilitate pre-primary education of Dalit children and scholarship for higher secondary and graduation level.
Corporate Partner	The City Bank Limited
Implementing Partner	Charaiveti Scheduled & Indigenous People Welfare Organization, Jessore

Project : Health Program in Char Patila

Objective	To provide primary health services mainly to the children and pregnant women of this offshore area
Corporate Partner	Mutual Trust Bank Limited.
Implementing Partner	Unnayan Dhara Trust, Bhola

Project : Safe water for the Sundarbans people

Objective	To improve health condition of the people of the Sundarbans villages by facilitating rain water harvesting
Corporate Partner	Bank Alfalah Ltd.
Implementing Partner	 Bon Loudob Woman and Child Development Association (BSWCDA) Kailashgonj Akota Women

Project : Understanding finance by the youth and female garment factory workers

Objective	 Create awareness among the children and adolescents on needs and benefits of financial literacy Develop capacity of and create a positive mindset among young learners on financial literacy
Corporate Partner	HSBC

Program Highlights

Projects implemented in 2015-16 have been classified in this report into the following chapters.



ADVOCACY

Children and Ethical Reporting in Media

UNICEF and MRDI have been working on ethical journalism on and for children for last 5 years. The issue got momentum after implementing some capacity building and advocacy interventions under the initiative. A common awareness on ethical practices in child reporting has developed among the media houses, their gatekeepers and reporters.

To translate this awareness into practice, demand for a guideline on the issue was raised. Accordingly a



comprehensive guideline on ethical reporting on and for children for the print media was developed through consultations with relevant stakeholders and taking interview of key informants. National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) extended full support and collaboration in developing the guideline. Leading newspapers of the country acknowledged the guideline as an effective tool.

Performance Highlights

1. Journalist guideline for reporting ethically on and for children for print media was launched through a formal ceremony. Information Minister, Chairman of NHRC, President of Editors' Council, President of BFUJ, editors of newspapers, media gatekeepers, reporters and civil society representatives were present.

2. Guideline has been distributed among the editors, media gatekeepers and journalists in Dhaka and at the regional level. The guideline was widely circulated through email. It is available at



Exploring young mind: News literacy and ethics in child reporting

MRDI has been working with the media and the journalists for the promotion of ethical standards of reporting. Interventions like capacity building of reporters, interaction with gatekeepers, developing guideline on ethical journalism have been taken to attain the objective. These efforts have resulted in some changes. But huge gap is still there between the existing level of ethical practices and the desired standard. A better linkage between supply and consumption



of news can reduce this gap. Demand side – the media audience needs to be made aware about ethical reporting and put in a position to negotiate with the supply side – the media. Perspective of readers, their expectations, reactions and analytical understanding of news will make the newspapers more accountable to its readers. This understanding is termed as news literacy which enables readers question reliability of news reports. Violation of ethics in reporting on and for children will also be questioned by the conscious readers, a significant segment of whom are expected to be the young people. To identify the level of news literacy and ethical conception of readers an assessment was conducted.

A section of young students take interest in debating as a hobby. They like to discuss and debate on new and interesting issues. Keeping this in mind, a national debate competition was organized involving students of schools and colleges to introduce news literacy as a debating issue.

Performance Highlights

1. Debate competition: A national debate competition on ethical reporting on and for children was organized covering all the 64 districts of the country, geographically divided into 12 regions. MRDI organized the debate in partnership with Bangladesh Debate Federation (BDF).

- 1.1 Training on theme of the debate and judgment process was organized for the BDF members. A total of 24 members of BDF participated in the training. Topics including ethics of journalism, expectation of readers/viewers, and impact of sensational reports on children were discussed and demonstrated in the session.
- 1.2 Eleven regional debate competitions were organized in 11 locations during the reporting period. Separate school and college teams participated in the competition. Total 97 school and 73 college teams participated at the regional level. Debaters were briefed on ethical concepts of reporting on and for children and relevant sections of child law through an orientation session before the debate competition.

2. Media monitoring: Monitoring of ethical violation in reporting on and for children over media was done regularly. Newspaper reports that seem to have violated ethical standards on the issue have been scanned and sent to the National Human Rights Commission with a copy to the concerned media gatekeepers everyday.

3. Sharing meeting: Six meetings were organized at the divisional level to share the ethical guideline for reporting on and for children. 60 gatekeepers of 60 newspapers were present in these meetings.

Promoting Citizens' Access to Information

MRDI in partnership with Manusher Jonno Foundation has been working for promoting people's access to information by keeping the demand-supply chain of information increasingly operative. Demand creation of the information seekers and sensitization of the information providers on the RTI Act have to go simultaneously to achieve the goal.



Performance Highlights

During the reporting period, a good number of results based activities were undertaken addressing both the demand and supply ends.

- 1. Interaction and handing over of Information Disclosure Guideline : MRDI, in partnership with the Information Commission developed Information Disclosure Guideline (IDG) for five ministries and concerned departments/divisions of the government. This guideline has been developed to help Designated Officers decide on disclosure of information. The IDG was formally handed over to the Cabinet Secretary through a ceremony organized in Dhaka in presence of Principal Secretary, Chief Information Commissioner, Secretary (Coordination and Reforms) Cabinet Division, Information Comissioners, Secretaries and other high government officials and development partners. Discussions and interactions took place prior to the handing over.
- 2. RTI Camp and follow up camp : MRDI organized the country's first-ever RTI Camp with an objective to call for highlighting the benefits of the law to ensure its optimum use by the citizens. MRDI and Jagrata Nagorik Committee (JANAK) jointly organized the camp to promote citizens' awareness about RTI that will help ensure their access to information. Thirty disadvantaged men and women of Singhajhuli union of Chowgacha upazila of Jessore participated in the



camp. A follow-up camp was organized after two months to look into the results of the camp. Participants of the camp filed a total of 58 applications, most of which got the desired information from the authority. Other applicants went for appeal and complaint and finally revived information. As a result of an application, one of the largest NGOs ASA appointed 3,033 designated officers throughout the country. In effect, the Chairman of Singhajhuli Union Parisad declared to disclose its service related information through wall writing.

3. Experience sharing meeting : An experience sharing meeting "RTI Camp: Impact and Potentials" was organized at Chowgacha, Jessore. Chief Information Commissioner was the chief guest. Secretary (Coordination and Reforms) of the cabinet division and former Secretary (Coordination and Reforms) of the cabinet division were the special guests. Local government representatives, upazila level government officials, CSO/NGO and media representatives were also present. Process, experience, success, challenges and lessons learnt from the RTI camp were presented in the meeting. The guests visited Shinghajhuli to see the disclosure of information on social safety net through wall writing.

- 4. Public Event : Twenty nine public events were organized in 12 upazilas of Jessore and Barisal Districts to create general awareness on RTI. The events include cultural campaign, orientation for school students, public meeting, interaction meeting, orientation for entrepreneurs of union digital centre etc. A total of 10,645 people could be reached through these events.
- 5. RTK Day 2015 : Rally, discussion meeting, public gathering, leaflet campaign, cultural programmes were organized in Barisal, Jessore and nine upazilas of these districts. Tentatively 4,800 men, women, boys and girls participated in the programme.

RTI Awareness Raising and Training Support Activities

MRDI implemented this project in alignment with World Bank strategic plan on implementing Right to Information Act in Bangladesh: Connecting Government with Citizens. This is a part of DFID- World Bank partnership that supports the Information Commission and the Cabinet Division in the identification of effective strategies for implementing the RTI Act. It aims to develop the capacity of the Cabinet Division and the Information Commission to implement and comply with the RTIA. The project has two components - awareness raising through advocacy and training support for capacity building.

Performance Highlights

The following BCC/advocacy materials have been developed for the students, rural households and urban workers to popularize RTI Act and leverage the power of access to information at grassroots level.

- ✓ Leaflet 1: I have the right to know- For rural marginalized people
- ✓ Leaflet 2: People's right to information has been ensured- For urban working class
- ✓ Leaflet 3: The story of village Ashapurna- For students
- ✓ Comic Book: Piku, Pakalay and the crazy bus- For adolescents
- ✓ Poster : One poster for the mass

Contents in brief

Leaflet: I have the right to know

This leaflet provides some basic information on the RTI Act 2009. It presents in brief how a young man and a marginalized woman of a remote village get the information they need using the Act. The procedures of application, appeal and complaint are briefly narrated in a very simple language.

Leaflet: People's right to information has been ensured

This leaflet narrates how RTI Act has ensured people's right to information. Referring to the constitution of the country, it mentions how the act can empower people. Steps of seeking information from authorities including application for information, appeal to the authority and complain to the Information Commission have been narrated.

Leaflet: The story of village Ashapurna

Story of this leaflet tells how Ashapurna turned into a model village where government and non-government service providers are accountable to people. RTI Act has been used as the tool of fulfilling people's hopes and aspirations. This learning material particularly targets the school children as RTI Act is included in the text book of classes 9 and 10. Queries about right to information are met through a question and answer session in a classroom situation.

These leaflets have been printed on a three-fold sheet of paper with some illustrations and graphics. Contact number of MRDI's RTI help desk has been mentioned at the bottom of the last page of the leaflets.



Comic book: Piku, Pakalay and the crazy bus

This comic book presents a success case of implementation of the RTI Act in an entertaining manner. The story tells how RTI can prevent irregularity and corruption. It also shows unwillingness of some officials to disclose information.

Poster on RTI

The colourful poster illustrates a message on the strength of information. The slogan is - Information removes darkness and brings in the tune of change.



CAPACITY BUILDING

RTI Awareness Raising and Training Support Activities

The World Bank, through its partnership with DFID commissioned MRDI to implement activities that provide technical assistance for the effective implementation of the RTI Act in Bangladesh. Strategic underpinning of this program is working with two major stakeholders of this project - Cabinet Division and Information Commission for developing capacity in terms of responsiveness to RTIA requests and proactive disclosure of information, consistent with the rules and regulations under the RTIA. The final outcome of the project is strengthened RTI Act implementation process through supply-side capacity development and providing knowledge advisory support and technical assistance to increase proactive disclosure.



Performance Highlights

During the reporting year, following activities were accomplished for capacity building.

1. Knowledge sharing meeting with DAC: In continuation of its partnership with the World Bank, daylong Knowledge sharing and interaction meetings were organized for the 10 district advisory committee members for facilitating them to perform their responsibilities effectively and make a smooth pathway of RTI implementation at the local level. The meeting aimed to indentify the knowledge gap of the DAC members about the act and clarify their misconceptions; give them clear understanding about information classification and management system and help them to find out different strategies they can imply for creating the RTI awareness. A total of 152 members took part in the meetings.

2. Proactive disclosure manual: MRDI has developed a manual on proactive disclosure guideline (PDG) in the reporting year. The manual is meant to assist the ministries, divisions and offices in developing their Proactive Disclosure Guideline. Government bodies will be able to develop their guidelines following this document. This will, in fact, ensure a wider practice of government policy to promote free flow of information. The guideline has also been handed over to the Cabinet Division.

3. Technical assistance to develop PDG of two ministries: Two separate daylong workshops were organized with the ministries of Women & Children Affairs and Expatriates Welfare & Overseas Employment. The workshop aimed to help the ministries develop their proactive disclosure guideline. Chief Information Commissioner, Information Commissioner, Secretaries of concerned ministries, Former Secretary (Coordination and Reforms), Cabinet Division and other dignitaries put their opinions in the workshops. Later, technical assistance was given to these ministries for finalizing their guidelines. The guidelines are available in the website of two ministries

Participation, Capacity Building, Transparency: Strengthening journalism in Bangladesh

MRDI continued its partnership with DW Akademie for modernizing journalism teaching in Bangladesh. This year curriculum of the department of Communication and Journalism of Chittagong University was reviewed and workshop on teaching and learning at tertiary level was organized for the teachers of the department of Mass Communication and Journalism (DoMCJ) of Rajshahi University.



Performance Highlights

1. Review of curriculum: At this phase MRDI worked for reviewing curriculum of the department of Communication and Journalism of Chittagong University in line with modern journalism technique. Interaction meetings with the teachers and focus group discussion with present and former students of the department were conducted to suggest revisions in a participatory way.

2. Workshop on teaching and learning at tertiary level: Workshop on teaching and learning at tertiary level was held for the teachers of the department of Mass Communication and Journalism (DoMCJ) of Rajshahi University. Sixteen teachers of the department participated in the workshop in two batches. Expert from DW and a local training expert conducted the three day workshop with support from other ToT experts of Bangladesh.



3. Internship for RU students: To ensure practical experience of working knowledge in national media houses before starting professional career internship was offered to the students of DoMCJ, Rajshahi University. The Academic Committee of DoMCJ, selected 10 students through an internal process. Through intensive monitoring and supervision of MRDI these students completed their 3 month internship in 4 newspapers and 3 TV channels. During the internship period interns also attended ten follow-up sessions organized by MRDI's training institute INFOCUS.

RESEARCH

Exploring young mind: News literacy and ethics in child reporting

Since news literacy is a new issue in Bangladesh, the current situation in this area needs to be assessed through a methodical study. Conceptual understanding of the issue, expectation and reaction of the readers on reliability and ethical practice in reporting should be assessed and interventions applied for improvement.

As an activity of this project MRDI in partnership with UNICEF Bangladesh took up a situation assessment of the level of news literacy. The study aims to identify the existing situation of news literacy and ethical conception of readers with particular focus on young people and generate recommendations to improve the situation. Quantitative methodologies like interviews of media stakeholders and key informants and qualitative techniques like focus group discussions and consultations with experts have been applied to conduct the study.

Performance Highlights:

Following methodologies have been applied in carrying out the assessment.

- ▶ Interview with questionnaire: Interview of 140 respondents (70 boys and girls & 70 from other segments of the population) were taken with a set of questionnaire to identify their perception of news value, reliability and ethical aspects of reporting. Dhaka and six divisional towns were covered.
- Focus group discussion (FGD): A total of 7 FGD sessions were organized in Dhaka and six divisions involving different groups including journalist, children, indigenous community, cultural activists, parents, young professionals and NGO representatives. Participants were different from the respondents of interviews.
- Consultation meetings: Two consultations comprising 30 participants in each were organized in Dhaka involving heterogeneous groups consisting media owners, newsroom managers, activists, academics and civil society members on news literacy. Representatives from three divisions and Dhaka participated in each meeting.
- Key Informant Interview (KII): Interview of thirty five key informants from both the media and the readers were taken with a semi-structured set of questionnaire to collect their views on the current situation of news literacy and potential interventions for improvement. Minister, government official, newspaper editors, academics, intelligentsia and civil society members were involved in the process.

Based on the one to one interviews, FGDs, KIIs and consultations a report has been drafted by the research team. The report will be printed and distributed in next fiscal.

Participation, Capacity Building, Transparency: Strengthening journalism in Bangladesh

MRDI in partnership with DW Akademie conducted the second phase of situation analysis and sustainability study of community radio of southern and western regions of Bangladesh. Like the first phase, this time also 7 radio stations were covered.

Performance Highlights:

1. Stations visited under this assessment were Radio Nalta in Satkhira, Radio Sundarban in Khulna, Radio Jhenuk in Jhenidah, Lokobetar & Krishi Radio in Barguna, Radio Bikrampur in Munshiganj and Radio Pollikontho in Moulovibazar.

2. Review of relevant documents, Focus Group Discussion (FGD) sessions, interview of key informants and Strength, Weakness, Opportunities and Challenges (SWOC) analysis methodologies were applied to produce important observations, recommendations and comments.

A compiled report of the study has been prepared which is available at



RTI Awareness Raising and Training Support Activities

The World Bank, through its partnership with DFID commissioned MRDI to conduct an assessment of Proactive Disclosure by the ministries. The assessment aimed to provide a quantitative score for level of proactive disclosure and make it easy to see where a particular public body is falling short on proactively disclosing information, and thereby make recommendations for improvement for disclosing specific information.



Performance Highlights:

During the reporting year, a study was conducted to assess the information proactively disclosed in the website by 54 major ministries and divisions of the government which was handed over to the Cabinet Division.

CSR for Advancement and Social Emancipation (CASE) Phase-2

To strengthen advocacy for CSR among different stakeholders and expand the field of CSR operations as a mainstream tool for social development, MRDI under the second phase of CSR for Advancement and Social Emancipation (CASE) project in partnership with Bangladesh Bank conducted two research studies.

Performance Highlights:

1. One study on CSR fund usage by banks has been conducted to assess the visible impact and effectiveness of CSR interventions in the target community. Document review, questionnaire interview and case study methodologies were applied.

The report is available at



2. Another research has been done for analyzing the situation of two disaster prone areas in which CSR intervention can address the sufferings of the vulnerable people. These are one village of the coastal district of Bhola and three villages in the Sundarbans area. Review of relevant documents, questionnaire based survey, Focus Group Discussion (FGD), Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) and Key Informant Interview (KII) methodologies have been applied in carrying out the research. A video documentary was produced during the research a copy of which has been tagged with the report.

The report is available at





3. A ceremony was organized at the Bangladesh Bank office to disseminate the findings and hand over the report to the Governor of Bangladesh Bank. Deputy Governor, Executive Directors of Bangladesh Bank, Managing Directors and CEOs of different banks were present in the programme.

CSR INTERVENTIONS IN THE FIELD

Several CSR interventions have been implemented during the reporting year and are still going on. Though operated in very limited areas, these initiatives have been able to create some visible changes in the target communities. Success of these interventions can inspire other corporate houses to come forward with support to those communities who are in real need. This part of the report highlights the result of each CSR intervention.

Livelihood programme for women - Phase 2



Success of the livelihood programme for women at Jessore resulted in its continuation to the second phase.

MRDI's partnership with the City Bank Limited has brought positive changes in the community in terms of standard of living, family health condition, children's education and most of all empowerment of women. Basatpur Women and Children Development Organization (Somity) established through this initiative is now running independently.

Second phase of the initiative has been implemented during the reporting period.

Performance Highlights

Training on stitching and tailoring for the second batch of the somity members has been completed. Total of 80 women developed skills in tailoring and hand embroidery through the training.



Visible impact

- This CSR intervention since beginning has created job opportunity for a total of 175 women of the community in two phases.
- Empowered women are now contributing to their family income.
- Living standards of these families have gone up.

Support for secondary level girl students in the northern region



School enrollment of girl students at school has improved because of awareness and free tuition. In remote areas, distance of secondary school from home is a barrier for the girl students to continue education. Many girls drop out after primary education.

The City Bank limited under its CSR initiative provided support to girl students of Rangpur district to overcome the transportation barrier in partnership with MRDI.

Performance Highlights

1. Ten selected secondary school girls of two upazilas of Rangpur received bicycle through a handover ceremony.



Visible impact

▶ The initiative helped 10 girls of remote villages continue their education. This example is likely to encourage other business houses come up with similar initiatives.



Educational support for poor students

To ensure total development of the families of the empowered women, and initiative was taken to provide educational assistance to their children with the support of the City Bank Limited. This five year partnership of MRDI with The City Bank aims to provide financial support to the children of low income families for continuing education.

Performance Highlights

1. A total of 66 (30 boys and 36 girls) children have been provided support to continue their education.

2. Special coaching classes for the students of classes V, VIII and X are going on to facilitate students in their preparation for the certificate exams.

3. Provided board exam fees for the SSC students.



Visible impact

- Sixty six four children at the risk of dropping out from school continued education
- Two students got GPA 5 in PSC exam, five students got grade A in JSC exam and two SSC examinees got grade A.



Educational support for Dalit Community in Jessore

Dalit Community is not a caste or a group of castes, but a group of population marginalized to the extreme by partly religious sanctions and partly by social and economic deprivations. The word 'Dalit' literally means deprived. They are socially and economically deprived and forced to work under deplorable conditions at the lowest return of their labour. Their children have hardly any opportunity for institutional education.

Performance Highlights

1. Some furniture and educational materials have been purchased for pre-primary schools.

2. Eleven meritorious students of the Dalit community studying at the higher secondary and graduation levels received monthly scholarship for one year.

3. Five teachers teaching at pre-primary schools got monthly salary for one year.



Visible impact

Ensured continuation of education for 150 students of pre-primary school and 11 students of higher secondary and graduation levels.

Health programme for Char Patila



you can bank on us

MRDI with the CSR funding support of Mutual Trust Bank (MTB) has developed infrastructure of a primary school at a remote offshore village Char Patila in the district of Bhola which facilitated schooling of deprived children. People of this remote community including women and children are also deprived of health services. MTB came forward with support to provide primary health care services to these people in partnership with MRDI.

Performance Highlights

1. 22 visits by doctor took place during the reporting period. Total 986 patients availed free health check up.

2. Two refresher courses for birth attendants were organized. Ten birth attendants who attended the foundation course participated in these sessions.

3. Regular health services for pregnant women and newborn babies are being delivered through the doctor's visit.



Safe water for the Sundarbans people



MRDI's previous efforts for providing safe water to the villagers of the Sundarbans through pond re-excavation in partnership with Bank AI-Falah produced some positive results, which was not at the desired level. Rain water harvesting in a hygienic manner has been found as the most effective method for ensuring supply of safe water for several months of the year. Keeping this in mind, MRDI partnered with Bank AI-Falah to provide plastic water tank to the families of the village to preserve rain water.

Performance Highlights

1. Each of the 140 families of the villages Bon Laudob, Koilasgonj and Dhangmari received one plastic water tank with a capacity of 1200 liters through a handing over ceremony.



Visible result

800 people of 140 families living in the Sundarbans villages have storage of safe water that can be used for three / four months after the monsoon.

Supporting educational institution at Char Mujibnagar at Bhola



<mark>គ្រី៣ខ្មែ°ភ ឧក</mark>ុទ្ធា**(ភ្វុំ ភា កោតែ៤៤ច** RELIANCE INSURANCE LIMITED

Reliance Insurance Limited has been providing infrastructure development support to two primary schools at Char Mujibnagar under Char Fassion upazila of Bhola district. The company continued its support during the reporting year.

Performance Highlights

1. Paschim Char Manohor Government Primary School purchased necessary furniture and constructed the school veranda.

- 2. Madha Char Manohor Government Primary School shifted class rooms and purchased necessary furniture.
- 3. Both the schools received teacher's salary of four teachers including the headmaster for one year.



Visible result

> Primary education for around 800 children of this remote area facilitated.

Understanding finance by the youth and the female garment factory workers



Financial literacy is the ability of understanding how money works, balancing between income & expenditure, importance of savings and investments. It makes a person skilled and wise to take decision on using financial resources.

Student life is the learning period. This is the appropriate time to adopt good practices. Knowledge acquired during this period is expected to sustain throughout the life. On the other hand female garment workers have a substantial contribution to the country's economic growth. More than 4 million people, most of them women of low income families, are working in the sector. Located mostly in urban areas these women get salaries, spend for themselves and send a portion to their families living in the village. But these women need to have a basic concept about procedure and system of bank transaction scopes of saving.

HSBC came forward with an initiative to provide basic financial literacy among the school children and the female garment workers. This year MRDI signed an agreement with HSBC as a partner for implementing this project.

Publication of CSR Review

MRDI published the 14th volume of its newsletter CSR Review with the support of Mutual Trust Bank Ltd. and the 15th volume with the support of Arab Bangladesh Bank Limited.







মিউচুয়াল ট্রাস্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড Mutual Trust Bank Ltd. you can bank on us

Opportunities and challenges

In carrying out the programmes and activities, MRDI received support from different quarters and also utilized opportunities during the reporting year. Challenges were also there which had to be addressed to attain the goal and objective of the initiatives.

Cooperation of the state level institutions and offices like National Human Rights Commission, Information Commission and Cabinet Division immensely facilitated MRDI implement its programmes on time. Presence of dignitaries in the events and programmes enhanced credibility of the initiative and created greater impact on the target audience. Cooperation of the administration at the district and upazila levels directly contributed to achieve the goals. Community support and cooperation of the elected representatives played a vital role in reaching the beneficiaries with positive results of the programmes.

Overall programmes including potential initiatives are being affected due to a trend of decline in donor funding around the globe. Expectations from MRDI have gone up in terms of quality and effectiveness of programmes. Constraint of resources has appeared as a barrier to meeting the expectations.

Contributions to MRDI's programmes and other organizations

1. Two issues of the newsletter Tottho Prokash have been published with the own resources of MRDI.

2. Human resource support to three somities of Sundarbans and one in Basatpur, Jessore by providing salary and benefits of two personnel.

3. Contributed to implementation of MJF funded project.

4. Financial assistance to Information Commission for annual retreat.

5. Support to Diplomatic Correspondents Association of Bangladesh for their annual programme.

6. Support to the students of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism of Rajshahi University for their annual retreat.

7. Support to debating club of Daffodil International University for their annual debate festival.

ED attends Global Media Forum

Executive Director of MRDI Hasibur Rahman and 8 teachers of the journalism and departments of Rajshahi University and Chittagong University participated in the ninth Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum in Germany's capital Bonn. In addition to the representatives of media the forum brings actors from the fields of politics, culture, business, development cooperation and science from all over the world with a view to finding solutions to challenges posed by globalization.

More than 2,000 experts representing over 100 nations flocked to the highly-anticipated congress - Germany's sole media conference - which offers a lively three-day forum on media, politics and society.

The exclusive media event highlighted courageous achievements of international journalists, awarding the Freedom of Speech Award to Hurriyet's editor-in-chief Sedat Ergin for his defense of freedom of the press in Turkey. The Global Media Forum also hosted Deutsche Welle's Bobs Awards ceremony, which honors online activists.

The forum participants observed that freedom of speech and freedom of the press are increasingly facing limitations over the world in order to counter the culture of disinformation and manipulation. "We need to rethink the way in which we perceive, demonstrate and spread our values. Changes will take place only when people are able to communicate freely", they told.

A concern was expressed about the probability that the freedom of the press can also be undermined by journalists themselves if they don't research with due diligence, if they copy without checking the facts, or if they scandalize every harmless occurrence.

Disclosure of decisions by the board

1. Based on the competitive bidding, the 12th AGM appointed Howladar Yunus & Co. Chartered Accountants as auditor for conducting the audit of MRDI consolidated financial statements for the FY 2015-2016

2. The AGM authorized Executive Director to appoint Howladar Yunus & Co. Chartered Accountants or ACNABIN for auditing the project accounts with the remuneration mentioned in the project budget.

3. As per clause 34 of the articles of association of MRDI, three Directors Rokia Afzal Rahman, Farid Hossain and Kajal Kanti Sengupta retired from the board. They were elected as director again as per section 92 of the companies act 1994.

4. As per clause 47 of the articles of association Mr. Inam Ahmed was elected as chairman of the board of directors for the tenure 2015-2016 to 2016-2017.

5. As per clause 34 of the articles of association the members of MRDI appointed Mr. Hasibur Rahman as Executive Director of MRDI for the tenure 2015-2016 to 2016-2017 and fixed salary and benefit of the Executive Director for the FY 2015-2016.

6. The AGM reappointed Mr. Farid Hossain, Director of MRDI as the CEO of the INFOCUS for 1 (One) year with effect from November 2015.

7. Amendments were made in the clause vii of MRDI Memorandum of Association and Article 64 of Articles of Association regarding winding up of MRDI.

8. The board approved the revised information disclosure policy of MRDI. The language of the policy is Bangla for easy understanding of all stakeholders.

List of policy documents

- 1. Administrative and financial manual
- 2. Human resource (HR) policy
- 3. Gender policy
- 4. Information disclosure policy

RTI Help Desk

MRDI is operating a help desk to provide assistance to information seekers and providers using the RTI Act. The desk facilitates individuals and organizations submit application to the authority for information, appeal to the proper authority and complain to the Information Commission in case the desired information is not provided. It also provides suggestion to designated officers if they need any such assistance.

The desk primarily aims to facilitate journalists dig out information for investigative reporting and also to assist CSOs help their beneficiaries to go through the process of seeking information.

The desk provided assistance to both the seekers and providers of information under the RTI Act. During the reporting year a total of 41 such assistances were provided. Applicants received assistance in the procedure of seeking information using the RTI Act including application, appeal and complaint. Follow up support has also been given.

MRDI Board of Directors

(As of 30 June 2016)

Name	Position	Profession
Inam Ahmed	Chairman	Journalism
Hasibur Rahman	Executive Director	Private Service
Rokia Afzal Rahman	Director	Entrepreneurship
Farid Hossain	Director	Journalism
Sakiul Millat Morshed	Director	Private Service
Md. Abdur Rahim	Director	Private Service
M. Emamul Haque	Director	Private Service
Syed Ishtiaque Reza	Director	Journalism
Kajal Kanti Sengupta	Director	Private Service

MRDI Adviser

Name	Designation
Md. Shahid Hossain	Adviser, Planning and Development
Md. Nazrul Islam	Adviser, Governance and Policy Planning

MRDI staffs

Name & Designation	Responsibilities
Abdul Gofur Manager Finance	Responsible for preparation of capital and revenue budget; financial analysis of the organization; budgetary control; analyzing the cash/fund flow and investment opportunity; monitoring accounts department and their works; organize external audits, deal with the NGO Affairs Bureau, discharge responsibilities as a member of procurement committee and any other duties assigned by the Executive Director.
Sk. Shaniaz Ahmed Assistant Manager Finance	Deputed as accounts coordinator in the project 'Promoting Citizen's Access to Information' and responsible for maintaining accounts of all expenditures of the project activity and bank account of the project. Preparing financial reports according to the format and time frame; facilitating programme team regarding the financial transaction of the programs; taking care of project administrative work relevant to finance; maintaining liaison with MJF and other relevant parties.
Rashid Naim Coordinator Program Development	Responsible for overseeing the implementation of MRDI's projects and develop concepts for further growth of MRDI. Deputed as Project Manager to the project "RTI awareness raising and training" supported by The World Bank with the responsibility of management and implementation of the project activities.

MRDI staffs

Name & Designation	Responsibilities
Hamidul Islam Hillol Senior Programme Officer	Deputed as programme coordinator in the project 'Promoting Citizen's access to Information' and responsible for implementing all the project activities; taking necessary advices and guidance from the technical expert and team leader; keeping track of the action plan; review the progress of activities, supervise staff members and take necessary measure to ensure timely implementation of the activities; participate in field level activities as per demand of the project; maintaining liaison with MJF, ministries & relevant government offices, NGOs and local coordinators of MRDI for successful implementation of the interventions; prepare project reports as per schedule.
Aktarun Naher Senior Programme Officer	Deputed as training and monitoring coordinator of the project 'Promoting Citizen's access to Information' in 75% of her working time and responsible to monitor the activities and work in collaboration with the PC in implementation of the project activities; participate in field level activities as per demand of the project; maintaining liaison with MJF, ministries & relevant government offices, NGOs and local coordinators of MRDI for successful implementation of the interventions in collaboration with PC; facilitate the PC in preparing project reports as per schedule. As Senior Programme Officer of MRDI she is responsible to coordinate and supervise the overall programme related activities of the organization in consultation with the supervisor, maintain effective communication with the
	donor/s, NGO affairs bureau and others as determined by MRDI management.
Mohammad Sahil Senior Programme Officer	Responsible to coordinate and supervise the overall programme related activities of the organization in consultation with the supervisor; responsible to maintain website and the server of MRDI; coordinate and supervise with all the vendors and suppliers related to IT.
Md. Mizanur Rahman Assistant Manager Administration	Responsible for overall administration related activities of the organization; look after the maintenance of the office premise and ensure the facilities of the employees.
Md. Mominul Islam Assistant Manager, Finance	Responsible to maintain books of accounts, prepare required financial report and statements for financial analysis; prepare budget as per requirement; perform duties and responsibilities assigned by the supervisor.
Khadiza Begum Assistant Programme Officer	Deputed as programme coordinator in the project Exploring young mind: News literacy and ethics in child reporting. Responsible to work in various activities of MRDI and its projects. Assist senior staff members as per requirement.
Mahbub Masum Assistant Monitoring Officer	Responsible to monitor print and electronic media on the basis of project needs. Assist senior staff members as per requirement.
Minhaz Sheikh, Office Junior	Providing support services as per requirement.
Hamida Begum, Office Junior	Providing support services as per requirement.
Mohammad Siraj	Responsible for natural beautification of MRDI

Designated Information Officer under RTIA

Name	: Hamidul Islam Hillol
Designation	: Senior Programme Officer
Tel	: +880 2 9134717, +880 2 9137147
Fax	: +880 2 9134717 Ext-110
E-mail	: hamidul.islam@mrdibd.org

Alternative Designated Information Officer under RTIA

Name	:	Aktarun Naher
Designation	:	Senior Programme Officer
Tel	:	+880 2 9134717, +880 2 9137147
Fax	:	+880 2 9134717 Ext-102
E-mail	:	aktarun.naher@mrdibd.org

Appellate Authority under RTIA

Name	: Hasibur Rahman
Designatio	on : Executive Director
Tel	: +880 2 9134717, +880 2 9137147
Fax	: +880 2 9134717 Ext-111
E-mail	: hasibur.rahman@mrdibd.org

PUBLICATIONS IN THE YEAR

Research report

- Waiting for Change: CSR interventions in climate change affected areas
- Impact Assessment: CSR Fund Usage by Banks





Guideline

Journalist Guideline on



Leaflet

- RTI awareness for rural households.
- RTI awareness for urban workers
- RTI awareness for students





Comic book Piku Pekale Ar Pagla Bus.



Poster





Annual Report 2014-2015

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

MRDI has been demonstrating a transparent financial management and maintaining a scientific and reliable accounting system. Committed and efficient finance team has been able to keep up the reputation with the support of the management. A strong internal control system has been established. Policy documents like financial and administrative manual, HR policy, gender policy, information disclosure policy are now in place for its managerial operations. MRDI meticulously abides by the law of the land and regulations of the concerned regulatory authorities.

MRDI maintains required books of accounts and related records in accordance with the Bangladesh Accounting standard using the double entry book keeping system. Software based accounting system has been introduced from the fiscal 2013-2014. Management and control of all funds, assets, procurement and expenditure are done through a very transparent and controlled system complying with the in-house policies, rules and regulations.

Separate books and documents are maintained for the individual and independent projects.

During the financial year 2015-2016 MRDI finance team maintained 9 separate sets of books of accounts. One set for total transactions of the organization which produce consolidated financial statements and the other 8 sets for the individual projects.

The financial statements of MRDI reflect the true and fair view of the financial position and are free of material misstatement.

In 2015-2016 MRDI received fund from the following funding authorities/organizations:

Funding Authority	Amount in Taka
Bangladesh Bank	1,451,493
Manusher Jonno Foundation	6,874,432
Unicef	7,480,116
Deutsche Welle Akademie	4,374,157
Mutual Trust Bank Ltd.	1,590,473
The City Bank Ltd.	1,454,356
Bank Al Falah Ltd.	999,810
HSBC	2,642,379
Reliance Insurance Ltd.	550,000
The World Bank	11,710,481
Sundarbans Women Association	262,500
Total	39,390,197.00

MRDI meticulously follows the government policy and procedures as well as standards in all spheres of its programme and administration. In particular the income tax and VAT are deducted as per the income tax and VAT at ordinance. MRDI has its own TAX Identity and updated regarding the submission of tax return.

During 2015-2016 MRDI deducted at source and deposited the following amounts of money in the government treasury:

VAT	Tk.	764,492.00
Tax	Tk. 1	,169,863.00

Howladar Yunus & Co.

Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) Independent Auditors' Report and Financial Statements For the year ended June 30, 2016

November 01, 2016

Chartered Accountants Correspondent firm of Grant Thornton International Ltd.



SI.	Particulars	Page
1	Independent Auditors' Report	01
2	Balance Sheet	03
3	Statement of Income and Expenditure	04
4	Statement of Receipts and Payments	05
5	Notes to the Financial Statements	06
6	Schedule of Property, Plant & Equipment (Annexure-A)	15
7	Statement of FDR (Annexure-B)	16
8	Programme Cost (Annexure-C)	17
9	Statement of FDR of Gaon Swapna (Annexure-D)	18
10	Schedule of Outstanding Liabilities (Annexure-E)	19
11	Tax Liabilities and Advance Tax Position (Annexure-F)	20
12	Related Party Transaction (Annexure-G)	21

Howladar Yunus & Co.

Gulshan Office

Howladar Yunus & Co. House - 14 (4th floor) Road - 16A, Guishan - 1 Dhaka - 1212 Bangladesh

T +88 (0)2 9883863 F +88 (0)2 9652969 www.howladaryunus.com

Independent Auditors' Report *** To The Board of Directors of Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI)

We have audited the accompanying Financial Statements of Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI), which comprise the statement of financial position as at June 30, 2016, and the related statement of income and expenditure and statement of receipts and payments for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and the fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the significant accounting policies described in Note- 2 in the financial statements, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Bangladesh Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the Auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and the fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Hand

Chartered Accountants Correspondent firm of Grant Thornton International Ltd.
Howladar Yunus & Co.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) as at June 30, 2016 and its financial performance for the year than ended in accordance with the significant accounting policies described in Note- 2 in the financial statements.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In accordance with the Companies Act, 1994 and other applicable laws and regulations we also report the following:

(a) we have obtained all the information and explanation which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit;

(b) in our opinion, proper books of accounts as required by law have been kept by the Company so far as it appeared from our examination of those books; and

(c) the company's balance sheet and profit and loss account dealt with by the report are in agreement with the books of account and returns.

Janua

Chartered Accountants

Dated: Dhaka November 01, 2016

Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) Balance Sheet As at June 30, 2016

Particulars	Note	2015-2016 Taka	2014-2015 Taka
PROPERTY AND ASSETS			
Non-current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	4	657,213	1,026,896
Intangible Assets	5	49,920	74,880
		707,133	1,101,776
Current Assets			
Receivables from Donor	6	1,306,069	125,800
Advance and Prepayments	7	1,749,621	1,978,108
Stock of RTI Books & Gaon Swapna products	28	397,268	295,022
Financial Assets	8	3,933,415	4,582,377
Cash and Cash Equivalents	9	6,802,926	7,605,499
		14,189,299	14,586,806
TOTAL PROPERTY AND ASSETS		14,896,432	15,688,582
FUND AND LIABILITIES			
Fund			
Capital Fund	10	5,984,966	4,701,204
Gaon Swapna Fund	11	1,590,015	1,145,159
Unutilized Project Fund	12	5,961,106	6,688,304
,		13,536,087	12,534,667
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Outstanding Liabilities	13	1,360,294	2,181,440
Loan from Southeast Bank Ltd.	14	51	972,475
		1,360,345	3,153,915
TOTAL FUNDS AND LIABILITIES		14,896,432	15,688,582
TOTAL FUNDS AND LIADILITIES		14,070,432	13,088,382

The annexed notes (1 to 28) form an integral part of these financial statements

Chairman

12. 61 Executive Director

Signed as per our annexed report of even date

a Frue

Chartered Accountants

Dated: Dhaka November 01, 2016

Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) Statement of Income and Expenditure For the year ended June 30, 2016

Particulars	Note	2015-2016 Taka	2014-2015 Taka
Income			
Grant Income	16	41,160,964	37,041,426
Local Contribution		262,500	-
Interest on Bank Deposits	17	336,589	393,756
Other Income		490,970	-
		42,251,023	37,435,182
Expenditure			
Programme Cost	18	24,578,600	23,456,317
Salary and Benefits	19	11,277,688	10,159,876
Office Rent	20	1,971,000	1,962,000
Transportation and Conveyance	21	497,760	494,892
Phone, Fax, Internet, Postage etc.	22	384,212	371,641
Utility and Service Charges	23	253,469	260,710
Repair and Office Maintenance		258,767	277,094
Printing and Stationery	24	175,073	218,863
Newspapers, Periodicals and TV News Clipping		171,755	185,800
Advertisement Expenses		121,800	-
Donation and Assistance		50,000	240,400
Programme Planning		11,701	66,516
Audit Fees	25	132,250	115,000
Professional Fees	26	160,000	163,286
Staff Capacity Building		-	10,000
Registration & renewal		-	25,000
CSR Review and RTI Newsletter		165,500	65,600
Bank Charges		20,029	14,445
Interest on Bank Loan		140,366	42,580
Loss on disposal of Property, Plant and Equipment	27	32,739	-
Depreciation on Fixed Assets (Annex-A)		473,127	726,778
Amortization of Software		24,960	24,960
Provision for Income Tax	-	66,634	14,376
		40,967,430	38,896,134
Excess/(Short) of Income over Expenditure		1,283,593	(1,460,952)
		42,251,023	37,435,182

The annexed notes (1 to 28) form an integral part of these financial statements

Chairman

Ls. L Executive Director

Executive Dilec

Signed as per our annexed report of even date

1 France

Chartered Accountants

Dated: Dhaka November 01, 2016

Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) Statement of Receipts and Payments For the year ended June 30, 2016

Particulars	2015-2016 Taka	2014-2015 Taka
Opening Balance		
Cash in Hand	36,000	15,434
Cash at Bank	7,569,499	6,124,738
	7,605,499	6,140,172
Receipts		
Advance and Prepayments	1,332,903	1,564,293
Donor Fund Received	39,390,197	42,432,174
Loan from Executive Director	750,000	(71 500
Loan from Southeast Bank Limited, Mohammadpur Br. Contributory Provident Fund	6,653,626	671,590
Interest on Bank Deposits	297,630	237,163 347,795
Receipts against Receivables from Donor	125,800	114,808
Directors Entry Fee and Subscription	5,500	3,000
Gaon Swapna Fund Account	392,648	1,074,156
Sale of Gaon Swapna Products	254,429	-
Received against previous years expenditure	210	319,928
Encashment of FDR # 1224400023458 & 005424100000089	2,934,441	1,539,852
Sale of old Assets	12,294	
Other Receipts	2,670	
	52,152,348	48,304,759
	59,757,847	54,444,931
Payments		al de la constant de
Advance and Prepayments	1,104,416	2,948,123
Investment in FDR	2,204,701	285,791
Programme Cost	24,175,518	23,100,834
Salary and Benefits	11,277,688	9,973,876
Office Rent	1,962,000	1,782,000
Payment of Outstanding Liabilities (Annex-E)	1,168,378	2,244,546
Transportation and Conveyance Phone, Fax, Internet, Postage	497,760 375,443	494,892 358,377
Utility and Service Charges	244,949	247,305
Repair and Office Maintenance	258,767	277,094
Printing and Stationery	130,073	139,863
Newspapers, Periodicals and TV news Clipping	171,755	185,800
Donation and Assistance	50,000	240,400
Purchase of Fixed Assets	148,477	78,180
Programme Planning	11,701	66,516
Repayment of loan to Executive Director	750,000	450,000
Repayment of loan to Southeast Bank Ltd., Mohammadpur Br.	7,626,050	-
Contributory Provident Fund	-	416,245
Audit Fee and Other Professional Fees		3,286
Staff Capacity Building	-	10,000
Registration & Renewal		25,000
CSR Review and RTI Newsletter	165,500	65,600
Purchase of RTI Act book 2009	-	67,542
Bank Charges	20,029	14,445
Interest on Bank Loan	140,366	42,580
Refunded the unutilised fund of BSRM	340 570	2,895,860
Gaon Swapna Operational Expenses	349,550	425,277
Advertisement Expenses	121,800 52,954,921	46,839,432
Closing Balance	32,734,721	40,037,432
Cash in Hand	36,000	36,000
Cash at Bank	6,766,926	7,569,499
	6,802,926	7,605,499
	59,757,847	54,444,931

Chairman



12. 4 Executive Director

1.00 Background

1.01 Legal form of the Organization

Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) is a multidisciplinary, Not for Profit, Non-Government Organization engaged to a wide spectrum of social development activities and seeks to render services to national and international organizations, both in the public and the private sector. MRDI is registered with the office of the Registrar of the Joint Stock Companies and Firms, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh under Section 28 of the Companies Act 1994 having incorporation # C-544 (57)/2003 dated May 13, 2003 as a Company limited by guarantee. It is also registered with the NGO affairs Bureau having registration # 1962 dated September 21, 2004 under the Foreign Donations Regulation Ordinance 1978 which was renewed on November 12, 2014 for a period of 5 years upto 20.09.2019.

The registered office of the organization was 2/8 Sir Syed Road (Ground floor), Block-A, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207. Currently the organization is sifted to 8/19 Sir Syed Road (3rd floor), Block-A, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207.

1.02 Objectives of the Organization

To endeavour for developing the starndards of media, skills and ethics of media professions, physical and mental health and well-being of the people and empowerment of women, adolscenets, children, minority and other marginalized sections of the population.

2.00 Significant Accounting Policies

2.01 Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared and presented in accordance with

a) Bangladesh Financial Reporting Standards (BFRS)

b) Other relevant laws and regulations applicable in Bangladesh

Authorization for issue

The financial statements were authorized for issue by the Board of Directors of the company on 31 October, 2016

2.02 Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared using accrual basis of accounting on going concern basis except statement of receipts and payments.

2.03 Property, Plant and Equipment

The cost of an item of Property, Plant and Equipment is recognized as an asset if, it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the organization and the cost of item can be measured reliably. Property, Plant and Equipment are stated at cost and accumulated depreciation is shown separately. Cost represents the cost of acquisition includes purchase price and other directly attributable cost of bringing the assets to working conditions for its intended use.



2.04 Depreciation

Depreciation is charged on property, plant and equipment using straight line method. If assets are acquired during the first half of the year then full year depreciation is charged on assets. No depreciation is charged if the fixed assets are acquired during the second half of the year and also in the year of disposal. Depreciation is charged in the following rates:

Property, Plant and Equipment	Rate
Furniture and Fixture	20%
Computer, Printer, Multimedia	33%
Office Equipment	30%
Vehicle	25%
Other Assets	20%

2.05 Intangible Assets

Software:

Software costs are capitalized where it is expected to provide future enduring economic benefits. Capitalization costs include license fees and cost of implementation/system integration services which are capitalized in the year which the relevant software is installed for use.

2.06 Amortization of Intangible Assets Software:

Software is amortized using the straight-line method over the useful life of five years.

2.07 Related Party Transaction

As per BAS 24 "Related Party Disclosures", a related party is a person or entity that is related to the entity that is preparing its financial statements. Related party transaction is a transfer of resources, services, or obligations between a reporting entity and a related party, regardless of whether a price is charged as per BAS 24. In case of MRDI, related parties include the directors, key management personnel, associates, companies under common directorship etc. as per BAS 24 "Related Party Disclosures". All transactions involving related parties arising in the normal course of business are conducted at arm's length at normal commercial rates on the same terms and conditions as third party transactions using valuation modes, as admissible.

The details of Related Party Transactions are given as Annexure-G.

2.08 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and Cash Equivalents for the purpose of the receipts and payments comprises of cash and bank

2.09 Investment

Investments are accounted for at cost. No provisions were made in respect of impairment of such Investment. Interest earned on investment in Fixed Deposit Receipts (FDR) before maturity date is recognized as income an accrual basis. When FDR reached in maturity date, Investment in FDRs debited and receivable interest is credited.

2.10 Taxation

In accordance with the provisions of Income Tax Ordinance 1984, all NGOs working in Bangladesh are assessable entities and submission of Income Tax return is mandatory whether the income of any NGO for any year is taxable or not is decided only after regular assessment to be made by the assessing authority. MRDI consider itself an association of persons and submits a return under section-82BB of Income Tax Ordinance 1984.



2.11 Provision for Liabilities

Provision and accrued expenses are recognized in the financial statements when the organization has a present obligation resulting from past events and it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate of the amount can be made.

2.12 Foreign Currency Transactions

MRDI maintains its books of account in Bangladeshi Taka. Transactions in foreign currencies are accounted for in Bangladeshi Taka at the rate of exchange ruling on the date of transactions.

2.13 Grant Income

Bangladesh Accounting Standard (BAS) 20 "Accounting for Government Grants and Disclosure of Government Assistance" has been followed for the recognition of grant income.

2.14 Capital Fund

Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) is registered with the office of the Registrar of the Joint Stock Companies and Firms, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh under Section 28 of the Companies Act 1994 as a company limited by guarantee and without capital. MRDI receives grants/donation from national and international funding agencies based on agreement signed between them. The capital fund represents excess of income over expenditures.

2.15 Gaon swapna fund

MRDI has created this fund from the completed projects "Livelihood programme for Women" implemented for the poor and marginalized women in Bastpur, Jessore and Bonlaodob, Kailashgonj & Dhangmari in the Sundarbans. This fund is meant for the capacity building of the beneficiaries of the projects for betterment of their life and livelihoods. The beneficiaries of the four areas formed four Samities under District Women and Children Affairs Office under the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs. Through Gaon Swapna, MRDI is aiming to showcase and sell the hand made products of the Samities to the people living at urban area and abroad. The objective of Gaon Swapna fund is to generate income for the disadvantaged women under a common brand. The fund is operated following the policy of MRDI. To ensure the transparency of the fund operation, a separate set of books of account along with a separate bank account have been maintained by MRDI which is brought under the external audit.

2.16 Consolidation

The MRDI Consolidated Accounts has been prepared based on the following principals:

- a) Total project cost has been segregated considering the nature of expenditure and booked under the related head of consolidated accounts.
- b) Mutual debts has been adjusted during the consolidation
- c) Balance of fund against unimplemented activities has been shown under unutilized fund.

2.17 Reporting Period

These financial statements covered one year from 01 July to 30 June which is followed consistently.

3.00 General

- i. The figures in the financial statements have been rounded off to the nearest Taka (BDT) whenever necessary.
- ii. Previous year figures have been rearranged wherever considered necessary to conform to the current year's presentation.



Note	Particulars		2015-2016	2014-2015
Note	Particulars		Taka	Taka
4	Property, Plant and Equipment			
•	Opening Balance		5,837,784	5,759,604
	Add: Purchased and Addition during the year (Note: 4.01)		148,477	78,180
	rider i denned and reason during the year (rider nor)		5,986,261	5,837,784
	Less: Disposal during the year		(219,472)	-
			5,766,789	5,837,784
	Less: Accumulated Depreciation		5,109,576	4,810,888
	Written Down Value		657,213	1,026,896
	(Schedule of Property, Plant and Equipment has been g	iven in Annex-A)		
4.01	Purchased during the year			
	Furniture and Fixture		8,398	-
	Office Equipment		37,207	42,780
	Computer, Printer and Multimedia		102,872	5,200
	Project Assets (PCAI)			30,200
5	Town The Access		148,477	78,180
5	Intangible Assets Tally ERP.9 Accounting Software		124,800	124,800
	Less: Accumulated Amortization		74,880	49,920
	Less: Accumulated Amortization		49,920	74,880
6	Receivables from Donors			
•	Payment Receivable from World Bank		1,306,069	
	Payment Receivable from ISPR		1,000,000	125,800
			1,306,069	125,800
7	Advance and Prepayments			
	0	Note: 7.01)	-	-
		Note: 7.02)	53,123	319,471
		Note: 7.03)	988,353	953,992
	Security Money (1	Note: 7.04)	708,145	704,645
7.01	Advance to Staff against Salaries		1,749,621	1,978,108
7.01	Opening Balance			178,000
	Add: Advance Disbursed During the year		-	170,000
	Advance to Staff against Salaries (Hamida Begum)		17,940	
	Advance to Staff against Salaries (Md. Mizanur Rahman)			36,000
	startinee to bailt against balance (stat statuting statuting)		17,940	214,000
	Less: Realized/Adjusted during the year		11010	21 1000
	Staff against Salaries (Hamida Begum)		(17,940)	-
	Staff against Salaries (Md. Hamidul Islam)			(78,000)
	Staff against Salaries (Md. Mizanur Rahman)		-	(36,000)
	Staff against Salaries (Nepal Chandra Sarker)			(100,000)
7.02	Advance for Programme			
	Opening Balance		319,471	747,008
	Add. Paid during the year	CDV D. 1		0.007.000
	Advance to ADORE against Programme Implementation (B		10// 555	2,235,982
	Advance to Gramer Kagoj for Programme Implementation (City Advance to UEVE for Programme Implementation (Mutual True		1,066,555	607,172
	Advance to UDT for Programme Implementation (Mutual Trus Advance Paid	a Dank CSR Project)	1066 555	20,000
	Advance Pan		1,066,555 1,386,026	2,863,154
	(WE C		1,580,026	3,610,162



Note	Particulars		2015-2016 Taka	2014-2015 Taka
	Less: Realized/Adjusted during the year			
	Office Rent (Ahmed Hossain)		-	180,000
	Advance for SCB-Financial Express CSR Award (CSR Pro	ject)	- 1	100,000
	Advance to field for shifting Training centre (CSR Project))	-	40,000
	Advance for Expenses (BB CASE Project)		-	5,000
	Advance to Gramer Kagoj for Programme Implementation (1,332,903	313,701
	Advance to ADORE against Programme Implementation	(BSRM Project)		2,646,990
	Advance against air ticket		-	5,000
	Advance Received		1,332,903	3,290,691
			53,123	319,471
7.03	Advance Income Tax			
	Opening Balance		953,992	606,411
	Add: Tax deducted on Bank Interest during the year		34,361	38,969
			988,353	645,380
	Add: Tax deducted at source by Donor during this year		-	317,707
	Less: Adjustment of Tax		988,353	(9,095) 953,992
	Details of Tax Position is provided in Annex-F		700,000	755,772
7.04	Security Money			
	Opening Balance		704,645	694,645
	Add: Paid during the year (Mobile Security money, Mobile	# 01819200500)	-	10,000
	Add: Paid during the year (Security money for Alpine wate	r supply)	3,500	
			708,145	704,645
8	Financial Assets Investment in FDR:			
	Opening balance		4,582,377	5,790,477
	Add: FDR Opened during the year		1,360,534	3,190,477
	Add: Interest added as investment during the year		137,017	285,791
	Add: Accrued Interest added as investment during the year Add: Accrued Interest added as investment during the year		38,959	45,961
	The recent match water as investment change me year		6,118,887	6,122,229
	Less: Encashment of FDR		(2,934,441)	(1,539,852)
			3,184,446	4,582,377
	Add: FDR against Gaon Swapna Fund		748,969	· · -
			3,933,415	4,582,377
	(A schedule of FDR has been given in Annex-B)			
9	Cash and Cash Equivalents			
	Cash in Hand	(Note: 9.01)	36,000	36,000
	Cash at Bank	(Note: 9.02)	6,766,926	7,569,499
			6,802,926	7,605,499
9.01	Cash in Hand			
	Core Account		20,000	20,000
	Gaon Swapna		5,000	5,000
	PCAI Project (MRDI office, Dhaka)		5,000	5,000
	PCAI Project (Field office, Jessore)		3,000	3,000
	PCAI Project (Field office, Barisal)		3,000	3,000
9.02	Cash at Bank			
	Core Bank Account	(Note: 9.02.1)	238,172	197,367
	Project Bank Balances	(Note: 9.02.2)	6,528,754	7,372,132
	Sull You		6,766,926	7,569,499
	(UV C			



9.02.1 9.02.2	Core Bank Accounts Southeast bank (CD-11100006616), MRDI Mother Account Prime Bank Ltd. (STD 138310800000192), MRDI Operational Account	1,255	
	Southeast bank (CD-11100006616), MRDI Mother Account Prime Bank Ltd. (STD 138310800000192), MRDI Operational Account	1.255	
9.02.2	Prime Bank Ltd. (STD 138310800000192), MRDI Operational Accord		4,296
9.02.2			162,101
9.02.2	Prime Bank Ltd. (STD 13831010026657), MRDI-INFOCUS	1,384	29,629
9.02.2	Prime Bank Ltd. (Savings 13821090028817)	1,504	1,341
9.02.2	THE DESIGN AND CONTROL OF	238,172	197,367
9.02.2	Project Carb and Product Assessments		
	Project Cash and Bank Accounts Prime Bank (STD-13831090026182) MRDI-Bangladesh Bank		1,442,197
	Prime Bank (STD-13831020026760) MRDI-Unicef		534,982
	Prime Bank (STD-13831060024716) MRDI-PCAI	593,012	1,596,428
	Prime Bank (STD-13831010019553) MRDI-CSR	563,593	560,782
	Prime Bank (STD-13831050023915) MRDI-Gaon Swapna	557,771	1,008,494
	Prime Bank (STD-13831090029406) MRDI-City Bank Ltd.	1,426,770	1,828,231
	Prime Bank (STD-13831010028180) MRDI-DW	206,379	401.018
	Prime Bank (STD-13831010031470) MRDI-Unicef	790.605	
	Prime Bank (STD-13831060031929) MRDI-HSBC	2,390,624	-
201		6,528,754	7,372,132
10	Capital Fund	4 701 204	5 000 125
	Opening Balance Add: Excess of Income Over Expenditure	4,701,204	5,882,135
	Previous Years Adjustment Account (Note: 10	.01) 1,283,593 (5,331)	(1,460,952) 277,021
	Directors Subscription	5,500	3,000
	Directors Subscription	5,984,966	4,701,204
10.01	Previous Year's Adjustment Account		
	Previous Years Expenses	(5,331)	279,601
		(5,331)	279,601
	Less: Less booking of Previous year's depreciation less than the actua	al	2,580
		(5,331)	2,580 277,021
11	Gaon Swapna Fund	(0,001)	277,021
	Opening Balance	1,145,159	364,615
	Prior year adjustment	-	60,058
	Add: Fund Received during the year	434,467	687,406
	Add: Profit during the year	10,389	33,080
		1,590,015	1,145,159
12	Unutilized Project Fund	6 699 204	5,267,325
	Opening Balance Fund received during the year (Note-15)	6,688,304	
	Fund receivable from donor	39,390,197 1,306,069	42,432,174 125,800
	Tax deducted at Source on fund given by BRAC	1,500,007	304,950
	The deducer of points of their processing of process	47,384,570	48,130,249
	Less: Expenditure (Note-16)	(41,160,964)	(37,041,426)
	Less: Fund Refunded to donor (BSRM)	-	(4,400,519)
	Less: Local Contribution	(262,500)	
	D. 1 (1	5,961,106	6,688,304
	Details are as follows:		1 442 102
	BB CASE Project	610.012	1,442,197
	PCAI Project UNICEF Project	610,012 790,605	1,613,428 534,982
	The City Bank CSR Project	1,453,893	2,121,702
	Mutual Trust Bank CSR Project	509,593	574,977
	HSBC Project	2,390,624	514,517
	DW Project	206,379	401,018
	(INES)	5,961,106	6,688,304
	$\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \right) \right) $		
			11

Note	Particulars	2015-2016 Taka	2014-2015 Taka
13	Outstanding Liabilities		
	Opening balance	2,181,440	3,637,285
	Add: Addition during the year	835,532	788,701
		3,016,972	4,425,986
	Less: Paid during the year	1,168,378	2,244,546
	Adjustment during the year	488,300	
		1,656,678	2,244,546
	Closing Balance (Annex-E)	1,360,294	2,181,440
14	Loan from Southeast Bank Ltd.		
	Opening Balance	972,475	300,885
	Loan received during the year	6,510,000	2,840,000
	Interest & Charges on Loan	143,626	42,590
	-	7,626,101	3,183,475
	Loan adjusted/Paid during the year	(7,626,050)	(2,211,000)
	Closing Balance	51	972,475

As per decision of the board members of MRDI in the 10th AGM, MRDI has taken an overdraft facility from Southeast Bank Ltd., Mohammadpur Branch, Dhaka. The bank sanctioned OD limit amounting to Tk. 11.00 Lac only for 1 year against the FDR#24100000089 amount Tk. 12.45 Lac. The overdraft facilities renewed on 06.04.2014 and limit enhanced up to Tk. 27.00 lac on 25.05.2015. The limit renewed on 26.04.2016 against lien of FDR#24300002002 and FDR#24400000013.

15	Fund Received during the year		
	Bangladesh Bank	1,451,493	3,532,633
	Manushet Jonno Foundation	6,874,432	8,590,350
	Unicef	7,480,116	4,782,011
	Deutsche Welle Akademie	4,374,157	5,435,038
	Mutual Trust Bank Ltd.	1,590,473	1,150,340
	The City Bank Ltd.	1,454,356	2,784,883
	Bank Al Falah Ltd.	999,810	-
	HSBC	2,642,379	-
	Reliance Insurance Ltd.	550,000	-
	The World Bank	11,710,481	4,407,520
	Sundarbans Women Association	262,500	-
	BSRM		2,979,952
	BHC	-	3,518,706
	BRAC		3,049,500
	The Daily Star	-	150,841
	Samakal	-	100,000
	WFP		1,950,400
	Total	39,390,197	42,432,174
16	Grant Income		
	Bangladesh Bank	2,893,690	4,024,684
	BSRM CSR Fund	-	877,057
	MJF PCAI Project	7,877,848	7,618,760
	UNICEF Project	7,224,493	4,640,644
	BHC	-	3,518,706
	BRAC		3,354,450
	Deutsche Welle Akademie	4,568,796	5,034,020
	Mutual Trust Bank Ltd.	2 (5) 1,655,857	575,363
	The City Bank Ltd.	2,122,165	663,181
		131	1
		9	1.

Note	Particulars	2015-2016 Taka	2014-2015 Taka
	Samakal	-	100,000
	ISPR	-	125,800
	The World Bank	-	4,407,520
	The Daily Star	-	150,841
	WFP	-	1,950,400
	Reliance Insurance Ltd. CSR fund	550,000	-
	Bank Alfalah Ltd. CSR fund	999,810	-
	HSBC CSR Fund	251,755	-
	The World Bank	13,016,550	-
	Total	41,160,964	37,041,426
17	Interest on Bank Deposits		
	Interest received on FDR	286,433	325,395
	Interest received on other Bank accounts	11,197	22,400
		297,630	347,795
	Add: Accrued Interest during the year	38,959	45,961
		336,589	393,756
18	Program Cost		
	Programme Cost as per RP Account	24,185,096	23,100,834
	Add: Outstanding payment	393,504	266,609
	Add: VAT Deduction from Programme Fund	-	19,135
	Add: Adjustment against previous years advance	24 579 (00	69,739
	(Schedule of Program Cost has been given in Annex-C)	24,578,600	23,456,317
19	Staff Salary and Benefits		
	Grade I	2,651,835	3,037,312
	Grade II	3,521,245	2,711,914
	Grade III	4,007,839	3,257,091
	Grade IV-V	706,355	794,835
	Grade VI	390,414	358,724
		11,277,688	10,159,876
20	Office Rent		
	As per RP Account	1,962,000	1,962,000
	Add: Outstanding VAT on office Rent	9,000	
		1,971,000	1,962,000
21	Transportation and Conveyance		
	Local transportation for executive movement	399,128	363,000
	Local transportation for programmatic and administrative movement	65,557	80,725
	Overseas Travel	33,075	51,167
		497,760	494,892
22	Phone, Fax, Internet, Postage etc.		
	Telephone	31,004	34,309
	Mobile phone	99,463	107,135
	Internet	226,550	194,411
	Postage	<u>18,426</u> 375,443	22,522 358,377
	Add: Outstanding		
	Telephone Mobile phone	2,441	3,130
		5,293	10,134
		-	
	Internet (Citycell)	1,035 384,212	371,641

Note	Particulars	2015-2016 Taka	2014-2015 Taka
23	Utility and Service Charges		
	Electricity bill	124,949	127,305
	Office service charges	120,000	120,000
		244,949	247,305
	Add: Outstanding electricity bill	8,520	13,405
		253,469	260,710
24	Printing and Stationery		
	As per RP Account	130,073	139,863
	Add: Outstanding	45,000	79,000
		175,073	218,863
25	Audit Fees		
	Audit Fees for MRDI Consolidated a/c	132,250	115,000
		132,250	115,000
26	Professional Fees		
	Extra expenses for secretarial Service	-	3,286
	Professional fee for Tax Assessment and Company Affairs	160,000	160,000
		160,000	163,286
27	Gain/Loss on Write off of Property, Plant and Equipment		
	Property, Plant and Equipment at Cost	219,472	-
	Less: Sale of Scrap	(12,294)	-
	Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(174,439)	-
	(Gain)/Loss	32,739	
28	Stock of RTI Books & Gaon Swapna products		
	RTI Books	60,278	67,542
	Gaon Swapna products	336,990	227,480
		397,268	295,022

Chairman

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Executive Director



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			-	COST				DEPRECIATION	lion		WRITTEN DOWN VALUE
5	PARTICULARS		During	the year				During	During the year		
°N N		Balance as on 01.07.2015	Addition	Adjustment /disposal	Balance as on 30.06.2016	Rate (%)	Balance as on 01.07.2015	Charged	Adjustment/ disposal	Balance as on 30.06.2016	Balance as on 30.06.2016
2	FURNITURE AND FIXTURE:										
1.1	Table	144,871			144,871	20%	144,870			144,870	1
12		169,623		8,200	161.423	20%	142,482	9.632	8,200		17,509
51		247,194	8,398		255,592	20%	237,722	6.934	•	244,656	10,936
4		233,571			233.571	20%	132.540	46,711		179.251	54,320
		795,259	8,398	8,200	795,457		657,61M	63,277	8,200		82,766
2.0	OFFICE EQUIPMENT:										
2.01	Photocopier	335,000			335,000	30%	334,999		•	334,999	1
202		277,567	8,717		286,284	30%	185.246	65.365	,	250,611	35,673
2.03	_	101,680	1		101,680	30%	93,755	4,680	'	98,435	3,245
204		102,250			102,250	30%	102,249	,		102,249	1
2.05		52,655		2,880	49.775	30%	42.063	6.050	1,728		3,390
2.06	Air cooler	778,528	•	•	778,528	30%	670,377	85,551		755.928	22,600
2.07	-	130,036	7,000		137,036	30%	114,638	10,210		124,848	12,188
209	Camera	166,952			166,952	30%	157,200	7,313		164.513	2,439
2.10		308,246	21,490	3,875	325,861	30%	228,599	51,885	3,875		49,252
	Sub-Total (B)	2,252,914	37,207	6,755	2,283,366		1,929,126	231,054	5,603	2,154,577	128,789
3.0	COMPUTER, PRINTER, MULTIMEDIA										
3.01	Tower Server	119,000			119,000	33%	117,810	1,190		119,000	•
38	Desktop Computer	652,684		32.222	620,462	33%	614,107	21,991	32,222	603,876	16,586
3.03	Laptop Competer	952,411			952,411	33%	842,858	106,371		949,229	3,182
305	_	172,871	'	•	172,871	33%	161.093	11,436	'	172,529	342
305	UPS, IPS, Stabilizer	287,306	102,872	168,395	221,783	33%	229,328	12,174	124,515	116,987	104,796
306	Multimedia Projector	142,407			142,407	33%	141.937	469		142,406	-
202	-	89,630			89,630	33%	72.675	16,471		89.146	484
	-	2,416,309	102,872	200,617	2,318,564		2,179,808	170,102	156,737	2,193,173	125,391
\$											
4	Bicycle eut. fraud (ry)	3900		3,900		22%0	3,899		3,899		
9	-	2010		no. in			11010		10010		
5	T	25,930			25.930	20%	24.441	694		25,135	795
5		40,000	'	•	40,000	20%	16,000	8,000		24,000	16,000
		65,930	•	•	65,930		40,441	8,694	•	49,135	16,795
6.0	PROJECT ASSETS (PCAI)	303,472	•		303,472						303,472
	Sub-Total (E)	303,472		-	303,472			•			303,472
Bala	Balance as on 30.06.2016	5.837.784	148.477	219.472	5.766.789		4,810,888	473.127	174.439	5.109.576	657.213
1 a	Release as on 30.06 2015	F 750 604	76 180		5 837 784		4.081.530	726.778	0.550	L	A06 A00 1
	10 A	and and a	A NUMBER OF		- Annala		a push pada	A L LAND	A SA A		Annalasia in



Annex-B

Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) Statement of FDR with Southcast Bank Ltd. as on June 30, 2016

SI	FDR No.	Name of Branch	Type	Date of Opening	Balance as on 30.06.2015	FDR Opening during 2015-2016	FDR encashment during 2015-2016	Interest received as per statement	Provision of Interest receivable up to 30.06.2015	Interest receivable up to June 2016 @ 6%	Deduction of Bank charges	Deduction of Tax on Interest	Net interest received	Balance as on 30.06.2016
1	A/C#00542440000013 Moleanneadpur Br.		6 month	21-Apt-10	21-Apt-10 1,647,936	•		138,256	(26,804)	20,069	(1,500)	(13,826)	116,195	1,764,131
2 A/	A/C#001224300040106 Dhanenondi Br.		3 month	28-Nov-10	794,488		(794,488)				•	•	•	
3 A/	3 A/C#001224300040107 Dharemondi Br.		3 month	28-Nov-10	794,488		(794,488)							
4 A/	4 A/C#00542410000089 Moleanmadpur Br. 1 moeth	Moleanmadpur Br.	1 month	05-Jan-12	05-Jan-12 1,345,465		(1,345,465)							
5 A/	A/C#24300002002	Moleammadpur Br.	1 month	08-Oct-15		1,360,534		47,101		18,890	(1,500)	(4,710)	59,781	1,420,315
		Total			4,582,377	1,360,534	(2,934,441)	185,357	(26,804)	38,959	(3,000)	(18,536)	175,976	3,184,446



		2015-16	2014-15
\$1\$	Project/ Contract/ Agreement title	Taka	Taka
-	Promoting Citizen's Access to Information (PCAI), supported by MJF	4,723,318	4,397,858
~	Participation, Capacity Bullding, Transparency: Strengthening Journalism in Bangladesh supported by Deutsche Welle Akademie	2,179,159	3,085,058
ŝ	Children and Ethical Reporting in Media, Supported by UNICEF	981,175	2,180,898
4	Exploring Young Mind, Supported by UNICEF	4,214,542	
ŝ	Local Government Budget Oversight, supported by The British High Commission, Dhaka		2,533,464
9	Advocacy for promoting nutrition, supported by BRAC		2,024,042
5	Strengthening Implementation of RTI Act, Supported by The World Bank		1,716,112
œ	Training & fellowship programme for Satkhira Journalists, Supported by World Food Programme	1	923,794
0	RTI awarences Raising and Training support, Supported by The World Bank	4,137,284	949,701
10	Engagement for Bangladesh Inquirer Project, Supported by Thomson Media Foundation		100,000
11	BCC Strategy on unpuid care work of women supported by Actionaid		19,135
12	CSR for Advancement and Social Emancipation (CASE), Supported by Bangladesh Bank	2,346,697	1,170,693
13	Paying Back to Birangonas, Supported by Bangladesh Bank	70,000	791,696
14	Livelihood Program for Women Vulnerable to Irregular Migration and Trafficking Supported by BSRM		1,200,995
15	Health Programme for Charpatila, supported by Mutual Trust Bank Ltd.	1,168,961	496,466
16	Education support for Poor Students, supported by The City Bank Ltd.	772,657	452,713
17	Livelihood programme for women in Basatpur, supported by The City Bank Ltd.	956,385	282,668
18	Education Support to Girl Students & Dalit Community, supported by The City Bank Ltd.	168,584	
19	Safe water for Sundarbans Peoples, supported by Bank Alfalah Ltd.	1,236,345	
ଷ	Understanding of Finance, supported by HSBC	72,595	
21	Situation Assessment of Former Enclaves	128,058	
2	Livelihood programme for women in Dhangmari, Sundarbans	65,000	50,000
23	The expenditure incurred for renovation and rehabilitation of Sharifpara Non Government Primary School, Charfashion, Bhola		41,060
24	The expenditure incurred for renovation and rehabilitation of Paschim Char Monohar Non Government Primary School, Charfashion, Bhola		20,250
25	The expenditure incurred for renovation and rehabilitation of Maddhya Char Monohar Non Government Primary School, Charfashion,		20,250
26	Renovation and rehabilitation of Maddhya & Paschim Char Monohar Primary School, supported by Reliance Insurance Ltd.	479,350	
52	MRDI Training Institute (INFOCUS)	878,490	977,725
58	Contribution to Standard Chartered Bank-Financial Express CSR Award Committee		21,739
	Total	24,578,600	23,456,317

Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) Programme Cost For the vear ended Iune 30, 2016



Annex-D

Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) Statement of FDR of Gaon Swapna with Southcast Bank Ltd. as on June 30, 2016

15	FDR No.	Name of Branch	Type	Date of Opening	Balance as on 30.06.2015	FDR Opening during 2015-2016	FDR encashment during 2015-2016	Interest received as per statement	Provision of Interest receivable up to 30.06.2015	Interest receivable up to June 2016	Deduction of Bank charges	Deduction of Tax on Interest	Net interest received	Balance as on 30.06.2016
1	1 A/C#00542440000138 Mohammadpur Br. 6 moeth	Mohammadpur Br.	6 month	07-Jul-15		200,000		8,500		4,802	500	850	14,652	214,652
3	A/C#00542450000330 Dhammondi Be.		12 month	07-Jul-15		500,000				37,017			37,017	537,017
		Total			•	700,000		8,500	•	41,819	500	\$50	51,669	751,669



Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) Schedule of Outstanding Liabilities For the year ended June 30, 2016

		For the year		During 2	2015-2016	
SL.	Particular	Project, Contract/ Component	Balance as on 01.07.2015	Paid/ Adjustment	Addition	Balance as on 30.06.2016
1	Audit fees	MRDI Core	115,000	115,000	132,250	132,250
2	Ankur	Gaon Swapna	14,100	14,100	-	
3	Bonlaodob MSUS	Gaon Swapna	27,000	27,000		
4	Confidence Refrigeration	MRDI Core	66,000		-	66,000
5	Fee and Expenses for Tax Consultants	MRDI Core	290,000	160,000	160,000	290,000
6	Farid Hossain	Unicef contract	300,000	300,000	-	-
7	Farid Hossain	WFP	100,000	100,000	-	
8	Gramer Hat	Gaon Swapna	4,000		4,000	8,000
9	Hasibur Rahman	Gaon Swapna	50,715	-	-	50,715
10	Idea printers	MRDI Core (Annual Report 2013-14)	45,750	-	-	45,750
11	Inam Ahmed	MRDI Core	51,300	51,300		
12	Mims Travels & Tour Ltd.	Infocus	23,775	23,775	-	
13	Moddho Char Monohor Primary School	CSR Intervension of RIL	-	-	41,500	41,500
14	West Char Monohor Primary School	CSR Intervension of RIL	-		32,500	32,500
15	Office Rent	VAT on Office Rent			12,600	12,600
16	Program Cost	City Bank CSR Project	73,500	73,500	58,598	58,598
17	Program for Women Development (PWD)	velopment (PWD) Paying back to Birangonas		56,533	-	-
18	Program Cost	HSBC Project	180,000	180,000	-	-
19	Program Cost	World bank Project			265,000	265,000
20	Provision for Income tax	MRDI Core	135,797		66,634	202,431
21	Robi Axiata Limited	MRDI Core_(Mobile bill	10,134	10,134	5,293	5,293
22	Rochdale Biz	Infocus	3,344	3,344	-	
23	Sharier Khan	Unicef contract	40,000	-	-	40,000
24	Shamim Reza	CSR Project	35,000	35,000		
25	Transparent	GMMB project	338,000	338,000	-	
26	Transparent	MRDI Core	64,000	64,000	45,000	45,000
27	Transparent	MRDI Core (Contribution To MCAP)	52,500	-	-	52,500
28	Transparent	MRDI Core	79,000	79,000	-	-
29	Transpatent	Infocus	9,300	9,300	-	
30	Telephone & Internet Bill	MRDI Core	3,130	3,130	3,476	3,476
31	Utility Bill	MRDI Core	13,562	13,562	8,681	8,681
	Total		2,181,440	1,656,678	835,532	1,360,294



Annex-F

Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) Tax Liabilities and Advance Tax Position For the year ended June 30, 2016

Taka 4,549 Taka 4,549 18,192 1,068 42,220 4,528 - 6,676 (9,095) 4,361 - 7,860 51,317	Income Year	Assessment Year	Tax Liabilities as per Assessment Order	Tax deducted at source/Paid	Tax Adjustment	Total Tax Paid in Advance
2010-2011 2011-2012 18,192 114,549 18,192 2011-2012 2012-2013 42,220 42,220 42,220 2011-2012 2013-2014 0164,528 42,220 42,220 2012-2013 2013-2014 0164,528 42,220 164,528 164,528 2013-2014 2014-2015 01,340 186,678 7 7 2013-2014 2014-2015 01,376 186,678 7 7 2014-2015 2015-2016 14,376 356,676 7 7 7 2015-2016 2016-2017 66,634 34,361 7 7 7 2015-2016 2016-2017 2016-2017 66,634 34,361 7 7 7 2015-2016 2016-2017 2016-2017 66,634 36,5676 7 7 7 2015-2016 2016-2017 2016-2017 66,634 36,5676 7 7 7				Taka	Taka	Taka
2011-2012 2013-2013 42,220 42,220 42,220 2012-2013 2013-2014 0 164,528 42,220 2012-2013 2013-2014 0 164,528 2013-2014 2014-2015 0 186,678 2013-2014 2014-2015 0 14,376 356,676 2014-2015 2015-2016 14,376 356,676 0,095 2015-2016 2016-2017 66,634 34,361 0,095 2015-2016 2016-2017 2016-2017 65,634 36,6760 0,095	2010-2011	2011-2012	18,192	114,549	18,192	96,357
2012-2013 2013-2014 60,181 164,528 - 2013-2014 2014-2015 61,240 186,678 - 2013-2014 2014-2015 61,240 186,678 - 2013-2015 2015-2016 14,376 356,676 (9,095) 2015-2016 2016-2017 66,634 34,361 - 2015-2016 2016-2017 65,634 34,361 -	2011-2012	2012-2013	42,220	201,068	42,220	158,848
2013-2014 2014-2015 61,240 186,678 - - 2013-2015 2015-2016 14,376 356,676 (9,095) 2015-2016 2016-2017 66,634 34,361 (9,095) 2015-2016 2016-2017 66,634 34,361 - 51,317	2012-2013	2013-2014	60,181	164,528		164,528
2014-2015 2015-2016 14,376 356,676 (9,095) 2015-2016 2016-2017 66,634 34,361 - 2015-2016 2016-2017 66,634 34,361 - 2015-2016 2016-2017 66,634 34,361 -	2013-2014	2014-2015	61,240	186,678		186,678
2015-2016 2016-2017 66,634 34,361 - 2015-2016 262,843 1,057,860 51,317	2014-2015	2015-2016	14,376	356,676	(9,095)	347,581
262,843 1,057,860 51,317	2015-2016	2016-2017	66,634	34,361		34,361
	Total		262,843	1,057,860	51,317	988,353



Annex-G

Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) Statement of Related Party Transaction For the year ended June 30, 2016

Director	Project	Assigned As	Amount (Taka)	Outstanding Balance
Farid Hossain	DW Project	Member for Curriculum Development Team	100,000	
	UNICEF Project	Monitoring Expert	260,000	
	UNICEF Project	Workshop Moderator	98,500	
	BB Case-II project	Fellowship Coordinator	50,000	
	Infocus	Media Expert & fellowship Mentor	59,000	-
Sub-total			567,500	
Syed IshtiaqueReza	DW Project	Resource Person	5,000	
	Infocus	Resource Person	3,000	
Sub-total			8,000	
M. Emamul Haque	BB Case-II project	Resource Person	5,000	-
Sub-total			5,000	
Grand Total			580,500	-





Management and Resources Development Initiative

8/19, Sir Syed Road (3rd Floor), Block-A, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh Phone : +880-2-9134717, +880-2-9137147, E-mail : info@mrdibd.org, Web : www.mrdibd.org