

**PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF**   
**SRI LANKA**

——————

**DR. SAMAN WEERASINGHE FOUNDATION (INCORPORATION)**

**A**

**BILL**

**to incorporate the Dr. Saman Weerasinghe Foundation**

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*Presented by theHon. Chandima Weerakkody, M.P.*   
*for Galle District on 21st of September, 2022*

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**[Bill No. 150]**

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| *Dr. Saman Weerasinghe Foundation* | 1 |

*(Incorporation)*

AN ACTTOINCORPORATETHE DR. SAMAN WEERASINGHE   
FOUNDATION

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| 5 | WHEREAS a Board called and known as the “Dr. Saman | Preamble |
| Weerasinghe Foundation” has heretofore been established |
| in Sri Lanka for the purpose of effectually carrying out and |
| transacting all objects and matters connected with the said |
| Foundation according to the rules agreed to by its members: |
| 10 | AND WHEREAS the said Foundation has heretofore |
| successfully carried out and transacted the objects and matters |
| for which it was formed and has applied to be incorporated |
| and it will be for the public advantage to grant such |
| application: |

BE it therefore, enacted by the Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as follows:—

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| 15 | **1.** | This Act may be cited as the Dr. Saman Weerasinghe | Short title |
| Foundation (Incorporation) Act, No. of 2022. | | Incorporation |
| **2.** | From and after the date of commencement of this |
| Act, such and so many persons as now are members of the | | of the Dr. |
| “Dr. Saman Weerasinghe Foundation” (hereinafter referred to | | Saman |
| Weerasinghe |
| 20 | as the “Foundation”) or shall hereafter be admitted as members | |
| Foundation |
| shall be a body corporate (hereinafter referred to as the “body | |
| corporate”) with perpetual succession under the name and | |
| style of “Dr. Saman Weerasinghe Foundation” and by that | |
| 25 | name may sue and be sued in all Courts, with full power and | | General |
| authority to have and use a common seal and to alter the same | |
| at its pleasure. | |
| The body corparate shall be deemed to be a Voluntary | |
| Social Service Organization within the meaning and for | |
| purposes of Voluntary Social Service Organizations | |
| (Registration and Supervision) Act, No. 31 of 1980. | |
| **3.** | (1) The general objects for which the body corporate |
| 30 | is constituted are— | | objects of the |
| body |
| (*a*) to promote peace and harmony among all | | corporate |

communities in Sri Lanka;

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(*b*) to provide books, uniforms, learning materials,   
musical instruments, nutritious foods, sports   
equipments, educational aides to needy children of   
school going and kinder ages and grant scholarships

5 to them;

(*c*) to provide medicines and food to the people in need;

(*d*) to promote and protect rights of women and children;

(*e*) to promote and protect fundamental rights;

(*f*) to organize leadership training programmes to

10 youth;

(*g*) to liaise and co-ordinate with other local institutions   
 or foundations which have similar objects:

Provided however, that above objects shall be carried out in such manner so as not to create any 15 conflict with work being carried out by any Ministry or Department of the Government or of any Provincial Council.

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| 20 | **4.** | (1) The affairs of the body corporate shall, subject to | Management |
| the other provisions of this Act and the rules in force for the | | of the affairs |
| of the body |
| time being of the body corporate be administered by a Board | |
| corporate |
| of Directors consisting of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer | |

and another eleven members elected in accordance with such rules, for a period of 3 years.

(2) The first Board of the body corporate shall consist of 25 the members of the Board of administration of the Foundation holding office on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Act and shall hold office for a period not exceeding one year and shall be empowered to make rules for interim administration of the body corporate 30 and for election and appointment of the Board.

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| 5 | **5.** | Subject to the provisions of this Act and any other | General |
| powers of the |
| written law, the body corporate shall have the power to do, | |
| body |
| perform and execute all such acts, matters and things what | |
| corporate |
| so ever as are necessary or desirable for the promotion or | |
| furtherance of the objects of the body corporate or any one | |

of them, including the power to acquire and hold property moveable, to open, operate and close bank accounts, to borrow or raise moneys with or without security, to erect any building or structures on any land held by the body corporate

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| 10 | and to engage, employ and dismiss officers and servants required for the carrying out of the objects of the body |

corporate.

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| 15 | **6.** | (1) It shall be lawful for the body corporate, from time | Rules of the |
| to time, at any general meeting of the members and by a | | body |
| corporate |
| majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present | |

and voting, to make rules, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, or any other written law, for all or any of the following matters:—

(*a*) the classification of membership, admission,

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| 20 | withdrawal, expulsion or resignation of members and membership fees payable; |

(*b*) procedure to be observed for the summoning and holding of meetings of the body corporate and of the Board of Directors, the quorum of such meetings 25 and the exercise and performance of their powers and duties;

(*c*) the appointment, powers, duties and functions of   
the various officers, agents and servants of the body   
corporate;

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| 30 | (*d*) qualifications required to become a member of the body corporate and of the Board of Directors; |

*(e*) election, vacation and removal of office bearers and   
members of the Board of Directors of the body   
corporate;

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(*f*) the administration and management of the property   
 of the body corporate.

(2) Any rule made by the body corporate may be amended, altered, added to, or replaced at a like meeting and in like 5 manner as a rule made under subsection (1).

(3) Every rule so made by the body corporate shall be published in the Gazette within three months of making such rules and shall come in to effect on such date of publication.

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| 10 | **7.** | All debts and liabilities of the Foundation existing | Debts due by |
| on the day preceding the date of commencement of this Act, | | and payable |
| to the Fund |
| shall be paid by the body corporate hereby constituted and | |

all debts due to, subscriptions and contributions payable to the Foundation on that day shall be paid to the body

|  |  |  |  |
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| 15 | corporate for the purpose of this Act. | | Funds of the |
| **8.** | (1) The body corporate shall have its own fund and |
| body |
| all moneys heretofore or hereafter to be received by way of | |
| corporate |
| gifts, bequest, donation, subscription, contribution, fees or | |

grants for and on account of the Corporation shall be 20 deposited to the credit of the body corporate in one or more banks as the body corporate shall determine.

(2) There shall be paid out of the fund, all sums of money required to defray any expenditure incurred by the body corporate in the exercise, performance and discharge of its

25 powers, duties and functions under this Act.

(3) A detailed report of activities conducted for each financial year by the body corporate shall be submitted to the Registrar of Voluntary Social Services Organizations as defined at Voluntary Social Services Organizations

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| 30 | (Registration and Supervision) Act, No. 31 of 1980, with details of local and foreign funds received, within six months |

from the end of each financial year.

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| 5 | **9.** The body corporate shall be able and capable in law | Body |
| to acquire and hold any property, movable and immovable | corporate |
| which may become vested in it by virtue of any purchase, | may hold |
| property |
| grant, gift, testamentary disposition or otherwise and all such |
| movable and |
| property shall be held by the body corporate for the purposes |
| immovable |
| of this Act and subject to the rules in force for the time being |

of the body corporate, with full power to sell, mortgage, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of the same, provided

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| 10 | that prior written approval shall be obtained from the Department of External Resources of the Ministry of the |

Minister assigned the subject of Finance in respect of receipt of all foreign grants, gifts or donations.

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| 15 | **10.** No member of the body corporate shall be liable for | Limitation of |
| any contribution exceeding the amount of relevant | liabilities of |
| members |
| membership fees due from such member of the body |

corporate, for satisfaction of debts and liabilities of the body corporate or for any other purpose.

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| 20 | **11.** If upon the dissolution of the body corporate, there | Property |
| remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, | remaining on |
| dissolution |
| any property whatsoever, such property shall not be |
| distributed among the members of the body corporate, but |

shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to those of the body

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| 25 | corporate and which is or are by its or their rules, prohibited from distributing any income or property among their |

members.

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| 30 | **12.** (1) The financial year of the body corporate shall be | Audit and |
| accounts of |
| the calendar year. |
| the body |
| (2) The body corporate shall cause proper accounts to | corporate |
| be kept of income and expenditure, assets and liabilities |
| and all other transactions of the body corporate. |

(3) The accounts of the body corporate shall be audited annually by the Auditor General or a qualified auditor appointed by Auditor General in terms of Article 154 of the

35 Constitution.

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(4) In this section “qualified auditor” means —

(*a*) an individual who, being a member of the   
 Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka,   
 or any other institute established by law,

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| 5 | possesses a certificate to practice as an Accountant, issued by the Council of such |

institute; or

(*b*) a firm of Accountants each of the resident   
 partners of which, being a member of the

|  |  |
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| 10 | Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka or of any other institute established by law, |

possesses a certificate of practice as an   
Accountant, issued by the Council of such   
institute.

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| 15 | **13.** The Seal of the body corporate shall not be affixed to | Seal of the |
| any instrument whatsoever except in the presence of the | body |
| corporate |
| Chairman or a member of the Board as may be duly |

authorized by the Board and another member of the Board who shall sign their names on the instrument in token of

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| 20 | their presence and such signing shall be independent of the | | Saving of the |
| signing of any person as a witness. | |
| **14.** | Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or |
| 25 |
| affect the rights of the Republic or of anybody politic, or | | rights of the |
| Republic and |
| corporate or of any other persons except such as are | |
| others |
| mentioned in this Act and those claiming by, from or under | |

them.

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| **15.** | In the event of any inconsistency between the | Sinhala text  to prevail in case of  inconsistency |
| Sinhala and Tamil texts of this Act, the Sinhala text shall prevail. | |

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