

PRIYANK KHARGE

Minister for Home, Information Technology &
Biotechnology and e-Governance



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Date: 13.06.2026

To,

Sri. Mohan Bhagwatji,

Sarsangchhalak
Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh
Nagpur

Subject: Congratulations on completing 100 years of existence and request for legal clarification on organisational status

Dear Sir,

At the outset, I extend my congratulations to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh on completing 100 years of its existence. An organisation that claims to have over 60,000 shakhas and crores of swayamsevaks across India and abroad undoubtedly has a significant presence in public life and society.

It is precisely because of this scale, influence and reach that the RSS must be held to the highest standards of transparency, accountability and constitutional compliance.

According to the annual report for 2025-26 released by the Akhil Bharatiya Pratinidhi Sabha (ABPS), the highest decision-making body of the RSS, the organisation has a significant footprint in Karnataka, with 4,127 daily shakhas, 1,389 weekly milans and 60 monthly mandalis.

The RSS' public mobilisation is equally extensive. As per your report, the organisation conducted 2,194 Samajotsavas, drawing 19,61,158 participants. You also claim to have organised 562 route marches across the State, usually covering 2.5 to 3 km, with 2,21,963 uniformed participants. Taken together, these figures show a vast, disciplined and deeply embedded network operating across Karnataka through daily cadre-building, weekly and monthly outreach, mass public events and uniformed route marches.

Such an extensive organisational presence, especially when it involves regular public mobilisation, uniformed route marches and large-scale social outreach, cannot be treated as a private or informal arrangement. It raises legitimate questions about legal status, accountability, financial transparency, public order, permissions, sources of funding and compliance with the Constitution and laws of India.

We therefore request the RSS to depute its authorised office bearers to explain the legal grounds on which an organisation of such magnitude continues to function with anonymity and without being formally registered as a legal entity or as a "body of individuals" under the applicable laws.

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In a constitutional democracy, no organisation, however old, large or influential, can remain above scrutiny. Every citizen, association, institution and body that operates in public life is expected to comply with the law. In Bharath, even a safai karamchhari must be registered to avail government benefits. Every religious institution and religious trusts are audited. Charitable bodies, NGOs, trusts, societies, companies and other institutions are required to disclose their structure, activities, finances and sources of income.

In this context, it is only fair and necessary that the RSS also comes forward and places the following information in the public domain:

1. Its legal status and organisational structure.
2. Details of its office bearers and authorised representatives.
3. Sources of donations, contributions and income.
4. Details of expenditure and assets.
5. Whether applicable taxes are being paid in accordance with law.
6. The legal basis on which organisation activities are conducted without formal registration.
7. The constitutional and statutory framework under which it claims the right to operate at such scale without public accountability.
8. Details of permissions, authorisations and compliance mechanisms for public events, route marches, mass gatherings and other organised activities.

An organisation that regularly evokes nationalism, discipline and duty must also demonstrate these values through transparency, compliance and respect for the Constitution of India.

The RSS cannot ask ordinary Indians to follow rules while exempting itself from the same standards. If workers, small associations, religious institutions, NGOs, trusts, companies and citizens are expected to register, disclose, audit and pay taxes, then the RSS too must set an example by abiding by the rules of the land.

We therefore call upon the RSS to use the occasion of its centenary not merely for celebration, but for constitutional introspection. The best tribute it can pay to India in its 100th year is to register itself, disclose its activities and finances, pay all applicable taxes, and function as a transparent and accountable organisation within the framework of Indian law.

We look forward to receiving a formal response and to the deputation of your authorised office bearers for a discussion on the above matters.

Thank you.

(PRIYANK KHARGE)