

CONSTITUTION OF

NRI SABHA PUNJAB

(A Society Registered with the approval of Government of Punjab)



CENTRAL OFFICE

**OFFICE COMPLEX OF COMMISSIONER,
JALANDHAR DIVISION,
JALANDHAR (PUNJAB)**

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CONSTITUTION

1. Name of the Sabha - NRI SABHA PUNJAB
2. Head Office - JALANDHAR PUNJAB
3. Preamble :-

The main objectives of the NRI Sabha are to :-

- i) Help the NRIs in protecting their rights in Punjab especially in property related matters ;
- ii) Provide facilities to NRIs on their visit to Punjab ;
- iii) Pursue the interest of NRIs with the State and Central Govt. ;
- iv) Help in investment of NRIs in Punjab for economic development ;
- v) Maintain Cultural and ethnic bonds of Punjab with the NRIs especially with the new generation of the NRIs.
- vi) Promote social welfare in Punjab by motivating the NRIs and their friends and relatives residing in Punjab;
- vii) Provide a forum for the NRIs, their friends and relatives living in Punjab and the Government to join and act together.

To meet the above objectives, the NRI Sabha has to be a professionally organised service body with the involvement of the NRIs, their representatives and well-wishers in Punjab and the Government/Government officers. This purpose can be neither achieved singly by a government department nor by a purely NRI-based organisation. Following points, therefore, needed to be kept in view in framing the Constitution of NRI Sabha :-

1. As the NRIs are not residents of Punjab, the NRI Sabha based in Punjab has to associate their nominees residing in Punjab. The proposed Constitution, therefore, stipulates that each NRI member of the Sabha shall have the option to nominate a resident representative who shall act as a de-facto member of the Sabha with the right to vote. In this manner close friends and relatives of the NRIs will get functionally associated with the Sabha and they would be able to maintain due interest in the affairs of the Sabha. As they would maintain communication with the respective NRI members and represent their interests, the burden of the Sabha directly to communicate with the NRIs would be accordingly reduced. The Sabha would thus get a large body of NRI well-wishers in Punjab motivated to look after the cause of the NRIs. This system of

association of nominees would best achieve the above objectives of the Sabha. A Sabha of the NRIs in Punjab cannot move without the goodwill and support of the people residing in Punjab. It is, however, not compulsory for a member to nominate a nominee.

~~Nominee members~~ Resident NRIs elect President at district and state level. The President would form the executive in consultation with the chairman.

2. There are a few resident NRIs and ex-NRIs in Punjab. Such persons show special interest in the welfare of NRIs. Therefore, they deserve a special place in the Sabha. The number of such resident NRIs is so small that they cannot do anything by themselves. Many of them still remain unadjusted and face problems of social and economic adjustment. Such resident NRIs will get an opportunity to work with recognition and mix with the people here. Hence the constitution provides nomination of such resident NRIs in the Executive.

3. While the Executive in Punjab will consist of resident NRIs nominee members, an august body of the NRIs has to be created abroad to oversee the working of the Sabha and contribute its feed back in an institutionalised manner. Therefore, the Constitution stipulates an International Board of Governors which will consist of elected/nominated NRI Overseas Directors. In different countries and at different places abroad, Overseas Directors shall be elected or appointed keeping in view the distribution of the NRIs and the feasibility of election. Out of about hundred such Overseas Directors acting as co-ordinators and feed back channels, In different countries, the International Board of Governors consisting of about 21 members will be carved out. Since it is not possible for the members of this Board, spread all over the world as they are, to meet and function as a well-knit body, this International Board of Governors will meet at least once in Punjab at the time of annual convention of the Sabha to take stock of the affairs of the Sabha and give their advice.

4. Annual Convention of the NRIs Sabha is to be held in Jalandhar every year on a Sunday preceding Lohri. This gives a continuity in the general assembly of NRIs and their well-wishers in Punjab. It would give opportunity to the NRIs, their families, nominees and well-wishers to celebrate Lohri together in the

evening and exchange views on the activities of the Sabha during the day convention.

5. Chief Minister, Punjab is the Chief Patron of the Sabha. In that capacity he has the power to nominate 5 persons to the International Board of Governors and 5 persons in the State Advisory Board. A Patron nominated by the Chief Patron presides the Advisory Board. The International Board of Governors is presided by the Chief Patron i.e. the Chief Minister.

6. There are many senior and experienced persons in Punjab who take interest in NRI affairs, but do not have the time to work in the executive. They need to be associated in advisory capacity so that their help and patronage is available to the Sabha. Hence it is proposed that there would be an Advisory Board Consisting of such 21 persons. The Advisory Board will be headed by the Patron of the Sabha. Its members will be nominated by the Executive and the Chief Patron. Senior officers like Chief Secretary, Advocate General, Home Secretary, Secretary Industry, Director General of Police etc. are to be the standing members of this Advisory Board. In this manner goodwill and guidance of senior persons will be available to the Sabha.

7. It is necessary to maintain non-political structure of the Sabha. A link with the government officers, specially of the district level, is also necessary. Hence Deputy Commissioner acts as chairman of the District unit of the Sabha and in that capacity his main role will be to supervise the affairs of the Sabha. He will ensure proper conduct of election to the post of president of the district unit, ensure maintenance of account and audit of the working of Sabha. Divisional Commissioner, Jalandhar or the NRI commissioner is similarly the chairman of the NRI Sabha's central body. In a Tehsil from where immigration is very large (like Doaba) branches of the Sabha are to set up at tehsil level by a committee nominated by the SDM/Deputy Commissioner. This structure helps in getting the good offices of the govt. departments in the field, solving day to day problems, preventing abuse of the systems and, above all, maintaining the apolitical character of the Sabha.

8. As this organisation is expected to render and undertake

welfare projects in different fields, it has to be achieved with a good team of employees at the state and district levels. Sabha will have to employ persons capable of consultancy in legal and revenue matters. business and banking matters and cultural and publication activities. It will require whole-time officers for correspondence, co-ordination and maintenance of records and accounts. These officers/employees of the Sabha shall work under the immediate supervision of the respective chairman so that it is ensured that they do not develop vested interest or ally with any group. Their accountability to the executive/official Chairman will ensure that the records and accounts of the Sabha are maintained properly without any chance of manipulation or misrepresentation. Therefore, appointing and removing authority of such officers and employees will be the official chairman who will ensure that only capable persons are recruited.

4. Objectives of the NRI Sabha Punjab :-

- i) To Work for the welfare and promotion of interests of NRIs in general and NRIs of Punjab in Particular without any discrimination on ground of caste, creed and religion.
- ii) To work for the Social welfare and economic development of Punjab and India with the participation of NRIs.
- iii) To Work for promotion of cultural and ethnic bonds of Punjab NRIs specially of the new generations.
- iv) To work as a forum of NRIs of Punjab in Punjab and India.
- v) To Create promote or affiliate societies, trusts or companies and to acquire assets,raise loan pursuant and obtain donations and grants for activities pursuant to the above objectives.
- vi) To act as an agency of State Govt. for promoting the welfare of NRIs of Punjab.
- vii) To act as trustees of the properties of NRIs of Punjab who wish to entrust their property to the Sabha for such trusteeship.
- viii) To take special care of the NRIs who are members of the Sabha.

5. Membership :-

- i) Definition of NRI :- An Indian citizen who stays abroad for employment/Carrying on business or vocation outside India or stays abroad under circumstances indicating an intention

for an uncertain duration of stay abroad is a non-resident. It will also include non-resident foreign citizens of Indian Origin and Indian citizens having green card or otherwise the right of residence in a foreign country.

The definition includes for the purpose of membership an ex-NRI residing in Punjab for more than nine months in a year.

- ii) **Admission of Members** :- NRIs of Punjab shall be eligible to be member of the Sabha subject to eligibility conditions and terms of membership laid down in bye-laws.
 - iii) **Nominee Members** :- NRI member shall have the option to nominate his representative from amongst persons residing in Punjab, Delhi & Chandigarh. Such nominee shall be entitled to exercise the rights of a member including the right to participate in general body meet, cast vote. Nomination can be cancelled or changed at any time by the NRI member.
 - iv) **General Body Meeting** :- A meeting of members convened through a press news or any other method prescribed in bye-laws shall be called General Body Meeting. It should be held once in a year as Annual convention.
6. **Chief Patron** :- Chief Minister of Punjab will be the Chief Patron of the Sabha and he shall nominate one or more Patron(s). The Chief Patron is the guardian of the Sabha. His powers and functions are as under :-
- i) to nominate one or more Patron(s).
 - ii) to nominate 5 official and 5 non-official members on the State Advisory Board.
 - iii) to nominate 5 members on the International Board of Governors.
 - iv) to review any decision of Chairman of the Central Sabha.
 - v) to preside meeting of International Board of Governors.
 - vi) to act as guardian of the Sabha.
 - vii) to approve creation, promotion or affiliation of any institution, society, company or trust.
 - viii) to approve bye-laws of the Sabha.
 - ix) to approve transfer of any immovable property and other assets of Sabha.
 - x) to consider any major initiative or change in policy.

- xi) to approve amendment to constitution resolved by the General Body by majority.

7. Chairman:

- i) Divisional Commissioner, Jalandhar or NRI Commissioner, as the State Govt. may deem fit, shall be the Chairman of the NRI Sabha.
- ii) The Chairman shall have the following functions and powers :-
- a) It shall be his responsibility to ensure that membership register and accounts are properly maintained by the Unit offices and the Central Office of the Sabha and membership is open to all NRIs eligible as per the conditions laid down in the bye-laws.
- b) He shall be responsible to ensure that the elections are conducted according to this constitution and the bye-laws.
- c) Office and portfolios will be distributed to the members of the Executive by the ~~Chairman~~ ^{President} in consultation with the ~~President~~.
- d) It will be his duty to oversee the working of NRI Sabha and ensure that it works as an efficient organisation for achieving the objectives of the Sabha. He should also see that the unit Sabhas and branch offices work efficiently and get due recognition in the working of the NRI Sabha. ^{Chairman}
- e) Officers and employees of the Sabha shall be appointed and removed by the ~~chairman on such terms and conditions as he may deem fit.~~ ^{President in consultation with Chairman.}
- f) There shall be an Executive Director in the Central Sabha Who will assist the President and the Executive in discharging the functions of the Sabha. He shall also be answerable to the Chairman for implementing the bye-laws and policies of the Sabha.
- g) Chairman can convene and preside meeting of the Executive whenever he deems fit, but shall not participate in voting.
- h) The Chairman shall have the power to suspend or annul any resolution of the Executive. An appeal against such order shall lie with the Chief Patron.
- i) The Chairman shall have the power to issue any direction to the Executive provided that any such direction can be modified or annulled by the Chief Patron .
- j) Chairman shall appoint auditors for audit and inspection of the offices and accounts for the Central, Unit and Branch Sabhas

and consider its report.

8. President:-

- i) President shall be the head of the Executive. Employees and members of the Executive shall function under his supervision.
- ii) It shall be the duty of the President and the Executive members to ensure that the Sabha works efficiently as per this constitution and bye-laws for achieving the objectives of the Sabha.
- iii) The election for President shall be held by secret ballot once in two years if unanimity in choice is lacking. An ex-NRI Shall be eligible to stand for election. If the NRI member casts vote, the nominee member shall not cast his vote.
- iv) *President* Chairman shall allocate portfolios/ offices to members of the Executive in consultation with the ~~President~~ *Chairman*.
- v) The President may constitute an Administrative Sub committee (ASC) of the Executive with the approval of the chairman, for discharging day to day functions. The ASC will have such powers as may be conferred by the executive or the bye-laws. The President may co-opt. any person or persons on the ASC with the approval of the Chairman.
- vi) Meetings of the Executive shall be convened and presided by the President.
- vii) All decisions of the Executive shall be taken by majority. The president shall be entitled to cast vote in case of tie.

9. Central Executive :-

The Central Executive shall consist of an elected President and as many members as may be laid down in bye laws President shall select a team of members with the approval of the chairman provided that one third members shall be selected out of presidents or secretaries of the district units. The Chairman may co-opt. resident NRIs if their representation is not adequate. Meeting of the executive shall be held at least once in three months.

10. District Units and Branch Offices :-

- i) In every district, there shall be a unit Sabha with an executive and an elected President. Deputy Commissioner Shall be the Chairman.
- ii) The Chairman of Unit Sabha shall have broadly the same powers and functions as those of Chairman of the

- Central Sabha with the difference that the powers of review of an order or direction of the Chairman of a Unit Sabha Shall be exercisable by the Chairman of the Central Sabha. The Unit Sabha Shall be named after the district which it represents.
- iii) President shall be elected by the members belonging to the jurisdiction of the Unit Sabha.
 - iv) In Tehsils from where immigration is large, branch office of the Units Sabha shall be established under the chairmanship of the SDM, in a manner prescribed by the chairman, Central Executive.

11. Overseas Directors & International Board of Governors :-

- i) At different places in different countries, there shall be elected or nominated Overseas Directors, keeping in View the distribution of population of the NRIs Number, place, Jurisdiction, election or nomination criteria and procedure etc. Would be laid down in bye-laws. Nomination of such Overseas Directors shall be made by the Executive of the Central Sabha with the approval of the Chairman.
- ii) Out of the Overseas Directors, Central Executive will constitute International Board of Governors by nomination of twenty one such Overseas Directors with the approval of the Chairman for a period co-terminus with the tenure of the Executive. Five NRI members shall be nominated by the chief Patron.
- iii) International Board of Governors shall have the authority to review the working of the Sabha and its advice shall be followed by the Chairman for issue of such directives to the Executive as he may deem fit.
- iv) With approval of the chief Patron, the Chairman shall convene the meeting of International Board of Governors. It shall be necessary to convene at least one meeting in Punjab before the annual convention. . The Chief Patron may convene any more meetings at any other place.
- v) A meeting of the International Board of Governors shall be normally preceded by a joint meeting with Central Executive which shall present an account of the work done and planned.

12. Advisory Board :-

The Executive shall constitute by nomination an Advisory Board of

not more than 21 persons with the approval of the Chairman Five official and five non-official persons shall be nominated by the chief Patron. Chairman shall be the convenor of the advisory Board. It will be presided by the Patron. At least one meeting of the Advisory Board should be held in a year. Recommendations of the Advisory Board shall be placed before the Executive and the chief patron for consideration. President of the central executive shall be member of the advisory Board.

13. Convention & Annual General Body Meeting :-

A convention of members of all the bodies described in this constitution should be held before the annual General Body meeting which should be held as Annual Convention of the Sabha on a Sunday preceding Lohri. 'Convention of all the bodies means a joint meeting of the Central Executive, executives of District Units, Chairmen of all units/branches, advisory-Board, Overseas Directors, International Board of Governors chief Patron and Patron(s) . Annual Convention of the Sabha means a general body meeting of the Sabha in which all NRIs and nominee members are invited by publication in press. District Units should also hold the annual Convention. A calendar may be prescribed in the bye-laws.

14. Bye-Laws :-

In consultation with the Central Executive, Chairman shall frame proposal of bye-laws which shall be placed before the chief patron for approval. Such bye-laws should not be repugnant to the provisions of the Constitution Until such bye-laws are framed, chairman shall issue guidelines.

15. Sharing of Funds :-

Funds between the Unit Sabha and Central Sabha shall be shared as prescribed in the bye-laws.

16. General :-

- i) Subject to the provisions of this constitution, management of the NRI Sabha, Punjab shall vest in the Central Executive of Sabha.
- ii) Subject to clause (i), the Executive of the Unit Sabha shall be autonomous in managing the affairs of the Unit Sabha in the respective district.
- iii) In the event of dissolution of the Sabha, its property shall vest in the Government of Punjab.
- iv) The Sabha must remain a non-political body.
- v) Interpretation of this constitution given by the Chairman shall be final subject to review by the chief patron.

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਸਰਕਾਰ
ਪ੍ਰਵਾਸੀ ਭਾਰਤੀ ਮਾਮਲੇ ਵਿਭਾਗ

ਸੇਵਾ ਵਿਖੇ,

ਚੇਅਰਮੈਨ,
ਐਨ.ਆਰ.ਆਈ ਸਭਾ, ਪੰਜਾਬ,
ਜਲੰਧਰ।

ਮੀਮੋ ਨੰ: 7/13/12-ਪ੍ਰ.ਭ.ਮ(1)/ 554
ਮਿਤੀ, ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ 11.12.2012

ਵਿਸ਼ਾ:- ਐਨ.ਆਰ.ਆਈ ਸਭਾ ਦੇ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਦੀ ਚੋਣ ਬਾਰੇ।

ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਸ਼ੇ ਤੇ ਆਪ ਦੇ ਪੱਤਰ ਨੰ: ਐਨ.ਆਰ.ਆਈ(ਐਸ)/2012/
3831, ਮਿਤੀ 30.10.12 ਦੇ ਹਵਾਲੇ ਵਿਚ।

2. ਐਨ.ਆਰ.ਆਈ ਸਭਾ ਦੀ ਮਿਤੀ 28.10.12 ਨੂੰ ਹੋਈ ਸਲਾਨਾ ਜਨਰਲ
ਮੀਟਿੰਗ ਵਿਚ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕੀਤੀਆਂ ਗਈਆਂ ਤਜਵੀਜਾਂ/ਮਤੇ ਨੂੰ ਵਿਚਾਰਦੇ ਹੋਏ ਹੇਠ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ
ਸਹਿਮਤੀ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ:-

1. ਨੋਮਨੀ ਨੂੰ ਵੋਟ ਦੇਣ ਦਾ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ ਅਤੇ ਕੇਵਲ
ਐਨ.ਆਰ.ਆਈ. ਖੁਦ ਹੀ ਆਪਣੀ ਵੋਟ ਦੇ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਦਾ ਇਸਤੇਮਾਲ
ਕਰੇਗਾ।
2. ਪ੍ਰੈਜੀਡੈਂਟ ਦੀ ਟੈਨਿਓਰ (Tenure) 2 ਸਾਲ ਦੀ ਰਹੇਗੀ।
3. ਪੋਰਟ ਫੋਲਿਓ ਨੂੰ ਅਲਾਟ ਕਰਨ ਦਾ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਚੇਅਰਮੈਨ ਦੀ ਸਲਾਹ
ਨਾਲ ਪ੍ਰੈਜੀਡੈਂਟ ਨੂੰ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ।
4. ਸਭਾ ਦੇ ਕੰਮ ਨੂੰ ਚਲਾਉਣ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਕਰਮਚਾਰੀਆਂ ਦੀ ਨਿਯੁਕਤੀ ਅਤੇ
ਹਟਾਉਣਾ ਪ੍ਰੈਜੀਡੈਂਟ ਚੇਅਰਮੈਨ ਦੀ ਸਲਾਹ ਨਾਲ ਕਰੇਗਾ।



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ਪੈਟਰਨ ਹਨ, ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨਗੀ ਨਾਲ ਜਾਰੀ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ।

ਸੁਪਰਡੈਂਟ