Rajya Sabha Codebook 1.10
https://github.com/tcpd/rs-data-release
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Contents

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1. Introduction

The Rajya Sabha Dataset is a corpus of data concerning all members of the Rajya Sabha of India from **March 1952** to **11 July 2022**. The data comes from the official website of Rajya Sabha (https://rajyasabha.nic.in/). This official website contains information about members' political history, positions held, sociological information, etc. We first extracted this information, and then cleaned and structured it to fit into a tabular format.

Each individual member of the Rajya Sabha has been assigned a unique identification number (PID) to help track their political history. We have made the greatest of efforts to keep this PID common across the Rajya Sabha and Lok Dhaba datasets. This means that if an individual contested any seat in the national-level General Elections (GE), state-level Assembly Elections (AE), and/or Rajya Sabha Elections, they will ideally have the same PID across all TCPD datasets. However, please let us know if we might have missed out on a few individuals.

This codebook provides information about the variables included in the Rajya Sabha dataset. The codebook will be updated as and when new information is added to the dataset.

This is version 1.10. We have added the following variables in the dataset - Place_of_Birth, Permanent_Address, Present_Address, E-mail, Freedom_Fighter, Books_Published, Other_Information. The information in this dataset was taken from the official Rajya Sabha website on 11th July, 2022.

We hope that you will find this repository useful and request that you cite the data as indicated in the codebook, whenever you use the data in a publication or public presentation.

With thanks,

TCPD Team

2. Terms and conditions

The Rajya Sabha dataset is a list of all members of the Rajya Sabha from March 1952 to September 2021. The users are free to download, display or include the data in other products for non-commercial purposes at no cost subject to the following limitations:

Data Citation: "TCPD Rajya Sabha dataset (TCPD-RSD), 1952 - 2022". Trivedi Centre for Political Data, Ashoka University.

Codebook Citation: Ananay Agarwal, Neelesh Agrawal, Saloni Bhogale, Shivam Gangwani, Vedant Jumle, Shruti Kraleti, Mohit Kumar, Gilles Verniers. 2022. "TCPD Rajya Sabha Dataset (TCPD-RSD), 1952 - 2022 Codebook", Trivedi Centre for Political Data, Ashoka University.

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Personal data: The Centre may record visits to the TCPD website without collecting the personal information of the users. The records shall be used for statistical reports only.

Acknowledgement: The user must agree that the use of the Data presented within the application can be seen as the acknowledgement of unconditionally accepting the Terms of Use presented by the Centre.

3. Table 1: Variable names, type, and description

No.	Variable Name	Variable Type	Variable Description
1.	pid	string	A unique identification number assigned to each Individual member to help track their political career across national-level General Elections, state-level Assembly Elections, and Rajya Sabha Elections
2.	Member_Name	string	The name of the individual member [As of March 1952 - 11 July 2022, there are 2411 unique Individuals in the Rajya Sabha.]
3.	Gender	string	The sex of the individual as per the Rajya Sabha website
4.	Image	string	The link to the individual's image stored on the official Rajya Sabha website
5.	Father_Name	string	The name of the individual's father if available
6.	Mother_Name	string	The name of the individual's mother if available
7.	Date_of_Birth	date(dd-mm-yyyy)	The day, month, and year the individual was born.
8.	Place_of_Birth	string	The details of where the individual was born as per the Rajya Sabha website
9.	Marital_Status	string	Describes if the individual is/ was single, unmarried, married, or divorced, as per the Rajya Sabha website If available, also mentions the date and/or month and/or year when the Individual was married
10.	Spouse_Name	string	The name of the individual's

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			spouse if available
11.	Children	string	The name and gender of all the Individual's offspring
12.	Educational_Qualification	string	Describes in detail what degrees the individual has attained and from which educational institutions
13.	Profession	string	Describes the occupational experience of the individual
14.	Permanent_Address	string	The individual's permanent address as per the website
15.	Present_Address	string	The individual's present address as per the website
16.	E-mail	string	The individual's official Rajya Sabha email ID, and other IDs (if available)
17.	Positions_Held	string	Describes all the positions the individual has held within the Indian Legislature, the Executive, or the Judiciary, along with the years in which the said positions were held
18.	Freedom_Fighter	string	A binary variable that conveys if the individual had been a Freedom Fighter(Yes) or not (No), as given in the Rajya Sabha website
19.	Books_Published	string	Names of books the individual has published
20.	Other_Information	string	Supplementary information on the individual as given in their profile on the Rajya Sabha website
21.	Start_Date	date(dd-mm-yyyy)	The day, month, and year from which the individual started the particular tenure in the Rajya Sabha
22.	Start_Date_Year	date(yyyy)	The Year when the

			individual was appointed to the Rajya Sabha for a particular tenure
23.	End_Date	date(dd-mm-yyyy)	The day, month, and year on which the individual left the particular tenure in the Rajya Sabha
24.	End_Date_Year	date(yyyy)	The Year when the individual left the Rajya Sabha for a particular tenure For details on the reason for leaving the particular tenure, please see the variable Reason_of_Vacation
25.	Party	string	The party which the individual represents in the Rajya Sabha for the particular tenure
26.	State	string	The state which the individual represents in the Rajya Sabha for the particular tenure If the individual was Nominated, this variable will instead say *Nominated*.
27.	Nominated	logical	Describes if the individual was Nominated (TRUE) or represents a State (FALSE) in the Rajya Sabha for the particular tenure
28.	Term_No	numeric	Gives the n*th* term for this individual
29.	Total_Terms	numeric	Gives the total number of terms the individual has served in the Rajya Sabha
30.	Type	string	Describes if the individual is currently a member of the Rajya Sabha (Current) or not (Former)
31.	Reason_of_Vacation	string	If the individual vacated

			a particular tenure before the official date, this variable gives the reason as to why. The following reasons have been declared on the official website :
			1. Retirement 2. Resignation 3. Death 4. Disqualification 5. Elected to Lok Sabha 6. Reorganisation of the State 7. Seat Declared Vacant

4. Documentation Process

All the information for this dataset was taken from the official website of the Rajya Sabha (https://rajyasabha.nic.in/). The data was first extracted by scraping using the Python libraries BeautifulSoup4 and Selenium. It was then cleaned and formatted to fit into a tabular format.

Afterwards, the PID was assigned by the Centre's open-source software called SURF to track an Individual's political career through national-level General Elections, state-Level Assembly Elections, and Rajya Sabha Elections. For more details on SURF, please see here.

5. Exceptions

The following are the manual changes made by TCPD due to missing data on the official website :

1. Member : Shri Manohar Kant Dhyani
   a. Added state "Uttarakhand" for the tenure 09/11/2000 - 25/11/2002
   b. Source : https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Manohar_Kant_Dhyani

6. Acknowledgements

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