

FAQs Reconstitution of the Press Council of India

SN	Queries	Clarification
1.	What is reconstitution of the Press Council of India?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Press Council of India, is a quasi-judicial body set up by an Act of Parliament i.e. Press Council Act, 1978. • That the Composition of the Council shall consist of a Chairman and twenty-eight other members. • Each Member shall hold his office for the period of three years from the date of publishing of official Gazette. • On expiry of such three year term the Council needs to be reconstituted for its next term for a period of 3 years.
2.	Where are the provisions laid down for process/procedure of Reconstitution?	<p>Following are the Act and Rules that describes the process/procedure of the Reconstitution:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Press Council Act, 1978 Section 4,5 and 6. b. Press Council (Procedure for Nomination of Members)Rules, 1978 and its amendment time to time. c. Press Council (Procedure for Notification of Associations of Persons) Rules, 2021. <p>The above-mentioned Act and Rules can be accessed at the website of the Council under Act/Rules/Regulations head.</p>
3.	Can an individual apply to be Member of the Press Council?	<p>NO,</p> <p>It may be noted that the Council is statutory body governed by the Press Council Act and other Rules, which defines steps of Notification of Members as under :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Council first notifies the Associations of Persons in respective categories. 2. Thereafter, invite panels of names from those Associations of Persons. 3. Further process for notification of Members from those panels of names is initiated.
4.	What are the categories for which Members/Associations of Persons are to be notified? How many among them are press representative?	<p>As per sub section 3 of section 5 of the Press Council Act, 1978, following are the categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Working journalists who are editors. b. Working journalists other than editors, c. Persons who own or carry on the business of management of big, medium and small newspapers, d. Persons managing the news agencies <p>There are twenty representatives of Press.</p>

5.	How associations of persons can get notified by the Council?	The Hon'ble Chairperson, invites the eligible associations of persons to file their claim. Advertisement Notice is released in prominent newspapers. After due scrutiny the associations of persons fulfilling the criteria as laid down in the Press Council Act, 1978 and Press Council (Procedure for Notification of Associations of Persons) Rules, 2021 will be notified. For 15 th Term Reconstitution Advertisement Notification appeared in newspapers on 09.06.2024
6.	What are the eligibility criteria for Associations of Persons?	As per Press Council (Procedure for Notification of Associations of Persons) Rules, 2021, following are the eligibility criteria for eligible associations of persons: a. It must have been registered under the relevant laws for the time being in force for atleast six years prior to last date of filing of the claims; b. It must be conducting its business continuously thereafter, and shall submit documents in proof thereof, duly certified by the competent authority under such relevant laws; c. The Memorandum of Association (MoA) of such association of persons shall not restrict its membership to any particular religion, race, caste or language.
7.	Does one also need to submit any supportive documents to validate its claims?	Refer clause <u>SUPPORTIVE DOCUMENTS TO BE FILED</u> of Advertisement. It can be accessed on the website of the Council i.e. https://www.presscouncil.nic.in .
8.	What are the other requirements for filing of the claims?	There are following important requirements that are also required to be fulfilled while filing the claims: 1. The associations of persons shall specify the category they are staking their claims. 2. The President/Secretary/authorized signatory to the association shall make and subscribe to a declaration to be sworn before the Notary Public, verifying that he/she has been duly authorized by the Association of Persons to file the claim and the facts stated in the claim application and the particulars attached thereto are true to the best of his/her knowledge and belief and information. 3. The claimant association shall also subscribe to a declaration establishing that the claim of

		<p>the said body is valid and free from all encumbrances/disputes/litigation. The Press Council may at its discretion reject any claim if any such encumbrances are brought to its notice.</p> <p>4. The claims shall be filed in a sealed envelope superscribed "Claims with the name of the Association" on the letter head of the organisation carrying the registered address for correspondence, email i.d., contact numbers with the CHAIRPERSON, PRESS COUNCIL OF INDIA, SOOCHNA BHAWAN, 8, CGO COMPLEX, LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI-110003, so as to reach on or before last date.</p>
9.	Will late filing of claims be entertained by the Council?	No, The sealed envelope having all the required documents shall reach to the Chairperson, Press Council of India on or before stipulated last date.
10	How do I get to know whether my claim is received in the Council?	The list of the claimant's Associations shall be published on the website of the Council.
11.	Can one raise objection for the associations of persons who have filed their claims before the Chairperson	Yes, any person can file objection questioning the eligibility of claimant's Associations within the specified period as given by Press Council of India. The schedule be seen at the website of the Council i.e. https://www.presscouncil.nic.in/
12.	Who will Scrutinise the claims?	The claims shall be scrutinised by the Scrutiny Committee as per extant provisions.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT PRESS COUNCIL OF INDIA

Composition of Press Council of India

1. What is the maximum strength of members of Press Council of India?

Ans: The Council comprises of 28 members, other than the Chairman of which 20 are to be elected by Press Council of India under Section 5(3)(a), (b), and (c) of the Press Council Act, 1978 following the procedure laid in Press Council (Procedure for Nomination of Members) Rules, 1978, three members are to be nominated by the organizations specified under Section 5(3)(d) i.e. University Grants Commission, Sahitya Academy and Bar Council of India and five members under Section 5(3)(e) by Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

2. Who are eligible to get membership of the Press Council of India?

Ans: Press organizations with active existence for at least six years and notified by the Council under Section 5(4) of the Act may send panel of names for election as members. There is no provision for individual membership.

3. What is the term of a member of the Press Council of India?

Ans: It is a three years term; but a member elected/notified vice a vacancy serves for the remaining of the term.