

To,
Shri Dr Virendra Kumar
Honorable Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment,
Government of India
and
Smt Kamal Virendra Kumar

AN OPEN APPEAL FROM PARENTS OF LGBTQIA+ REGARDING THE TRANSGENDER PERSONS AMENDMENT BILL, 2026

Dear Shri Dr Virendra Kumar and Smt Kamal Virendra Kumar,

We are not writing to you today as activists, legal experts, or critics. We are writing to you, Dr. Kumar, not just in your capacity as the Honourable Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, but to you both simply as parents speaking to parents. We are the mothers and fathers of transgender, non-binary, and gender-diverse children across India. Like the two of you, from the moment we first held our children, our greatest and only prayer has been that they would be safe, respected, and allowed to live their truth in the country they call home.

In 2014, when the Supreme Court delivered the landmark NALSA judgment, we wept tears of relief. That judgment did not just allow our children to finally breathe; it put India on the global map as a shining beacon of progressive, humane law. It proudly declared to the rest of the world that India respects the soul and self-determination of its citizens above all else. It recognized that finding oneself is a profound, internal evolution of the mind and spirit.

But watching the introduction of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Bill, 2026, has filled our homes with a deep, paralyzing dread. This amendment does not just alter the law, it rips the very soul out of the NALSA judgment. By introducing a medical board review process and demanding that our children medically "prove" their identity, it replaces self-determination with a clinical tribunal.

Let us speak plainly, parent to parent. We birthed and raised these children. We know their hearts. We have absolutely no reason to ask our children to go under a surgeon's knife just to prove who they are to us. Why should the government demand a physical alteration or a doctor's validation as an acid test for their legal existence?

We ask you to look at your own family and imagine being in our shoes. How would you feel if your child had to beg a committee of bureaucrats to validate their identity? How would you feel if a room full of strangers was given the power to scrutinize your child's body to decide if they are worthy of basic legal recognition? Would you force your child to go under a surgeon's scalpel just to prove their reality to the world? Or would you hold them close and protect them fiercely from a system that refuses to understand them?

We are acutely aware that some of our children are privileged. They have safe roofs over their heads and social resources to navigate this world. But we lose sleep thinking about the thousands of children who do not have this privilege. What happens to the young person from a marginalized background who simply cannot afford a medical procedure? Are they less deserving of dignity in the eyes of the state?

This bill will devastate those who cannot buy their way through hostile medical boards.

Furthermore, we are terrified by Section 18(g) of the amendment. A parent cannot be everywhere, and our children's safety nets heavily include their chosen families, support systems, and the NGOs that protect them. The idea that these very people could be treated with suspicion, criminalized, or harassed by authorities under the guise of "forcing" someone to become transgender is horrifying. Stripping away community support leaves our most vulnerable children entirely defenseless.



We wish every Minister and every Member of Parliament the blessing of having a transgender or gender-diverse child, just as we do. Having a transgender or gender-diverse child is not a burden; it is a profound, life-changing blessing. We have watched our children take the heavy, crushing weight of societal stigma and transform it into fierce, radiant hope. They have taken the deep trauma of being misunderstood, bullied, and erased, and used it to ignite a path forward so that the next generation will not have to bleed the way they did. They do not just survive; they build communities, they lift each other up, and they endlessly love a world that often refuses to love them back.

And may each of those ministers be blessed with the understanding to love them, even if you do not understand them completely. Because as parents, you both know this absolute truth: to love your children, you do not need to "get" them entirely. You just need to respect them for exactly who they are.

We urge you both to look at this community not as a legislative problem to be managed, but as families, as citizens, and as the courageous children of this nation. We humbly request that you demand this bill be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment. Let legal experts, medical professionals, and, most importantly, our children be heard before this proceeds any further.

Please, do not take away the dignity our children have fought so hard to win.

Sincerely,

Sweekar, The Rainbow Parents

Please Note:

- **Who We Are:** Sweekar - The Rainbow Parents is a collective support group formed by the parents of LGBTQIA+ individuals. Our primary mission is to guide, handhold, and support other parents on their journey to fully *sweekar* their child. To learn more about sweekar, please visit www.sweekartrp.org.
- **A Nationwide, Diverse Network:** Our strength lies in our diversity. We are a proud, pan-India network of families spanning various cultural backgrounds and speaking multiple languages. We exist to ensure that no parent ever has to navigate the path of understanding and acceptance alone.
- **Open Access to Amplify:** This appeal is an open resource. We actively encourage you to share, forward, or reproduce this content in its entirety across any platform. There is absolutely no copyright claims attached, and no prior permission is required. Just WhatsApp us the link on **+919833100340**, so that we can help you amplify too. Our only goal is to make sure these voices are heard far and wide. Especially inside the walls of parliament.
- **Connect With a Parent:** Given the paucity of time, if you are a media professional looking to conduct an interview or wish to speak directly with a parent of a Trans+ individual, please drop a WhatsApp message to **+919833100340**. We will promptly connect you with the parent coordinator for this event.

THANK YOU, PLEASE AMPLIFY