

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 604
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2025)**

COMMUNITY RADIO CONTENT CHALLENGE

604. SHRI BASAVARAJ BOMMAI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Community Radio Content Challenge platform contributes to empowering local communities and amplifying their voices;
- (b) if so, the details of initiatives undertaken by the Government to enhance the role of community radio in addressing region-specific issues;
- (c) the details of measures that are being implemented to ensure greater participation from diverse regions in the Community Radio Content Challenge;
- (d) whether the Government plan to leverage community radio to promote public health awareness and rural development; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. L. MURUGAN)**

(a) to (e): The Community Radio Content Challenge was organized as part of the World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) held in Mumbai from 1st to 4th May, 2025. Its objective was to highlight the impactful work Community Radio Stations (CRSs) are doing to drive positive change across diverse sectors.

The challenges provided an opportunity for the CRSs to showcase their creative, impactful, and innovative content. Entries were invited under various categories, covering crucial aspects of community development, including programmes on public health & rural development.

To strengthen the development of CRSs, the Government implements a Central Sector Scheme - “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
