



**Thesis Report
On
Investigative reporting in the satellite TV channels in Bangladesh:
Tendency and Quality analysis**

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

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Mr. Dr. Sheikh Mohammad Shafiul Islam

Associate Professor,

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Subject: Submission of the Thesis Paper.

Dear Sir,

I am pleased to submit my thesis paper as a partial fulfillment of MSS (Hons.) in Journalism and Mass Communication. I give my best to present this report on my thesis on Investigative reporting in the satellite TV channels in Bangladesh: Tendency and Quality analysis. It was great opportunity for me to acquire knowledge and experience in respect to know the tendency and quality of investigative reporting of satellite television. I believe that the knowledge and experience I have gathered during my thesis period will immensely help me in my professional life.

I have given my best efforts to achieve the objectives of the practical orientation and I hope that.

My endeavor will serve the purpose. However, I will always be happy to welcome any further

Clarification that you may require.

Sincerely

Yasin Arafat

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Certificate of Approval

I am pleased to certify that the thesis paper on ‘Investigative reporting in the satellite TV channels in Bangladesh: Tendency and Quality analysis, prepared by Yasin Arafat, bearing ID No:191-28-290of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication has been approved for presentation and defense. He has completed the thesis during the Fall-2018 semester.

I am pleased to certify that the data, the findings presented in the report are the authentic work of Yasin Arafat.

As a human being, he bears a good moral character and a very pleasing personality. I wish him all success in life.

Supervisor,

.....

Dr. Sheikh Mohammad Shafiul Islam

Associate Professor

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Acknowledgement

At first, I am very much grateful to Almighty Allah for providing me opportunity with enough patience to finish this Thesis. I would first like to express my earnest gratitude to my University supervisor Dr. Sheikh Shafiul Islam, Associate Professor of Daffodil International University for his whole-hearted supervision and for providing guidance during my thesis, and while writing this thesis paper

Dedication

I would like to dedicate this report to my parents and teachers who have inspired me to keep going in every situation. Without their contribution I would never have been able to come this Far.

Abstract

More than four decades of Journalism practice in Bangladesh produced enormous number of investigative reports. Exposing corruption in local and national levels, irregularities and unlawful activities and corruption in service providing sectors, both government and nongovernment organizations–have been found analyzing the contents of investigative reports published in different print medium. Some of the private television channels in Bangladesh are taking challenging stories in special programs on exposing corruption of service sectors of both government and nongovernment set-ups. The study conducted by content analysis of 3 prominent channel(Channel I, NTV, Somoy) to understand the tendency and quality of investigative TV reporting.

Table of Content

Chapter One	01	Introduction	Page No
	1.1	Introduction	2
	1.2	Investigative Report in Television Channel	2
	1.3	Objective of research	3
	1.4	Definition of different term	3
	1.5	Investigative Reporting	4
Chapter Two	02	Literature Review	5
	2.1	Literature Review	6
Chapter Three	03	Theoretical frame work	7
Chapter Four	04	Method Analysis	Page No
	4.1	Sampling	11
	4.2	Use of tools	11
Chapter Five	05	Data Analysis	Page No
	5.1	Data presentation & Analysis	12
	5.2	Discussion on analysis Data	19
Conclusion	A	Limitations of research	20
	B	Future plan:	
References			22

List of Figures and Tables

Figures	
Figure 1: Quality of Accuracy of investigative news in satellite television in Bangladesh	Page14
Figure 2: Biasness of investigative reporting in satellite Television in Bangladesh	Page15
Figure 3: Quality of Balance of investigative reporting in satellite Television in Bangladesh	Page15
Figure 4: Completeness of investigative news in satellite television in Bangladesh	Page16
Figure 5: Quality of Presentation Style of investigative reporting of satellite Television of Bangladesh	Page16
Figure 6: Narration style of investigative reporting of satellite Television of Bangladesh	Page 17
Figure 7: Quality of Synchronization of investigative reporting of satellite Television of Bangladesh	Page 17
Figure 8: Quality of Depth of investigative reporting of satellite Television of Bangladesh	Page 18

Tables	
Table 1: Tendency of news report in 3 satellite Television of Bangladesh	Page12
Table 2: Frequency of investigative report in 3 satellite Television of Bangladesh	Page12
Table 3: Distribution of investigative report in 3 satellite television of Bangladesh	Page12
Table 4: Theme of investigative reports of Channel I	Page13

Table 5: Theme of investigative reports of Somoy	Page13
Table 6: Theme of investigative reports of NTV	Page13
Table 6: Quality of sources in investigative report of 3 satellite Television of Bangladesh.	Page14

Chapter One

Introduction

1.1 Introduction

Investigative journalism contributes to freedom of expression and freedom of information. In Bangladesh TV channels are free to express their views but sometimes business motivation makes them to go for self-regulations of media content. In the context of Bangladesh many of questions have been arisen on quality of investigative report. There is tendency of the investigative report is also questionable in Television channel. Ownership structure of television has an impact on determining content and its output in Bangladesh. They can maintain diversity and pluralism in their contents. Our private TV channel owners think first of their business profit and pressure from government and political parties. (Rahman, 2012). Moreover TV channels are reluctant to provide enough money, time and other opportunities to journalist for making proper investigative reporting. On the other hand journalists have also lacking of idea and training also cause of not having too much and proper and investigative report. So the investigative reports in Bangladeshi media are unable to reach the expectation level. Investigative report can put great role in social responsibility. It can remove corruption, crime and illegal activities from society. So quality of investigative report and tendency also a vital issue to understand the situation of journalism in that developing country.

1.2 Investigative Report in Television Channel

After the independence of Bangladesh the first investigative report was published in the then highest circulated daily Ittefaque by Abed Khan revealing corruptions headlined “Open Secret”. Under “Open Secret” several stories on corruption made the government active to take decisions. Based on one of the reports, the then Director General of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) was removed.

It was well rumored that in 1974 suddenly the “Open Secret” was being stopped for publication. After the change of regime “Open Secret” started publishing, but again it was stopped and the senior reporter Abed Khan was promoted and sent to editorial section. Fayez Ahmed also made a roar by publishing investigative report on Construction of President House (Banga Bhaban) without prior allocation of budget.

During last three decades many efforts of investigative journalism in the newspapers have been seen. The first investigate program in Bangladesh Television` was started in BTV at 1990. According to Bangla tribune Report Now There 44 Satellite television in Bangladesh with program and news based channel. Among them 7 channels are fully news based channels. Beside that program based channels also produced news. All channel produced investigative reports in their news

1.3 Objective of research

Investigative reporting can play vital role to purify the society. Many of investigative story telecasted by the satellite television channel every day. Through this research the tendency of satellite television investigative reporting described with their quality. Through that people can easily understand the number of investigative reporting in the country beside that journalist can also understand what is the lacking of their report. What should they do to create a perfect investigative reporting?

Objectives of this research are given below

- To understand the tendency of investigative report of Satellite TV in Bangladesh
- To understand the quality of investigative reporting of Satellite TV in Bangladesh
- To understand the topic of investigative reporting of Bangladesh

1.4 Definition of different term

The research is examined with the term of ABCDE. Without that there are many as like Follow Up surface report, feature Report and investigative report

A= A means accuracy of news. It means the quality or state of being correct or precise. Fair and accuracy definitely need to provide a perfect investigative reporting.

B= B Means Balance. It means a situation in which different elements are equal or in the correct proportions.

C= C means Completeness. It refers the state or condition of having all the necessary or appropriate parts.

Detachment= D means Detachment. it refers the state of being objective or aloof.

E= E means equity.it refers the quality of being fair and impartial.

Surface= though the first report on any event or incident is done with the information which is got instantly

1.5 Investigative Reporting

Usually news reporting shows an objective portrayal of events and occurrences where Investigative Reporting is prepared on objective facts and material. To get a realistic view it is a convincing approach to understand Investigative Reporting from the statement of Hunter and Hanson, "Investigative journalism involves exposing to the public matters that are concealed – either deliberately by someone in a position of power, or accidentally, behind a chaotic mass of facts and circumstances that obscure understanding ...

Conventional news reporting aims to create an objective image of the world as it is. Investigative reporting uses objectively true material – that is, facts that any reasonable observer would agree are true – toward the subjective goal of reforming the world. That is not a license to lie in a good cause.. It is also said that there are two species of Investigative Reporting, one is, reporting to expose corruption in public places and second is, solid community-interest reporting to lead to positive social action. Expressing field experience, journalist Saleem Samad (1990) posed a set of points for Investigative journalists while during Pakistan period 10,000 people had to evacuate from their inhabitants because of the construction of Karnafuli Dam and there by the consequences

Chapter Two

Literature Review

2.1 Literature Review

Any thesis similar to my thesis has not been founded. But some of articles have been founded which are partial similar to that research. In 2014 prominent Profesor Dr Golam Rahman wrote a research paper Investigative Journalism Bangladesh- : ITS GROWTH AND ROLE IN SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

Where he showed growth and role of investigative report in society. Social Responsibility Aspect of Investigative Report Readers of newspapers and other audience of mass media have a perception of accepting investigative reporting as a public service activity.

When corruptions and irregularities of service sectors of government and nongovernment are unearthed and exposed by reporters they become service to the society. William Gaines mentioned that investigative reporters are almost always appreciated by their readers but never more so than when they expose a widespread consumer fraud or abuse.

He emphasized that consumers might 4 Investigative Journalism in Bangladesh: Its growth and role in social responsibility be abused by misleading advertising, unscrupulous salespeople, poor quality or unsafe merchandise, and overpricing. (Gaines, 1994, 149) Consumer fraud and abuse becomes subject of Investigative reporting in Bangladesh as found in several reports. "Bottle water: only a packaging business" under this series there were five reports that won the prize. Stories like, "98 percent labeled pure- in reality – not bacteria free nor mineral enriched", "Water bottled in a shoe factory", "About 50 unauthorized bottling factories in the Capital" and son.

Another series report headlined "Pharmaceutical cos-doctors nexus" got award in the contest under which "Fix of freebies", "No control over drug price", and "Fake drugs make inroads" were there.

The second publication of TIB (2013) printed awarded reports of investigation like: "What are we eating!", "Fraud by the name of Diagnostic Service", "Current picture of health service in Khulna city", "Fraud at Madhupur centering banks, sub-registrar's office, land office", "Stories of Vice Chancellors", "Grafts reign supreme in import trade", "Heaven of Corruption at Khulna Medical College Hospital", "Justice delayed, justice denied", "Business of unauthorized books in Khulna", "Situation of 250-bed general hospital at Chandpur", "National Housing Authority" and "Coaching-based education". Most of these awarded reports were series stories and they were in-depth reports

The results of [investigative] reporting do not come cheaply, but they are a bargain to society," (James T. Hamilton, The Economics of Investigative Journalism).

The impact of investigative journalism is often quite extraordinary — particularly in emerging democracies and developing economies.(Global Journalism Network, 16 November 2017)

It is a responsibility, to learn the truth so that the world can change.” (Hunter and Hanson, 2011, 8 There is also a article written of 7 November 2016 by Journalist Harun_ur-Rahid published by Deutche welle named Anushandhani Report Kothay Badha Kothay Golod . In that article lacking of investigative report was described as well as cause why journalists are unable to produce a good investigative report is also described there. There is also a blog

published at Deutche Welle at 7 November 2016 written by Journalist Golam Mortoza named why investigative report not evolved in Bangladesh had been discussed

Chapter Three

Theoretical Frame Work

This theory is based on social Responsibility theory. Social responsibility theory allows free press without any censorship but at the same time the content of the press should be discussed in public panel and media should accept any obligation from public interference or professional self-regulations or both.

The theory lies between both authoritarian theory and libertarian theory because it gives total media freedom in one hand but the external controls in other hand. Here, the press ownership is private. The social responsibility theory moves beyond the simple “Objective” reporting (facts reporting) to “Interpretative” reporting (investigative reporting).

The total news is complete facts and truthful but the commission of the freedom press stated that “No longer giving facts truthfully rather than give a necessary analyzed or interpretative report on facts with clear explanations “This topic also can be analyses with agenda setting theory of Stuart hall.

The influence of media affects the presentation of the reports and issues made in the news that affects the public mind. The news reports make it in a way that when a particular news report is given importance and attention than other news the audience will automatically perceive it as the most important news and information are given to them

Chapter Four

Method of research

4.1. Sampling

In this research three channel of Satellite TV was selected. The channels are NTV, channel I, SomoY. Stratified Random sampling was followed as the news channel in Bangladesh is so less than program channel. Firstly the tendency of investigative news in different channel examined then the quality of the investigative report was examined.

4.2 Use of tools

To analyses SPSS software used to make graph Microsoft excel is used and to Microsoft has been used to describe the thesis. Many of graph table chart have been used in this thesis show the qualitative analyses and tendency analysis.

Chapter 5 Data Analysis

Investigative reporting in the satellite TV channels in Bangladesh: Tendency and Quality analysis

Date	Channel Name	Total News Items	Daily Events	Follow up	Investigative	Interpretative	Feature
19 oct to 25 oct	Somoy	80	39	37	4	0	0
19 oct to 25 oct	Channel i	130	82	23	6	2	17
31 Oct to 6 Nov	NTV	113	69	38	3	2	1

Table 1: Tendency of news report in 3 satellite Television of Bangladesh

Findings Frequency of investigative report

Total Report	Investigative Report	Percentage (%)
323	13	4.024

Table 2: Frequency of investigative report in 3 satellite Television of Bangladesh

Distribution of investigative report in the TV channels

Numbers of Channels	Numbers of investigative report
Channel I	6
Somoy	4
NTV	3

Table 3: Distribution of investigative report in 3 satellite television of Bangladesh

Themes/Topics of investigative report

Name of channel	Topics/Subjects
Channel I	Freedom fighter not get respect-Corruption
	Ju Ragging-Education
	Eden Ragging-Education
	Sylhet Deforestation-Environment
	Modhumoti River Erosion-Environment
	Hilsha Catching-crime

Table 4: Theme of investigative reports of Channel I

Name of channel	Topics/Subjects
Somoy	Councilor Rajib- Corruption
	Culex Mosquito-environment
	Jubo League Chairman-corruption
	Fisherman suffering-corruption

Table 5: Theme of investigative reports of Somoy

Name of channel	Topics/Subjects
NTV	Ctg university seat crisi-education
	Servent at social media-crime
	Vaccine crisis-health

Table 6: Theme of investigative reports of NTV

Quality of investigative

Total report	Number of source	Clear	Unclear
14	35	30	5

Table 6: Quality of sources in investigative report of 3 satellite Television of Bangladesh.

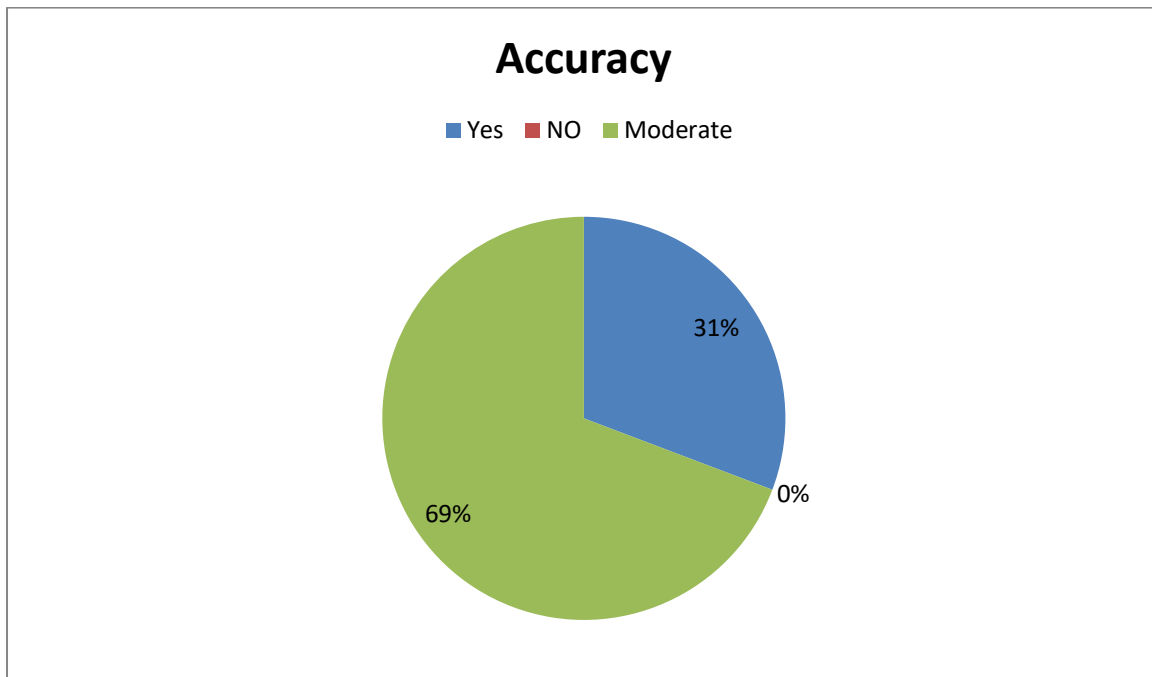


Figure 1: Quality of Accuracy of investigative news in satellite television in Bangladesh

Investigative report produced in Satellite TV channel where the accuracy level is only 30.76 percent and moderate accuracy | 69.23 percent

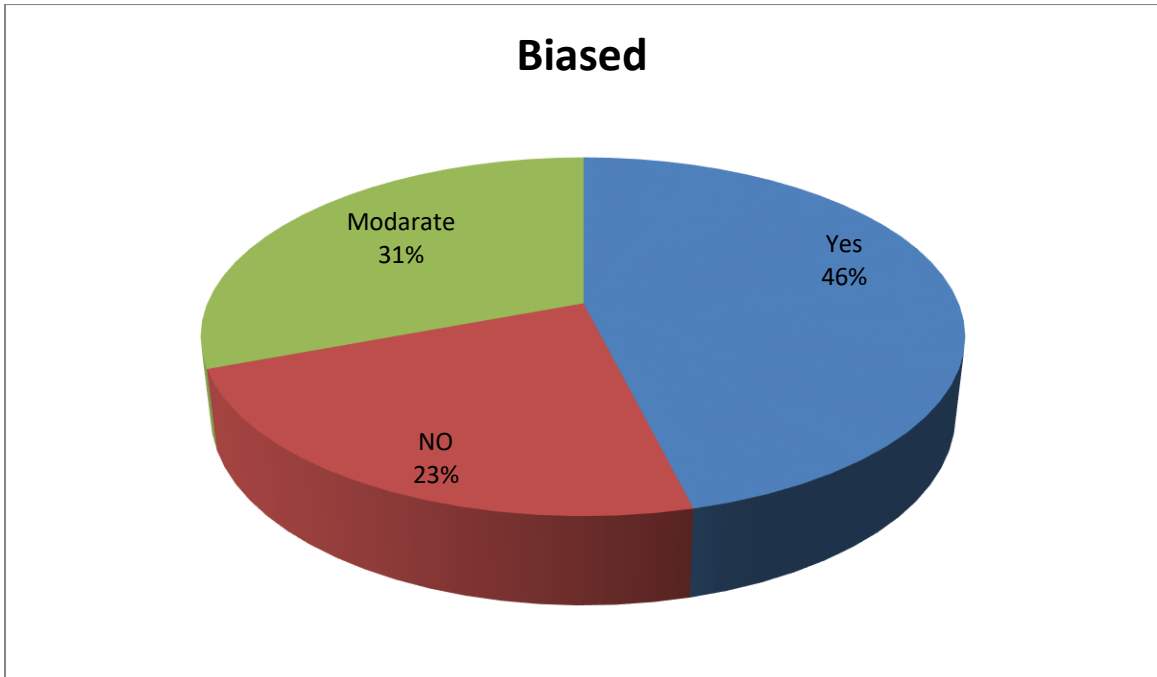


Figure 2: Biasness of investigative reporting in satellite Television in Bangladesh

46.15 percent news is biased as reporter only covered one sided information only 23.07 percent news is unbiased and 30.76 percent news are moderate level biased.

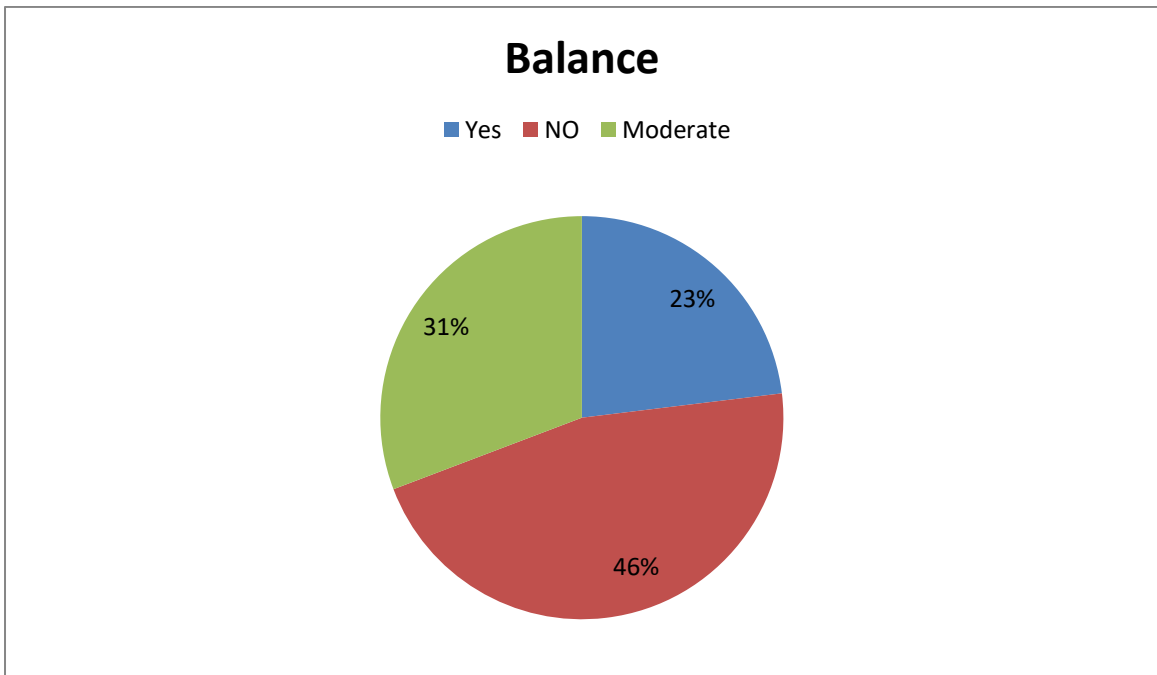


Figure 3: Quality of Balance of investigative reporting in satellite Television in Bangladesh

46.15 percent report has no balance only 23.07 report has balance and 30.76 reports are moderate level balance

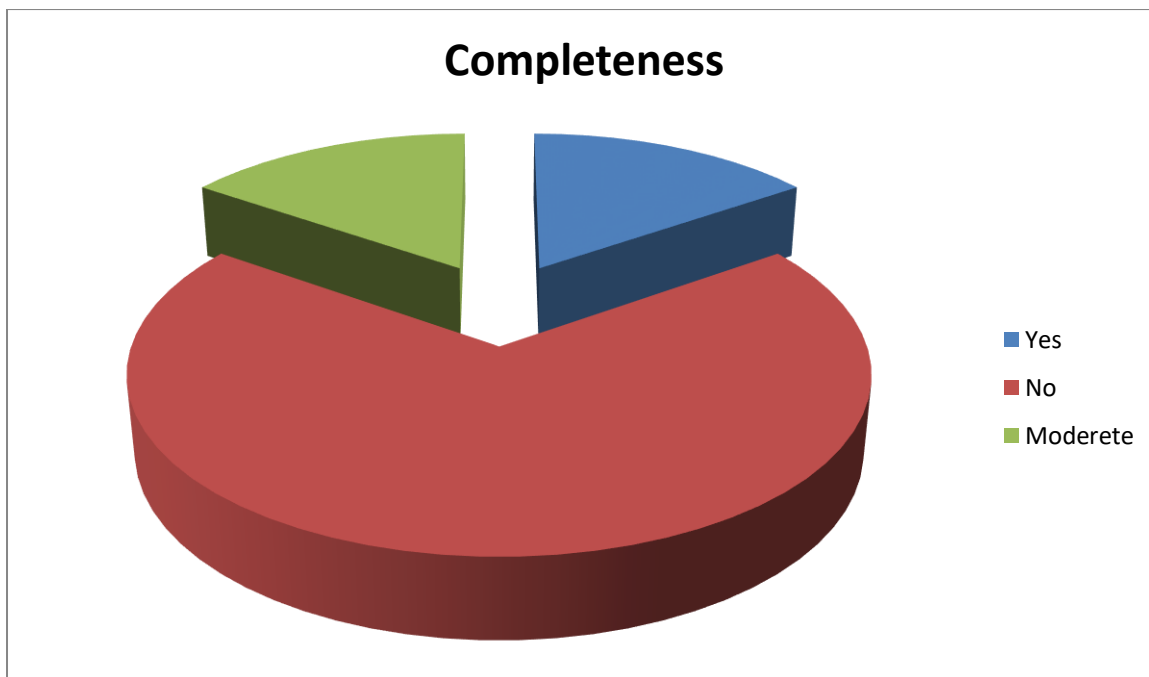


Figure 4: Completeness of investigative news in satellite television in Bangladesh

69.23 percent news are not completed as journalists are only interested to take bite from victim not from the oppressors, 15.38 percent news are complete and same percent news has moderate level completeness

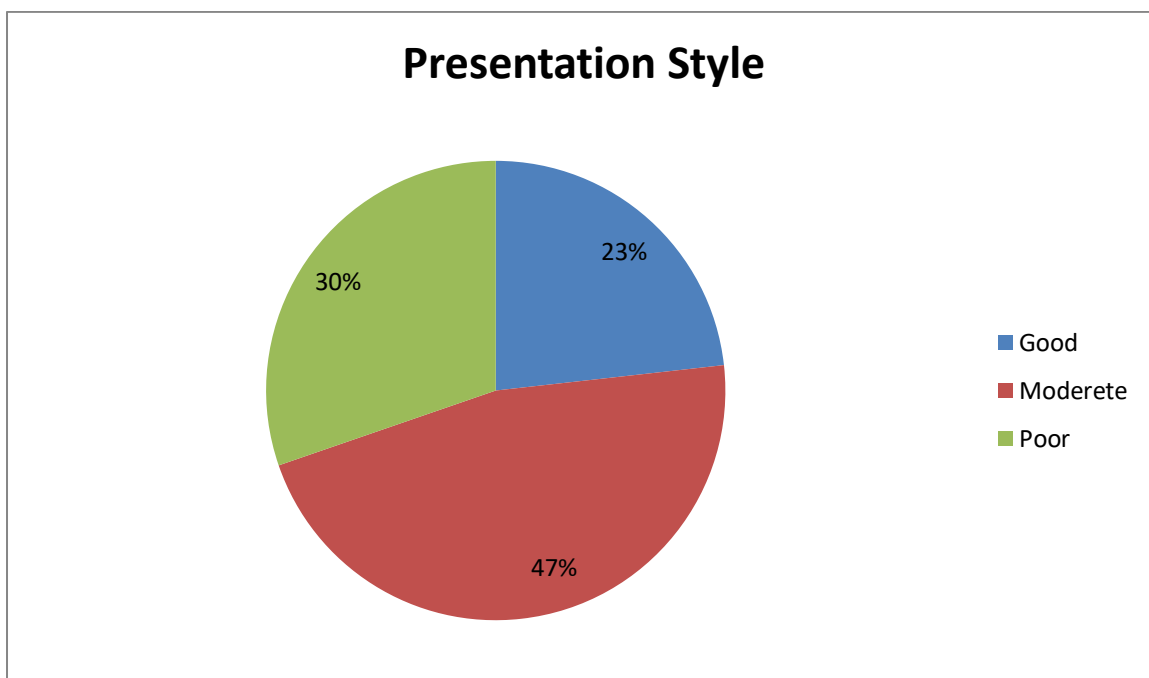


Figure 5: Quality of Presentation Style of investigative reporting of satellite Television of Bangladesh

46.15 percent news presentation of investigative reports are moderate and 30.07 percent is poor only 23.07 percent presentation is good

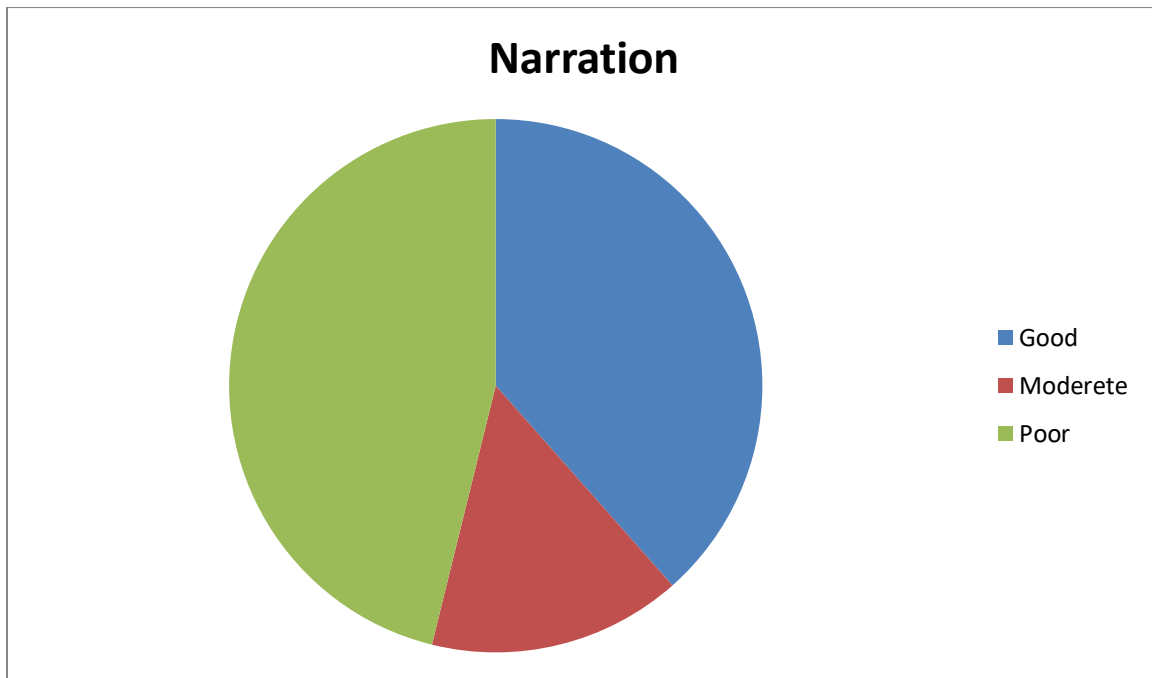


Figure 6: Narration style of investigative reporting of satellite Television of Bangladesh

46.15 news narration in poor level as they only tells the allegation could not prove or took comments from the person who have allegation moreover some reports has not focused too. There 38.46 news narration are good with focused and 15.38 percent report is moderate level narration

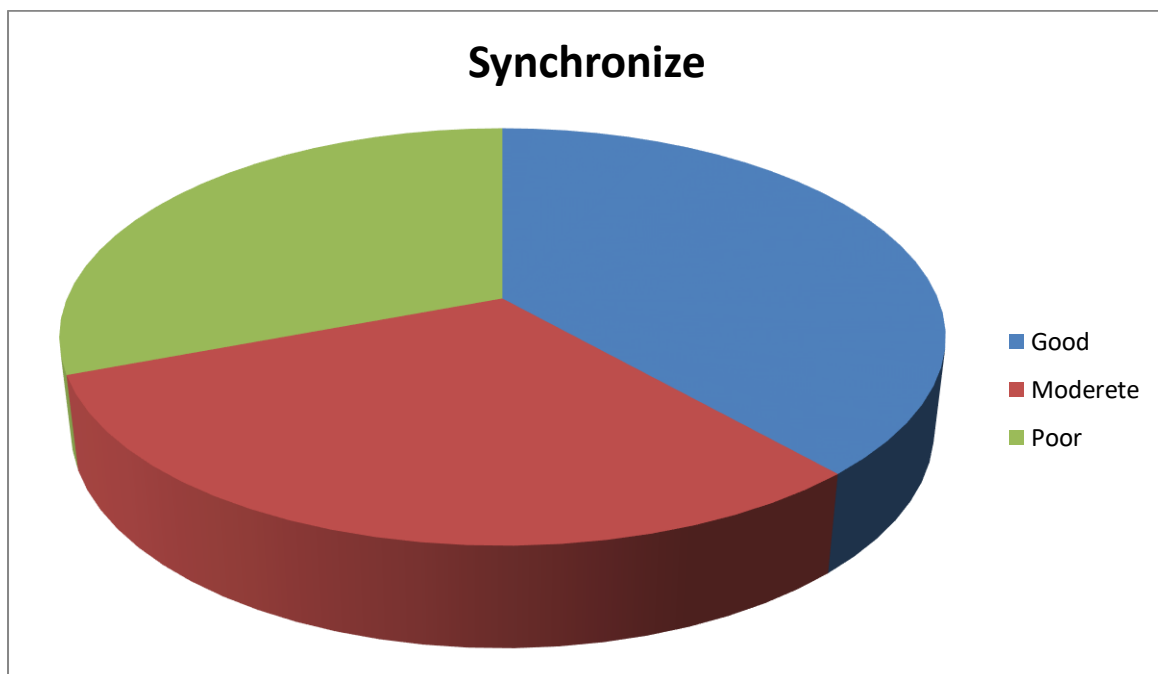


Figure 7: Quality of Synchronization of investigative reporting of satellite Television of Bangladesh

There is also problem with synchronization of report. 30.76 percent news have poor synchronization same percent is moderate and only 38.46 percent synchronization is good.

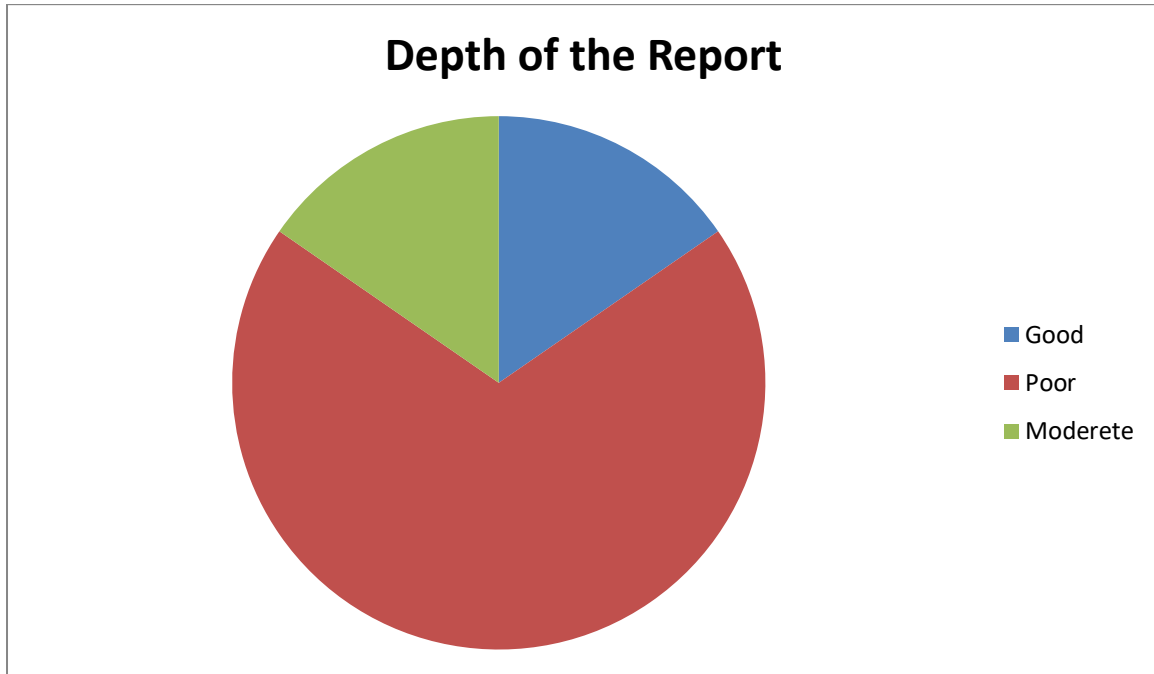


Figure 8: Quality of Depth of investigative reporting of satellite Television of Bangladesh

69.23 percent investigative report depth are so poor. Reporter not investigate so much. They just covered the surface part of the report at the time of investigation only 15.38 percent news have good and moderate level depth

Analysis

By analyzing above Data it is seen that the tendency of investigative report in satellite Television channel is very poor. Most of the reports are surface. Without enough investigative report it is quite impossible to eradicate illegal activity from society. In that thesis total 323 report analyzed. Among them only 13 news are investigative news the tendency of producing investigative report is very low. On the other hand if we analyse the quality of investigative report we can see that 69 percent report has moderate level of accuracy. Mostly reporter cover one sided information but not how the other side of the story. They do not provide enough evidence to prove accuracy. Most of the report has no balance and also have biasness. Investigative reports in our satellite TV is mostly incomplete. Reporters only investigate the surface part not the in-depth part as the depth of the report is also poor. In our country journalists are only interested to take bite from victim not from the oppressor. As a package in all most all report has enough ambient sound, voxpop, pay off but most of the report showed moderate presentation. As reporter mostly started the report with ordinary shot and words. News narration is also poor level as some reports is not focused too. There is also matter of self censorship. Synchronization is also moderate level. There are some report has nice synchronize but mostly whether poor or average level.

Conclusion

A. Limitations of research

The research demanded more sample and more analyses but due to short time it is quite impossible to complete this type research within short time.

B. Future plan:

This research is based on tendency and qualitative research of investigative research in satellite television of Bangladesh. After that many of these works can be done to improve our investigative reporting quality. By these researches journalists also can understand what they should do to make a quality investigative reporting cause investigative reporting can change the illegal activity of our society.

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