

Parliament of India- Council of States - Rajya Sabha
Secretariat
Petitioning Parliament (Rajya Sabha)- through Secretary
General, Rajya Sabha
Under Rules 137-153

PETITIONS

137. Petitions

Petitions may be presented or submitted to the Council with the consent of the Chairman in accordance with these rules.

138. Scope

1. Petitions may relate to-

- (i) a Bill which has been published under rule 61 or which has been introduced or in respect of which notice of a motion has been received under these rules;
- (ii) any other matter connected with the business pending before the Council; and
- (iii) any matter of general public interest provided that it is not one-

- 1. which falls within the cognizance of a court of law having jurisdiction in any part of India or a court of enquiry or a statutory tribunal or, authority or quasi-judicial body or Commission;
- 2. which raises matters which are not primarily the concern of the Government of India;
- 3. which can be raised on a substantive motion or resolution; or
- 4. for which remedy is available under the law, including rules, regulations or bye-laws made by the Central Government or by an authority to whom power to make such rules, regulations or bye-laws is delegated.

139. General form

(1) The general form of petition set out in the First Schedule, with such variations as the circumstances of each case require, may be used and, if used, shall be sufficient.

(2) Every petition shall be couched in respectful and temperate language.

(3) Every petition shall be either in Hindi or in English. If any petition in any other language is made, it shall be accompanied by a translation either in Hindi or in English, and signed by the petitioner.

140. Authentication of Signatories

The full name and address of every signatory to a petition shall be set out therein and shall be authenticated by the signatory, if literate by his signature and if illiterate by his thumb impression.

141. Documents not to be attached

Letters, affidavits or other documents shall not be attached to any petition.

142. Counter-signature

Every petition shall, if presented by a member, be countersigned by him.

143. Petition to whom to be addressed and how to be concluded

Every petition shall be addressed to the Council and shall conclude with a prayer

reciting the definite object of the petitioner in regard to the matter to which it relates.

144. Notice of presentation of petition

A member shall give advance intimation to the Secretary- General of his intention to present a petition.

145. Presentation of petition

A petition may be presented by a member or be forwarded to the Secretary-General, in which latter case the fact shall be reported by him to the Council, and no debate shall be permitted on' the making of such report.

146. Form of presentation

A member presenting a petition shall confine himself to a statement in the following form.-

"I beg to present a petition signed by petitioner(s) regarding....."

and no debate shall be permitted on this statement.

147. Constitution of Committee on Petitions

(1) The Chairman shall, from time to time, nominate a Committee on Petitions consisting of ten members.

(2) The Committee nominated under sub-rule (1) shall hold office until a new Committee is nominated.

(3) Casual vacancies in the Committee shall be filled by the Chairman.

148. Quorum

The quorum of the Committee shall be five.

149. Chairman of Committee

(1) The Chairman of the Committee shall be appointed by the Chairman from amongst the members of the Committee:

Provided that if the Deputy Chairman is a member of the Committee, he shall be appointed Chairman of the Committee.

(2) If the Chairman of the Committee is for any reason unable to act, the Chairman may similarly appoint another Chairman of the Committee in his place.

(3) If the Chairman of the Committee is absent from any meeting, the Committee shall choose another member to act as Chairman of the Committee for that meeting.

150. Reference of petition to Committee

Every petition shall, after presentation by a member or report by the Secretary-General, as the case may be, stand referred to the Committee on Petitions.

151. Examination and circulation of Petitions

(1) The Committee shall examine every petition referred to it, and if the petition complies with these rules, the Committee may in its discretion direct that it be circulated. Where circulation of the petition has not been directed, the Chairman may at any time, direct that the petition be circulated.

(2) Circulation of the petition shall be in extenso or in a summary form as the Committee, or the Chairman, as the case may be, may direct.

152. Report

(1) The Committee shall report to the Council stating the subject matter of the petition, the number of persons by whom it is signed and whether it is in conformity with these rules, and also whether circulation has or, has not been directed.

(2) It shall also be the duty of the Committee to report to the Council on specific complaints made in the petition referred to it after taking such evidence as it deems fit and to suggest remedial measures either in a concrete form applicable to the case under review or to prevent such cases in future.

153. Presentation of report

The report of the Committee shall be presented to the Council by the Chairman of the Committee or, in his, absence, by any member of the Committee.

Format of Petition

Petitions may be submitted in the format given below in English or Hindi, signed by the Petitioner:-

To

THE COUNCIL OF STATES (RAJYA SABHA)

The petition of.....
(Here insert name and designation or description of petitioner(s) in concise form, e.g..... "A, B, and other" or "the inhabitants of" or "the Municipality of" etc.).

Sheweth

(HERE INSERT CONCISE STATEMENT OF CASE)

and accordingly your petitioner (s) pray that

.....
.....
(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").

Name of Petitioner	Address	Signature or thumb impression

.....
Counter-Signature of Member presenting