



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

**DEDIGAMA SRI MAITHRI PRAGNARTHA
BOUDDHA EDUCATIONAL DAHAM
SABHAWA (INCORPORATION)**

A

BILL

**to incorporate the Dedigama Sri Maithri Pragnartha Bouddha
Educational Daham Sabhawa**

*Presented by the Hon. Ashoka Priyantha, M. P. for
Puttalam District on 06th of April, 2021*

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*Dedigama Sri Maithri Pragnartha Bouddha
Educational Daham Sabhawa (Incorporation)*

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE DEDIGAMA SRI MAITHRI
PRAGNARTHA BOUDDHA EDUCATIONAL DAHAM SABHAWA

WHEREAS a Foundation called and known as the Preamble
“Dedigama Sri Maithri Pragnartha Bouddha Educational
Daham Sabhawa” has heretofore been formed in Sri Lanka
for the purpose of effectually carrying out and transacting
5 all objects and matters connected with the said Foundation
according to the rules agreed to by the members:

AND WHEREAS the said foundation has heretofore
successfully carried out and transacted the several objects
and matters for which it was formed and has applied to be
10 incorporated and it will be for the public advantage to grant
such application:

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Dedigama Sri Maithri Short Title
15 Pragnartha Bouddha Educational Daham Sabhawa
(Incorporation) Act, No. of 2021.

2. From and after the date of commencement of this Incorporation
Act, such and so many persons as now are members of the of the
Dedigama Sri Maithri Pragnartha Bouddha Educational Dedigama Sri
20 Daham Sabhawa (hereinafter referred to as the “Foundation”) Maithri
or shall hereafter be admitted as members of the Corporation Pragnartha
hereby constituted shall be a body corporate with perpetual Bouddha
succession under the name and style of “Dedigama Educational
Daham Sabhawa” (hereinafter referred to as the “Corporation”), and Sabhawa
25 by that name may sue and be sued and full power and
authority to have and use a common seal and alter the same
at its pleasure.

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3. The general objects for which the Corporation is constituted are hereby declared to be— General
objects of the
Corporation

- 5 (a) producing buddhist practicing laymen and clergy with a view to achieving Nibbana who give prominence to Prathipatthi Pooja;
- 10 (b) publishing of religious books for the enhancement of religious and develop sheelaya, asmadhi and wisdom of the everyday new comers, engaging in religious conversations and conducting dhamma sermons;
- 15 (c) taking steps to safeguard and practice the Kathikavath of Dedigama Sri Maithri Pragnartha Thero in order to uphold the dignity of the Siwwanak attached to the Buddhist institutions;
- 20 (d) taking steps to publish an annual Dhamma book that will help enhancing the understanding of the four kinds of followers who are interested in enhancing their understanding in Dhamma, and taking steps to enlighten newly ordained monks and lay trustees on the deeper teachings of the Dhamma by the adult Bhikkus who posses an in-depth understanding of the doctrine and discipline;
- 25 (e) providing infrastructure facilities to give quality education to the novice monks;
- 30 (f) taking action to establish equality between Sri Sambodhi Aranya Senasanas, and to employ the four requisities vested with Sangha only for the use and consumption of the Buddhist clergy;
- 30 (g) facilitation of activities which are of use and incidental to the achievement of goals of

Sri Sambodhi Monasteries belonging to Dedigama Sri Maithri Pragnartha Bouddha Educational Daham Sabhawa as well as the Bhikku, Bikshuni, Upasaka, Upasika;

- 5 (h) working in compliance with the constitution that has been approved by the Dedigama Sri Maithri Pragnartha Bouddha Educational Daham Sabhawa;
- 10 (i) producing a group of ordained and lay trustees who aim at achieving nibbana through understanding of the doctrine and discipline and by abstaining from the five sins and ten sinful acts giving prominence to principles having realized the benefits of material offering (aamisa), and by following Buddhist observances with piety. To this
- 15 end, conducting sil and meditation programmes monthly on the four poya days, conducting meditation weeks annually, and conducting dhamma discussions between ordained groups who have gained deeper understanding and among the
- 20 ordained and laymen;
- 25 (j) having considered the religious activities done by respected Dedigama Sri Maithri Pragnartha Maha Nayakka, the books containing philosophical thoughts, speeches and videos to be protected, and create an environment to use such things frequently, senior monks provide enlightments through religious discussions and other moral activities to the novice monks. through these activities enhance the religious understanding and moral of reverent
- 30 monks;
- (k) facilitating access to educational opportunities for the young clergy and lay people as well as conducting programmes to enhance quality knowledge such as Meditation, Sil observation,

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Dhamma talks and sermons on poya days for the
sivvanak with a view to create a group of people
who observe Ajeeva Ashthamika precepts based
on the Dhamma practice;

- 5 (l) initiating projects in areas where a group of devotees
who observes and practice Dhamma by
contributing to set up new senaasanas in the
particular areas.

- 10 4. (1) The management of the affairs of the corporation shall, subject to the other provisions of this Act and the rules in force for the time being of the Corporation be administered by a Committee of Management consisting of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and another eleven members elected in accordance with such rules.

Management
of the affairs
of the
Corporation

- 15 (2) The First Committee of Management shall consist of the members of the Committee of Management holding office on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Act.

- 20 5. Subject to the provisions of this Act and any other written law, the Corporation shall have the power to do, perform and execute all such acts, matters and things whatsoever as are necessary or desirable for the promotion or furtherance of the objects of the Corporation or any one of them, including the powers to open, operate or close bank
25 accounts, to borrow or raise money with or without security to receive or collect or accept grants and donations to invest its funds to the Corporation and to engage employ and dismiss officers and servants required for the carrying out of the objects of the Corporation.

General
Powers of the
Corporation

- 30 6. (1) The Corporation shall have its own fund and all moneys heretofore or hereafter to be received by way of gifts, bequest, donation, subscription, contribution, fees or grants for and on account of the Corporation shall be deposited in one or more banks as the Corporation shall determine.

Fund of the
Corporation

(2) There shall be paid out of the fund, all sums of money required to defray any expenditure incurred by the Corporation in the exercise, performance and discharge of its power, duties and function under this Act

5 **7.** The Corporation shall be able and capable in law to acquire and hold any property, movable and immovable which may become vested in it by virtue of any purchase, grant, lease, gift, testamentary disposition or otherwise and all such property shall be held by the Corporation for the
10 purposes of this Act and subject to the rules in force for the time being of the Corporation, with full power to sell, mortgage, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of the same.

Corporation
may hold
property
movable and
immovable

15 **8.** If upon the dissolution of the Corporation there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, such property shall not be distributed among the members of the Corporation, but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to those of the Corporation and which, is or are by its rules prohibited from
20 distributing any income or property among their members.

Property
remaining on
dissolution of
Corporation

9. (1) The financial year of the corporation shall be the calendar year.

Audit and
accounts

(2) The Corporation shall cause proper accounts to be kept of all moneys received and expended, by the
25 Corporation.

(3) The accounts of the Corporation shall be examined and audited at least once in every year and the correctness of income and expenditure account and balance sheet certified by a qualified auditor appointed by the Committee of
30 Management.

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

- 5 (a) an individual who, being a member of the
 Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka,
 or any other institute established by law,
 possesses a certificate to practice as an
 Accountant, issued by the Council of such
 Institute; or
- 10 (b) a firm of Accountants, each of the resident
 partners of which, being a member of the Institute
 of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka or of any
 other Institute established by law, possesses a
 certificate to practice as an Accountant, issued
 by the Council of such Institute.

15 **10.** The seal of the Corporation shall not be affixed to
any instrument whatsoever except in the presence of two
members of the Committee of Management, who shall sign
their names to the instrument in token of their presence and
such signing shall be independent of the signing of any
person as a witness. Seal of the
Corporation

20 **11.** Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or
affect the rights of the Republic or of anybody politic, or
corporate or of any other persons except such as are mentioned
in this Act and those claiming by, from or under them. Saving of the
rights of the
Republic and
others

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

