

WEBINAR REPORT

WEBINAR FOR COMMUNITY RADIOS

TOPIC: IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY RADIOS IN THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Organized By	:	Kerala State Disaster Management Authority
Date	:	9 October 2020
Time	:	4.00 pm to 5.30 pm
Mode of Meeting	:	Cisco Webex
No. of Participants	:	35
Inauguration	:	Dr. Sekhar L Kuriakose, Member Secretary KSDMA
Moderator	:	Mrs. Chinthumol C. Hazard Analyst, DDMA- Alappuzha

Speakers

- Mrs. G. Jaya, Assistant Director, All India Radio Trivandrum
- Mr. N. Ramakrishna, Executive Director, Ideosync Media Combine New Delhi
- Mr. Joe John George, State Project Officer, KSDMA

The Kerala State Disaster Management Authority conducted a webinar on the importance of community radios functioning in Kerala in the current covid-19 pandemic. The webinar session was inaugurated by Dr. Sekhar L Kuriakose, The Member Secretary, KSDMA, wherein he explained the importance of community radios in this current scenario. Dr. Sekhar suggested to representatives from various community radios that it would be better to make efficient plans for dissolving the problems that arose during the Covid era including financial issues.

The next session was delivered by Mr. N. Ramakrishna, The Executive Director of Ideosync Media Combine, New Delhi regarding “Misinformation in the time of Covid 19- Strategies and Response from Community Radios”. Initially he discussed about the international and national statistics adopted for Covid cases. After which he spoke about the current scenario in Kerala. He claimed the south Indian states are in the leading position in the case of number of Covid positive cases in India because the testing is higher than other states. He went up to show the misinformation trends in India since January to June 2020. In a study conducted by his organization, Ideosync Media Combine, New Delhi, found that 50 % of audiences have used Community Radios as their primary source. Followed by this, Dr. Ramakrishna pointed out the major challenges faced by various Community Radio stations during

the pandemic which included difficulties in broadcasting, lack of human resources, poor connectivity, reduced interaction with local community, lack of financial resources, no direct way of connecting with women, children etc. he went on to suggest few methods which could help in avoiding or in dissemination of fake news and misinformation. They are to establish health emergency protocols at Community Radios establish linkages with fact checking and reliable organizations, to create a contact with organizations or Medias that disseminate clear and verified information, to establish mechanisms for community to send queries, collect information and create links with medical support services.

In the second session, Mrs. G. Jaya, Assistant Director, All India Radio Trivandrum spoke about the community radios, the challenges they have been facing from its inception, role of Community Radios that could be played during a disaster, etc. Mrs. Jaya enlightened the participants by stating that they can be a strong supporting system through providing psychological support, awareness creation among community members, reducing domestic violence and sexual abuse with the help of KELSA and other organizations etc. Live programmes could also help Community Radios to create and develop an emotional bonding with community members.

Followed by this, Mr. Joe John George, State Project Officer KSDMA, gave brief description on institutional arrangements and community level organizations which were set up to mobilize and coordinate pre-during-post disaster situations like Sannadhasena, Civil Defense, Emergency Response Teams at LSG level, Aapthamitra Helpline, IDRN portal for resource identification, Inter Agency Groups etc.

After all the 3 sessions the participants shared their views on the topic, their doubts and problems to the organizers and speakers to which they were responded. The session ended by 6.00pm.

Platform – Cisco Webex Access Code – 126 579 2681 | Passcode – 6WsVpbmx4V2 |

Link - <https://tinyurl.com/y3zlr4r4>

Sl.No:	Time	Session	Person
1	04:00 – 04:05	Welcome & Introduction to the programme	Ms Chinthumol C Hazard Analyst, DDMA Alappuzha
2	04:05 – 04:15	Inauguration	Dr Sekhar L. Kuriakose Member Secretary, KSDMA
3	04:15 – 04:40	Role & Challenges of Community Radios in the background of Covid 19 and Recommendations for better broadcasting	Ms G Jaya Assistant Director All India Radio Thiruvananthapuram
4	04:40 – 05:20	Misinformation in the Time of Covid 19 : Strategies and responses from Community Radio Stations	Mr N Ramakrishnan Executive Director Ideosync Media Combine New Delhi
5	05:20 – 05:35	Ideas for community outreach during Covid 19	Mr Joe George State Project Officer KSDMA
6	05:35 – 05:45	Question & Answers	Moderator
7	05:45 – 05:50	Vote of Thanks	Mr Sathyakumar C J Hazard Analyst, KSDMA

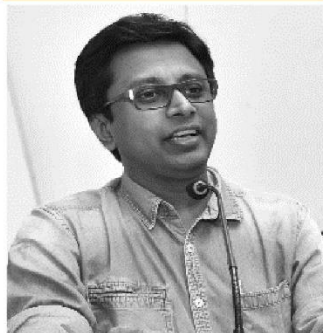


Covid 19 & Disaster Preparedness 20 Webinar for Community Radios

Webinar Series – 7 | Organised by
Kerala State Disaster Management Authority

9th October 2020 | 4:00 to 5:30 pm

Inauguration

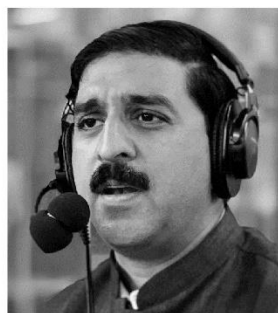


Dr Sekhar L. Kuriakose
Member Secretary
KSDMA

Speakers



G Jaya
Assistant Director
All India Radio, TVM



N Ramakrishnan
Executive Director
Ideosync Media Combine
New Delhi



Joe George
State Project Officer
KSDMA

Moderator



Chinthumol C
Hazard Analyst
DDMA Alappuzha

In association with Ideosync Media Combine, New Delhi

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