

**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA
(RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT)**

Press Release

PETITIONING PARLIAMENT (RAJYA SABHA)

Petitioning Parliament is one of the basic rights of every citizen. The Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha), *inter alia*, allow any citizen of the country to petition the Rajya Sabha on any matter of general public interest which falls within the domain of the Government of India (excepting matters which are *sub judice* or for which remedy is available under the Law including, Rules, Regulations or Bye-laws made by or under the authority of the Central Government).

2. Petitions have to be submitted in the format given below (in English or Hindi) as prescribed under Rules of the Council of States.

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| <p>To</p> <p>THE COUNCIL OF STATES (RAJYA SABHA)</p> <p>The petition of..... (Here insert name and designation or description of petitioner(s) in concise form, e.g "A, B, and others" or "the inhabitants of" or "the Municipality of....." etc.).</p> <p>Sheweth</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(HERE INSERT CONCISE STATEMENT OF CASE)</p> <p>and accordingly your petitioner (s) pray that</p> <p>.....</p> <p>(Here insert "that the Bill be or be not proceeded with" or "that special provision be made in the Bill to meet the case of your petitioner (s) or any other appropriate prayer regarding the Bill or matter pending before the Council or a matter of general public interest").</p> | | |
| Name of Petitioner | Address | Signature or thumb impression |
| | | |
| | | |
| Counter-Signature of Member presenting | | |

Petition should be addressed to the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and must be signed by the petitioner and countersigned by Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha (not mandatory). Such petitions may be sent to the office of the Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha, Parliament House, New Delhi. Relevant Rules (Rules 137-153) of Rajya Sabha and format of the petition are also available on the Rajya Sabha Website (www.rajyasabha.nic.in) under the link: *Committees* → *Standing Committees* → *Committee on Petitions*→ *Rules*.

3. Petitions on receipt are examined in terms of Rules of the Council of States. Petitions which are found to be in conformity with the Rules and Procedure of Council of States are admitted by the Hon'ble Chairman of Rajya Sabha. These petitions after admission are presented/reported to the House and thereafter referred to the Committee on Petitions for examination and report.

4. Committee on Petitions of Rajya Sabha is one of the Standing Committees of the House. The mandate of the Committee is to examine those petitions which are presented/reported to the House. The Committee offers an opportunity to the petitioner/principal petitioner (in case of many petitioners) to appear before it to explain his/her views on the case. It also submits its recommendations in the form of Report to the House whereafter the recommendations receive due consideration of the appropriate Ministry/Department of Government of India.

5. Anonymous petitions and petitions raising individual grievances or trivial matters are liable to be summarily rejected.

6. Besides, the Committee is also authorised to consider representations etc. from individuals/associations etc. which are strictly not covered by the Rules relating to petitions and give directions for their disposal:

Provided that representations, which fall in the following categories, shall not be considered by the Committee, but shall be filed on receipt in the Secretariat:-

- (i) anonymous letters or letters on which names and/or addresses of senders are not given or are illegible; and
- (ii) endorsement copies of letters addressed to authorities other than the Chairman or House unless there is a specific request on such a copy praying for redress of the grievance.
