

MINUTES OF 16th CRA Executive Committee Meeting

Organization: Community Radio Association (CRA)

Date: 02 February 2025

Time: 5:00 PM

Venue: Virtual Meeting (Online)

Roll Call / Establishment of Quorum

A quorum was established with 11 members present, while the other members were absent.

S.No.	Name of Person	Designation
Members Present for the Meeting:		
1	Mr.Sandeep Parmar	President
2	Mr.Jitender Sharma	Secretary General
3.	MSH Beg	Treasurer
4	Dr. S Chandrasekar	Vice President South
5	Mr.Pahal Man Rai	Vice President North East
6	Ms.Sangya Tandon	Vice President Central
7	Mr.Paresh Kumar Patel	Vice President West
8	Mr.Shivashankaraswamy	Joint Secretary
9	Ms. Barsha Chabaria	EC Member
10	Mr.Jagdishwar Yadav	EC Member
11	Dr. Shivaraj Shastri Herur	EC Member
	Absentees	
1	Dr. Sangeeta Kokoty	EC Member
2	Dr. Sugandha Shrotriya	EC Member
3	Dr. Gurjeet Kaur Chawla	Joint Secretary
4	Ms. Gayatri Mhaske	Joint Secretary

5	Ms. Aarti Devi	EC Member
6	Mr. Manish	EC Member
7	Mr.Parshuram Srivastava	EC Member
8	Dr. Hari Vinayak Kulkarni	EC
9	Mr.Sandeep KR. Pandey	EC Member

Welcome and Opening remarks by the CRA President

Mr. Jitender Sharma, **Secretary General of CRA**, requested the **President** to commence the meeting as per the **pre-decided agenda** and extended a warm welcome to the **President and all members**.

President **Mr. Sandeep Parmar** then welcomed everyone and officially opened the meeting.

Discussion on World Radio Day: -

Dr. S. Chandrasekar, **Vice President of the Community Radio Association (CRA)**, shared details about the upcoming **World Radio Day celebrations**. He announced that the event will be organized over **three days on an online platform**.

This year's **World Radio Day theme** is "**Radio and Climate Change**." As part of the celebrations, CRA will host a **Climate Change Awareness Quiz**. A **Google Form** will be created for the quiz and shared with **Community Radio Stations (CRS)**. Stations that participate and complete the quiz will receive **online certificates** from CRA.

Additionally, he mentioned that a **World Radio Day Committee** has been formed and is actively working on the event preparations. **Dr. B.S. Panwar** is overseeing the **panel discussions** for World Radio Day and will soon share further details.

Dr. Panwar is also exploring options for a **conference room in Delhi**. If a venue is secured, a **select group of radio stations** will be invited to attend in person, while others will join online.

A **budget of ₹25,000** has been approved for **mementos and panel-related expenses** for World Radio Day.

Status of Community Radio Content Challenge WAVES AWARD

- Mr. Jitender Sharma, **Secretary General of the Community Radio Association (CRA)**, announced that the **Community Radio Content Challenge (National Entry)** began on **October 1, 2024**, and concluded on **December 15, 2024**. A total of **246 entries** were received from across **India**.

The **evaluation process** for the **Community Radio Content Challenge** consists of **two levels**:

1. **Zone Level Evaluation**
2. **National Level Evaluation**

The **Zone Level screening process** was completed on **January 25, 2025**.

So far, **14 international entries** have been received from **Nepal, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Lesotho**. The **final submission deadline** is **February 28, 2025**.

Mr. **Jitender Sharma, Secretary General, CRA**, stated that **videos have been received** from the **North East Zone, Radio Kissan Vani Sironj, Radio Gunjan, and Radio Connect** to showcase the **role and impact of community radios**. He mentioned that he will finalize the videos in consultation with **Ms. Pooja Murada** by the **last week of February**.

Mr. **Sandeep Parmar, President, CRA**, emphasized the need to **organize an orientation session** for all **Community Radio Stations (CRS)** to create **short videos** highlighting the impact of community radios.

In response, Mr. **Jitender Sharma** confirmed that the orientation will be organized **next week**.

Review on MSJE Project – Reports Status, Work Plan, Scripts.

Mr. **Jitender Sharma, Secretary General, CRA**, stated that as per the **reports shared by Mr. Sandeep Rana** on **AVYAY**, a total of:

- **102 CRS reports (hard copies)** have been received, out of which **28 reports are incomplete** due to missing **signatures from Social Welfare Officers**.
- **110 CRS reports (soft copies)** have also been received.

He further informed that **payments for 60 CRS stations have been transferred today**.

Dr. **S. Chandrasekar, Vice President, CRA**, stated that a **Google Form** was sent to **radio stations** to collect information from those facing difficulties in obtaining **signatures from Social Welfare Officers**.

So far, **39 responses** have been received.

Mr. **Sandeep Parmar, President, CRA**, suggested that the **contact numbers of Social Welfare Officers** involved in these issues should be **added to the Social Welfare WhatsApp group**. This will facilitate communication and encourage them to **cooperate in the project**.

Additionally, he recommended that **radio stations should present reference or broadcast certificates** from other **CRS in their state** that have successfully obtained the required signatures.

Report of Radio Banaras Team Coverage in Mahakhub AVYAY Project- Expenses

Mr. **Jitender Sharma** stated that the **Radio Banaras team** covered the **AVYAY CRA Project** at **Maha Kumbh**. They have shared a **drive link** with CRA containing:

- A **full documentary video** on the **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment camp**
- A **jingle on Maha Kumbh & Senior Citizens (AVYAY)**
- **Photos and audio bytes** from the event

The total **travel expenses of ₹5,000** for the event coverage have been **approved by EC members**.

Mr. **Sandeep Parmar** instructed that the **videos and photos** be shared with the **CRA Social Media team** for upload on social media platforms.

Status on CRA Vice President North Zone :-

Mr. **Sandeep Parmar, President, CRA**, stated that **vacant positions** for **EC members and Vice President** should be **filled as soon as possible**.

He instructed **Mr. Jitender Sharma** to ensure that these positions are addressed in the **next EC meeting**.

Discussion on Facilitation for New Applicants, CRA Members, Non-Members and CBC New Portal.

Mr. **Sandeep Parmar, President, CRA**, suggested that since **CRA has been assisting new applicants in setting up Community Radio Stations (CRS) for many years**, a **facilitation charge** should be introduced. This would help **generate revenue for CRA** while continuing to support applicants effectively.

Mr. **Paresh Patel, Vice President, CRA**, pointed out that **Sandeep Rana** is already handling multiple responsibilities, and with **2 to 3 proposals in the pipeline**, the additional workload should be considered.

Mr. **M.S.H. Beg** emphasized the need to **ensure legal compliance** while implementing this charge.

Dr. **S. Chandrasekar** recommended **developing clear guidelines** outlining the **scope of assistance and the facilitation charges**.

Mr. **Paresh Patel** further added that some **CRA members with extensive CRS experience** should take up this responsibility. He committed to discussing the matter with them and **updating the EC accordingly**.

Invitation to the 8th Edition of The Radio Festival

Mr. **Sandeep Parmar, President, CRA**, announced that **Ms. Archana Kapoor** has invited CRA to the **8th Edition of The Radio Festival**.

All **EC members** expressed their happiness and support. They also stated that if **SMART** requires any assistance for facilitation, they should feel free to reach out to **CRA** without hesitation.

Vote of Thanks

Mr **Jitender Sharma** Secretary General CRA thanked all the members and proposed formal Vote of Thanks.



Jitender Sharma
Secretary General