

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 529
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2025)

Applications Pending for CRS License

529. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of sanctioned and actual strength of Prasar Bharati, Akashvani (All India Radio) along with the number of staff on contractual basis;
- (b) the status of the HR transformation exercise in all these organisations and the timeline and expected outcome of this exercise;
- (c) the data on the total number of Community Radio Stations (CRSs) in various States along with the number of applications pending for CRS license;
- (d) the details of budget allocations and actual spendings of the Government on the Community Radio Stations during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (e) the details of measures adopted to expand the CRS operations in under-represented linguistic areas?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS**

[DR. L MURUGAN]

(a) to (e)

The sanctioned strength of employees in Prasar Bharati is 45,791. But in recent years, the nature of broadcasting and media operations has undergone significant change. Accordingly, the workforce requirements have also evolved. Currently, Doordarshan has 5,545 regular employees, and Akashvani has 9,648 regular employees.

The engagement of the workforce is carried out as per the functional requirements. As on date, Prasar Bharati has 1,574 contractual employees. Prasar Bharati carries out human resource management as per its requirements which includes periodic assessment, training and reskilling.

Government has sanctioned 540 Community Radio Stations (CRS) throughout the country. 144 applications are at different stages of examination.

To strengthen new and existing Community Radio Stations (CRS) in the country, the Government has also launched a Central Sector Scheme namely 'Supporting Community Radio Movement in India'. With an outlay of Rs. 50.00 Crores, the scheme is functional for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26.

The main features of the scheme are as follows:

1. Financial assistance to newly established CRSs after they have been operational for three months.
2. Stations operating for over five years receive support for renewing or replacing old equipment.
3. Training and awareness through workshops, webinars, and sammelans.
4. Stakeholder Engagement through regional and national events to enable peer learning among CR stakeholders.

The details of approved community radio stations, including the budgetary allocation, as updated from time to time, are available on the Ministry website: <https://mib.gov.in/ministry/our-wings/broadcasting-wing>.
