



Research Unit
Press Information Bureau
Government of India



Theme Music Competition

Awaken the Musical Spirit

(Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)

March 13, 2025

Introduction

The **Theme Music Competition (TMC)** celebrates the true musical spirit of India. It invites songwriters, singers, performers, and music creators to craft a music piece that reflects Indian classical music or a fusion of classical and contemporary styles. Hosted by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (I&B) and in collaboration with the Indian Music Industry (IMI), TMC is part of the **Create in India Challenge**, organized under the World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES).



The **World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES)** in its first edition is a unique hub and spoke platform poised for the convergence of the entire Media and Entertainment (M&E)

sector. The event is a premier global event that aims to bring the focus of the global M&E industry to India and connect it with the Indian M&E sector along with its talent.

The summit will take place from **May 1-4, 2025** at the Jio World Convention Centre & Jio World Gardens in Mumbai. **With a focus on four key pillars**—Broadcasting & Infotainment, AVGC-XR, Digital Media & Innovation, and Films-WAVES will bring together leaders, creators and technologists to showcase the future of India's entertainment industry.

The competition's theme, "Song of India," highlights the power and richness of Indian music. It is part of the **WAVES pillar 1 Broadcasting and Infotainment**. A total of **178 participants registered** for the competition.

Guidelines and Registration Process

Only Indian participants were allowed to take part, and all of them went through a detailed process and followed certain rules to compete:

Work Format: Participants submitted their work in various formats, including literary, dramatic, musical, or artistic creations. The submitted works were between 1 to 2 minutes long, with audio files in MP3 or WAV format (preferably high-quality).

Originality: The work had to be original and not previously published or used elsewhere. It could not infringe upon any existing copyrights under Indian law.

No AI-generated Content: Only human-created content was allowed, and the use of generative AI technologies for the competition was prohibited.

Participants Allowed: Participants were permitted to submit only one entry and one application each. Teams could consist of up to three members, but only one member needed to register and represent the team throughout the competition.

Age Requirement: Only participants aged 18 years or above were eligible to participate.

Creative Process Video: Along with their submission, participants were required to provide a short video (up to 2 minutes) explaining their creative process and cultural inspiration, with a focus on Indian classical elements.

Competition Details

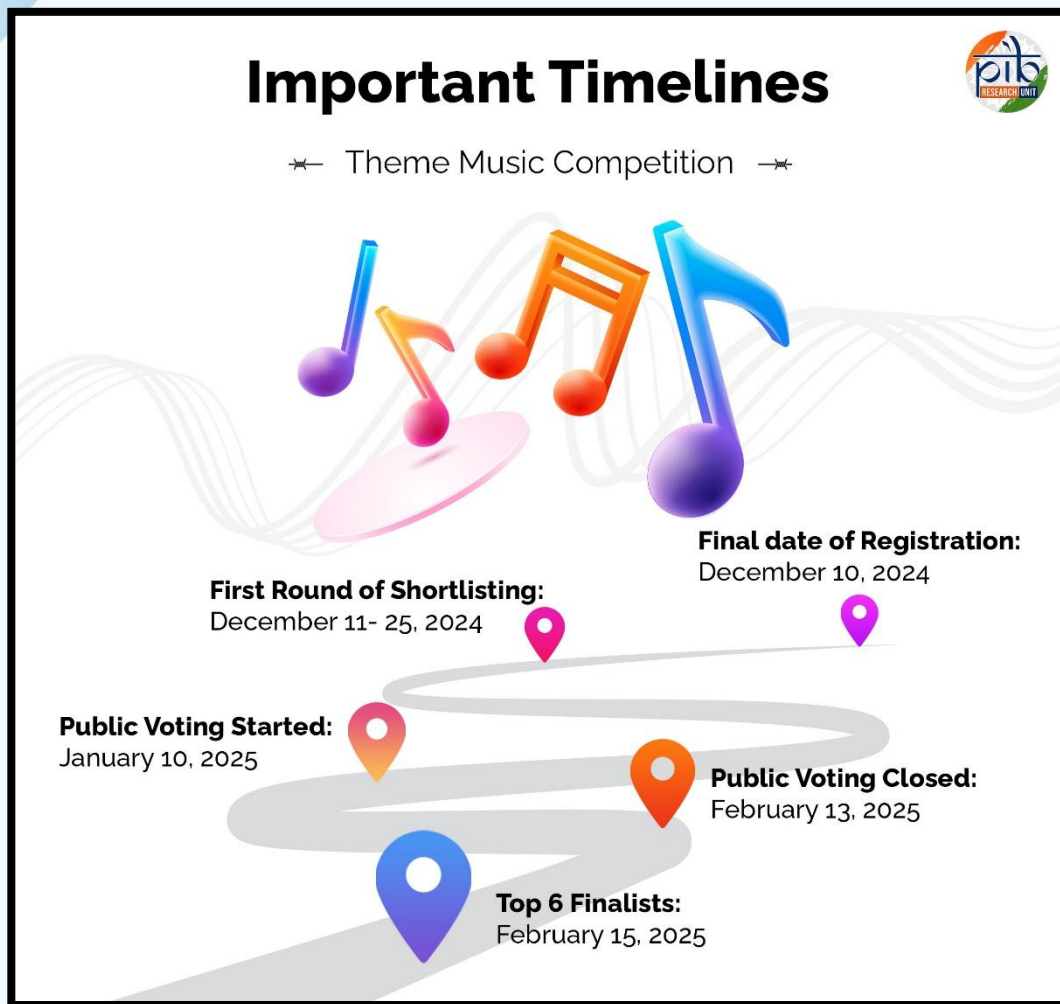
In this competition, songwriters, singers, performers and music creators participated to create and share a piece of music inspired by Indian classical music or a fusion of classical and contemporary instruments and styles.

The competition unfolded in two stages: the preliminary stage and the finale stage.

The theme of the competition, "Song of India," encouraged participants to focus on blending Indian classical music with contemporary styles, resulting in a cohesive and culturally rich musical composition.

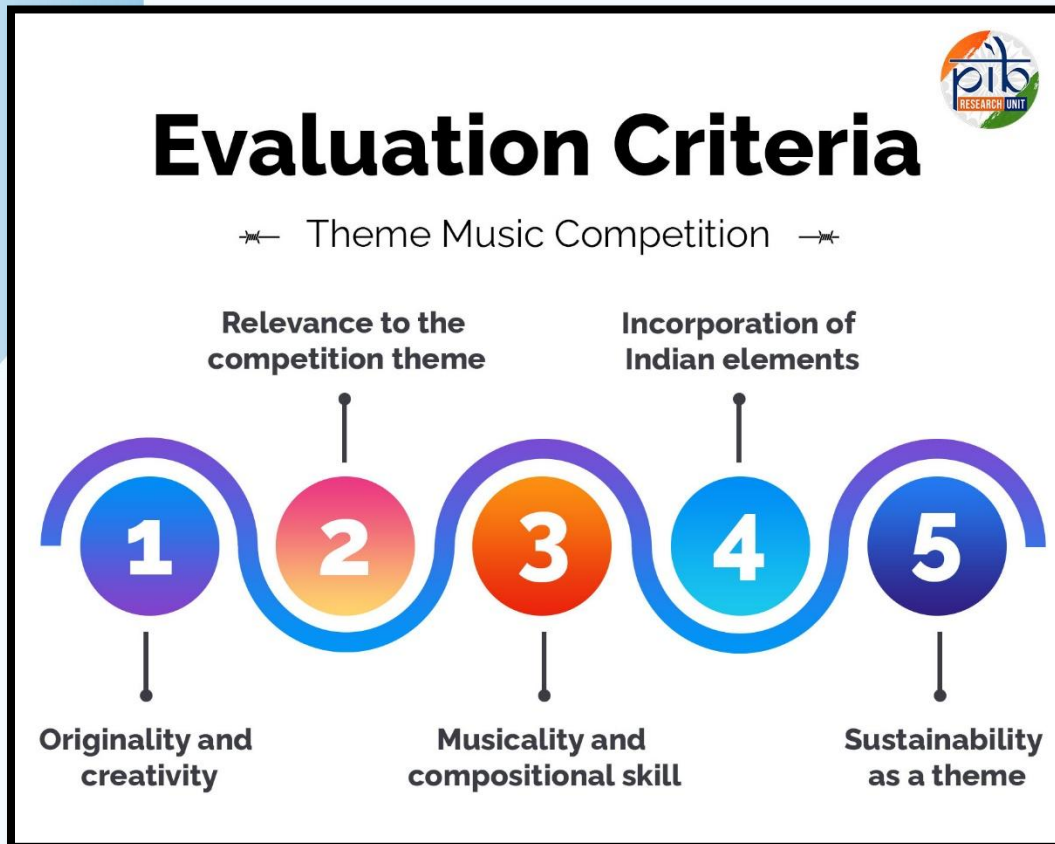
Important Timelines

Here are the key dates and timelines for the event:



Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation criteria for the Theme Music Competition were designed to ensure a thorough and fair assessment. A panel of Indian music industry experts reviewed the submissions in two stages to select the top 6 finalists. The finalists were chosen based on the following criteria:



Prizes and Recognition

A total of six winners were selected in the competition, including one grand prize winner and five runner-ups. The details of the prizes:

Grand Prize (1 Winner):

- Cash prize or an alternative prize
- Professional recording and production of the composition
- Feature in promotional materials and social media
- Mentorship session with a renowned musician or composer
- Invitation to WAVES

Runner-Up Prizes (5 Winners):

- Cash prize or an alternative prize
- Recognition on the summit website and social media
- Invitation to WAVES

Conclusion

The **Theme Music Competition (TMC)**, a part of the **WAVES** initiative, celebrated the rich musical heritage of India, encouraging participants to create original compositions inspired by Indian classical music. With strong participation and a thorough evaluation process, the competition brought together diverse talent, showcasing the depth of Indian music. The event offered exciting prizes, including mentorship and global recognition, highlighting the winners' contributions to the future of India's entertainment industry.

References

- ❖ <https://wavesindia.org/challenges-2025>
- ❖ <https://indianmi.org/tmc/>

Santosh Kumar/ Sarla Meena/ Kamna Lakaria