

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4152  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2026)**

**PB-SHABD NEWS SHARING SERVICE**

**4152. SMT. SHOBHANABEN MAHENDRASINH BARAIYA:**

**SHRI TRIVENDRA SINGH RAWAT:**

**SHRI YOGENDER CHANDOLIA:**

**SHRI CHAVDA VINOD LAKHAMSHI:**

**SHRI ANUP SANJAY DHOTRE:**

**SHRI CAPTAIN BRIJESH CHOWTA:**

**SHRI KOTA SRINIVASA POOJARY:**

**SHRI CHINTAMANI MAHARAJ:**

**MS KANGNA RANAUT:**

**SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:**

**SHRI RAVINDRA SHUKLA ALIAS RAVI KISHAN:**

**SHRI BUNTY VIVEK SAHU:**

**SHRI PRAVEEN PATEL:**

**SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI:**

**SHRI RAJKUMAR CHAHAR:**

**DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:**

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

**(a) whether the Government has launched the WAVES OTT platform and if so, the main objectives of the launch and the target number of registered users proposed to be achieved by March, 2026 including Chhindwara district of Madhya Pradesh;**

**(b) whether Prasar Bharati – Shared Audio-Visuals for Broadcast and Dissemination (PB-SHABD) news sharing service facilitates dissemination of news across the country in various Indian languages and if so, the details thereof;**

**(c) whether archival content of Prasar Bharati is being made available to viewers through newly launched digital platforms and if so, the details thereof;**

**(d) the timeline for the conclusion of the initial ‘free’ period for users of the PB-SHABD service; and**

**(e) whether under the above-mentioned services (WAVES OTT and PB-SHABD) any special broadcasts, local news or content in regional languages/dialects are being made available for the Surguja region of Chhattisgarh and if so, the details thereof?**

#### **ANSWER**

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

**(DR. L. MURUGAN)**

**(a) to (e): The WAVES OTT platform has been launched by Prasar Bharati in November, 2024 as a digital streaming platform for dissemination of diverse content including Radio and TV Channels, TV shows, web series, films, live events, radio services, cultural content, educational programmes and archival material of Prasar Bharati. The platform has over 84 lakh registered users, including users from Chhindwara district of Madhya Pradesh.**

**Prasar Bharati – Shared Audio-Visuals for Broadcast and Dissemination (PB-SHABD) was launched in March 2024. It facilitates dissemination of news across the country in 15 Indian languages namely Assamese, Bengali, English, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, Dogri & Urdu. Initially, it was made available to users free of charges for one year, which has been further extended till March 2027.**

**A large repository of archival content from Prasar Bharati, including television shows, documentary films and other programmes, has been made available on the WAVES OTT platform. The publishing of archival programmes is being undertaken in a phased manner to enhance discoverability and strengthen audience engagement.**

**The WAVES OTT and PB-SHABD platforms provide access to a wide range of Prasar Bharati content, including programmes and news in Hindi and various regional languages, which are accessible across the country, including the Surguja region of Chhattisgarh.**

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