



THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES

Civil Society Organizations, particularly NGOs, have always played a significant role in facilitating people's participation in the process of governance and development. They represent the link between people's perspectives at the grass roots and the upper echelons of power in the State. Their capacity to influence policy making has been demonstrated several times, most recently in the passing of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and the Right to Information Act.

Given the potential, there is tremendous scope for NGOs to engage with elected representatives in a more focused and sustained manner. CSO Partners has organized a series of workshops to strengthen this process by providing inputs on how to engage with legislators and parliamentarians and influence policy development at a local level.

CSO Partners invites you to participate in its 11th Annual NGO workshop series on the theme- *'Parliamentary Procedure and Engaging effectively with State Legislators'*.

Starting with Pune, we will host the workshops in Hyderabad, Kolkata, Bhubaneswar and Bangalore. We are collaborating in this journey with several resource agencies.

The Pune workshop will be on informing NGOs on 'Joining us in this endeavor will be PRS Legislative Research.

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Purpose of the workshop

This workshop will enable civil society organizations to leverage parliamentary procedure to get their issues and concerns raised in Parliament and State Assemblies. It will equip them with information sources to track the activity of their Legislators with respect to local issues. The workshop would also discuss strategies of engaging with MPs/ MLAs effectively.

The Workshop Module covers the following:

- Overview of the parliamentary system and procedure and areas of engagement
- Walk through of the process of legislation and the avenues available for Legislative engagement
- How to use end of Parliament session information and the possible use of it in advocacy
- Discussion on ways of highlighting issues in Parliament and State Assemblies through Legislators
- Challenges that participants have faced in their interaction with Legislators
- Aspects of working with elected representatives
- How to engage with legislators before and after Election

Who can attend?

Mid to Senior level functionaries of NGOs who are working on or want to engage with policy advocacy.

About CSO Partners:

CSO Partners (www.csopartners.org.in) is a not-for-profit organization that works for strengthening civil society organizations and fostering active collaborations with diverse social contributors - corporate groups, governments, and individuals. We have mobilized financial and non-financial resources for civil society organizations; facilitated support services for them in domains such as donor services, financial management, governance, documentation, advocacy and communications and incubated sustainable and replicable programme models; and promote the culture of accountability and transparency in civil society space through CSO Partners' Annual Report Awards.

About PRS Legislative Research:

PRS Legislative Research (www.prsindia.org) is a not-for-profit research organization at the Centre for Policy Research, Delhi. PRS works with Members of Parliament (MPs) across party lines to provide non partisan research support on legislative and policy issues. It aims to complement the base of knowledge and expertise that already exists in government, citizens groups, businesses, and other research institutions.



Registration Details:

Workshop registration forms can be downloaded from our website: www.csopartners.org.in or sent to you via email.

Registration fee is Rs 500/- per person. An organization can nominate one participant. For registration, kindly send Demand Draft of Rs 500/- in favour of

'**CSO Partners**', payable at Chennai. Mention name of your organization on the reverse of your draft. **Please send it at the address below:**

CSO Partners—NGO workshops
New No. 33, 1st Floor, Eldams Road,
Alwarpet, Chennai-600 018

Tel: 044-4211 2256

Email: workshop@csopartners.org.in

Registrations for Pune & Hyderabad are open till: **5th October, 2010**

Registrations for all other cities are open till: **15th November, 2010**

REGISTER NOW!

City	Workshop date
Pune	13 th Oct, 2010
Hyderabad	19 th Oct, 2010
Kolkata	15 th Dec, 2010
Bhuvaneshwar	17 th Dec, 2010
Bangalore	21 st Dec, 2010

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