



PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

COLOMBO ASSOCIATION OF LANGUAGE SKILLS AND DRAMATIC ART (INCORPORATION)

A BILL

to incorporate the Colombo Association of
Language Skills and Dramatic Art

*Presented by Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam, M.P. for
Batticaloa District on 18th of June, 2025*

(Published in the Gazette on June 02, 2025)

Ordered by Parliament to be printed

[Bill No. 24]

PRINTED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING, SRI LANKA
TO BE PURCHASED AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS BUREAU, COLOMBO 5

Price : Rs. 58.00

Postage : Rs. 150.00

This Bill can be downloaded from www.documents.gov.lk



*Colombo Association of Language Skills and
Dramatic Art (Incorporation)*

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE COLOMBO ASSOCIATION OF
LANGUAGE SKILLS AND DRAMATIC ART

WHEREAS an Association called and known as the Preamble
“Colombo Association of Language Skills and Dramatic
Art” has heretofore been established in Sri Lanka for the
purpose of effectually carrying out its objects and transacting
5 all matters connected with the said Association according to
the rules agreed to by its members:

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

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Colombo Association Short title
15 of Language Skills and Dramatic Art (Incorporation)
Act, No. of 2025.

2. (1) From and after the date of commencement of this Incorporation
Act, such and so many persons as now are members of the of the
Colombo Association of Language Skills and Dramatic Art Colombo
Association
20 and shall hereafter be admitted as members of the body of Language
corporate hereby constituted shall have perpetual succession Skills and
under the name and style of the “Colombo Association of Dramatic Art
Language Skills and Dramatic Art” (hereinafter referred to
as the “body corporate”), and by that name may sue and be
25 sued with full power and authority to have and use a common
seal and to alter the same at its pleasure.

(2) The body corporate shall be deemed to be a Voluntary
Social Service Organization within the meaning and for

the purpose of the Voluntary Social Service Organizations (Registration and Supervision) Act, No. 31 of 1980 and the provisions of that Act shall apply to and in relation to the management of the affairs of the body corporate.

- 5 **3. (1)** Subject to the provisions of any other written law, this Act and the rules made under section 7, the general objects for which the body corporate is constituted are hereby declared to be to- General
objects of
the body
corporate

10 (a) to recruit, train and maintain a panel of examiners qualified and experienced in communication and performance skills and conduct examinations in Speech, Drama, Verse, Prose, Public Speaking, Spoken and Written English, Personal and Professional English and grant certificates of
15 competence by conducting examinations and awarding certificates;

20 (b) (i) to prepare syllabuses in a wide variety of Oral Communication and Performing Arts to ensure that such syllabuses reflect the needs of candidates;

 (ii) to keep these syllabuses under constant review in response to changing patterns of training and comments from examiners, teachers, and candidates;

25 (iii) to conduct fair examinations as stated in the syllabuses;

 (iv) to give reasonable notice of such examinations to relevant individuals and examination centres; and

- (v) to collect and distribute the results as early as possible while safeguarding essential checking procedures;
- 5 (c) to select material within the syllabuses which will form part of students' repertoire, enabling the grade examinations to be used as a guideline for teachers;
- 10 (d) to encourage students to take the appropriate grade and diploma examinations in a variety of subjects, thereby broadening and developing their skills to the highest level of their ability;
- (e) to foster and encourage a closer bond of friendship and understanding among teachers of English, Speech, Drama and allied subjects;
- 15 (f) to conduct regular teacher training programmes, workshops, and seminars, to conduct specialised English courses for the development of personal and professional communication skills; and
- 20 (g) to provide the government, professional and educational bodies and other interested persons or bodies the opportunity of ascertaining the view of the body corporate in matters relating to Oral Communication and Dramatic Art, if required to do so.
- 25 (2) In the implementation of the objects specified in subsection (1), the body corporate shall ensure that such implementation shall be carried out without any distinction based on race, religion, language, caste, sex, political opinion, place of birth or any of such grounds.

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4. The objects of the body corporate shall be carried out subject to any applicable written law, in such manner so as not to create any conflict between the work of the body corporate and any work being carried out simultaneously
5 by any Ministry or Department of the Government or of any Provincial Council or any Local Authority or Public Corporation.

Body corporate to ensure no conflict with work of Ministry or Department of the Government or a Provincial Council or any Local Authority or Public Corporation

5. (1) Subject to the provisions of any other written law, this Act and the rules made under section 7, the management
10 and administration of the affairs of the body corporate shall be carried out by a Council (hereinafter referred to as the "Council") consisting of such number of office bearers as may be specified by rules made under section 7 and in such a manner as may be specified therein.

Management of affairs of the body corporate

15 (2) (a) The Council of the Colombo Association of Language Skills and Dramatic Art holding office on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Act shall, subject to the rules made under paragraph (b), function as an Interim Council of the body corporate until
20 the first Council is appointed or elected within the period specified in paragraph (d) and in the manner provided for by rules made under section 7.

 (b) Subject to the provisions of subsections (2), (3), (4) and (5) of section 7, the Interim Council of the body
25 corporate shall have the power to make rules for the interim administration of the body corporate not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act or any other written law.

 (c) Any decision of the Interim Council shall be taken by the majority of its members present at such meeting.

(d) The First Council of the body corporate shall be appointed or elected within one year of the date of commencement of this Act.

5 (3) (a) Every office bearer of the Council including the patrons and advisors, shall be appointed or elected for a period of three years and any such office bearer, patron or advisor shall be eligible for re-appointment or re-election after the lapse of the said period of three years.

10 (b) In the event of a vacancy occurring due to the death, resignation, incapacity or removal from office of an office bearer, the Council shall, having regard to the rules of the body corporate, elect or appoint a person to fill such vacancy.

15 (c) The person elected or appointed under paragraph (b) shall hold office only for the unexpired portion of the term of office of the member whom he succeeds.

6. Subject to the provisions of any other written law, this Act and the rules made under section 7, the body corporate shall have the power to do, perform and execute the following acts for the attainment of the objects of the body corporate -

Powers of
the body
corporate

20 (a) to purchase, rent, construct, renovate and otherwise obtain lands or buildings which may be required for the purposes of the body corporate made and to deal with or dispose of the same as determined by the Council with a view
25 to promoting the objects of the body corporate;

30 (b) to enter into and perform or carry out, whether directly or through any officer or agent authorized in that behalf by the body corporate, all such contracts or agreements as may be necessary for the attainment of the objects or the exercise of the powers of the body corporate:

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- (c) to borrow or raise funds with or without securities and to receive grants, gifts or donations in cash or kind for the attainment of the objects of the body corporate:

5 Provided that, the Council shall obtain the prior written approval of the Department of External Resources in respect of all foreign funds including grants, gifts or donations received by or made to the body corporate;

10 (d) subject to the provisions of the proviso to paragraph (c), to make, draw, accept, discount, endorse, negotiate, buy, sell and issue bills of exchange, cheques, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments and to open, operate,
15 maintain and close accounts in any bank;

- (e) to invest any funds that are not immediately required for the purposes of the body corporate, in such manner as the Council may determine;

20 (f) to undertake, accept, execute, perform and administer any lawful trust having objects similar to the body corporate or any real or personal property with a view to promoting the objects of the body corporate;

25 (g) to appoint, employ, dismiss or terminate the services of officers and servants of the body corporate and exercise disciplinary control over them and to pay them such salaries and allowances as may be determined by the body corporate in terms of rules made under section 7
30 of the Act;

- (h) to organize lectures, seminars and conferences with a view to promoting the objectives of the body corporate;

- (i) to liaise and co-ordinate with other local and foreign institutions having similar objects to that of the body corporate; and
- (j) to do such things as are authorized by this Act for the achievement of the objects of the body corporate.

7. (1) The body corporate shall, from time to time, at any general meeting of the body corporate and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting, make rules which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act or any other written law, for the following matters:-

Rules of
the body
corporate

- (a) the classification of membership, admission, withdrawal, expulsion or resignation of members and fees payable by such members;
- (b) the election of office bearers of the Council and vacation of or removal from office of office bearers and the powers, duties and functions of the office bearers;
- (c) the terms and conditions of appointment, powers, functions and duties, dismissal or termination of services, the exercise of disciplinary control and the payment of salaries and allowances of officers and servants of the body corporate;
- (d) the procedure to be followed for the summoning and holding of meetings of the body corporate and of the Council and for the issuance of notices and agenda of such meetings, the quorum and the conduct of business thereat;
- (e) the qualifications and disqualifications to be a member of the body corporate and of the Council;

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- (f) the administration and management of the property of the body corporate;
- (g) the procedure for governing the manner of liaising, coordinating and contracting with other local and foreign institutions having objects similar to that of the body corporate;and
- (h) generally the management of the affairs of the body corporate, the accomplishment of its objects and dissolution of the body corporate.

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

(3) The rules made under subsection (1) of this section and paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 5 of this Act shall be published in the *Gazette* within one month upon the making of such rules and shall come into effect on the date of publication thereof.

(4) Every rule made by the body corporate shall within two months of its publication in the *Gazette*, be brought before Parliament for approval. Any rule which is not so approved shall be deemed to be rescinded as from the date of such disapproval, but without prejudice to anything duly done thereunder.

(5) Notification of the date on which any such rule is deemed to be so rescinded under subsection (4) shall be published in the *Gazette*.

(6) The members of the body corporate shall at all times be subjected to the rules of the body corporate.

8. The Council shall maintain a register of members in which the name, address and other essential details of the members of the body corporate shall be inscribed.

Register of members

9. (1) The body corporate shall have its own Fund.

Fund of the
body
corporate

(2) Subject to the provisions of the proviso to paragraph (c) of section 6, all moneys received by way of gifts, bequests, donations, subscriptions, contributions, fees or grants for and on account of the body corporate shall, be deposited in one or more banks approved by the Council to the credit of the body corporate.

(3) There shall be paid out of the Fund, all such sums of money as are required to defray any expenditure incurred by the body corporate in the exercise, performance and discharge of its powers, duties and functions under this Act.

10.(1) The financial year of the body corporate shall be the calendar year.

Accounts and
Auditing

15 (2) The body corporate shall cause proper accounts to be kept of its 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 the Auditor General in terms of the provisions of Article 154 of the Constitution, and be certified by Auditor General or such qualified auditor.

(4) For the purposes of this section "qualified auditor" means -

25 (a) an individual who, 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; or

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- 5 (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
10 by the Council of such Institute.

11. (1) The Council shall prepare a report of the activities Annual Report
of the body corporate for each financial year and submit such
report together with the audited statement of accounts, a list
of all assets and liabilities of the body corporate certified
15 by the Auditor- General or qualified auditor appointed by
the Auditor General, referred to in section 10 and the details
of all contracts and agreements entered into by the body
corporate and the rules of the body corporate made under
20 Section 7, to the Secretary of the Ministry of the Minister
assigned the subject of Education and to the Registrar of
Voluntary Social Service Organizations appointed under the
Voluntary Social Service Organizations (Registration and
Supervision) Act, No. 31 of 1980 before the expiration of
six months of the year succeeding the year to which such
25 report relates.

(2) A separate statement of accounts relating to the
foreign and local moneys received by the body corporate
during the financial year shall be attached to the report
referred to in subsection (1).

30 **12.** All debts and liabilities of the Colombo Association
of Language Skills and Dramatic Art existing on the day
immediately preceding the date of commencement of this
Act, shall be paid by the body corporate hereby constituted
and all debts due to and subscriptions and contributions
35 payable to the Colombo Association of Language Skills and
Dramatic Art on that day shall be paid to the body corporate
for the purposes of this Act.

Debts due by
and payable to
the Colombo
Association
of Language
Skills and
Dramatic Art

13. Subject to the provisions of any other written law,
of this Act and the rules made under section 7, the body
5 corporate shall be able and capable in law to take and hold
any property, movable or immovable, which may become
vested in it by virtue of any purchase, grant, gift, testamentary
disposition or otherwise, and all such property shall be held
by the body corporate for the purpose of this Act and subject
10 to the rules of the body corporate made under section 7,
with power to sell, mortgage, lease, exchange, or otherwise
dispose of the same.

Body
corporate may
hold property
movable and
immovable

14. Subject to the provisions of any other written law,
of this Act and the rules made under section 7, the moneys
15 and property of the body corporate however derived shall
be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of
the body corporate and no portion thereof shall be paid or
transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus
or profit or otherwise howsoever to the members of the body
20 corporate.

Application of
moneys and
property

15. (1) Subject to the provisions of any other written
law, the seal of the body corporate shall not be affixed to
any instrument whatsoever, except in the presence of two
members of the Council who shall sign their names to the
25 instrument and such signing shall be independent of the
signing of any person as a witness.

Seal of the
body
corporate

(2) The seal of the body corporate shall be in the custody
of an office bearer of the Council as may be decided by the
Council.

30 16. (1) If upon the dissolution of the body corporate
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 body corporate,
but shall be given or transferred to any other appropriate
35 institution having objects similar to those of the body
corporate, and which is by the rules thereof, prohibited from
distributing any income or property among its members.

Property
remaining on
dissolution

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(2) For the purposes of subsection (1) the appropriate
institution shall be determined by the members of the body
5 corporate with the approval of the Registrar of Voluntary
Social Service Organizations appointed under the Voluntary
Social Service Organizations (Registration and Supervision)
Act, No. 31 of 1980 immediately before the dissolution at
a general meeting by the majority of votes of the members
10 present.

17. Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or affect Saving of the
the rights of the Republic or of any body politic or corporate. rights of the
Republic

18. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires - Interpretation

“bank” means' a bank licensed under the provisions of
15 the Banking Act, No. 30 of 1988; and

“written law” shall have the same meaning assigned
to such expression in the Constitution of the
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

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

