



PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ART SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA (INCORPORATION)

A BILL

to incorporate the National Photographic Art Society of Sri Lanka

*Presented by Hon. Waruna Liyanage, M.P. for Rathnapura District
on 06th of June, 2025*

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*National Photographic Art Society
of Sri Lanka (Incorporation)*

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
ART SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA

WHEREAS a Society called and known as the “The National Photographic Art Society of Sri Lanka” has heretofore been formed in Sri Lanka for the purpose of effectually carrying out its objects and transacting all matters connected with the said foundation according to the rules agreed to by its members:

Preamble

AND WHEREAS the said Society has heretofore successfully carried out and transacted the several objects and matters for which it was established, and has applied to 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 National Photographic Art Society of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Act, No. of 2025.

Short title

2. (1) From and after the date of commencement of this act, such and so many persons as now are members of The National Photographic Art Society of Sri Lanka (hereinafter referred to as the “Society”) or shall hereafter be admitted as members of the Society hereby constituted, shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession, under the name and style of “The National Photographic Art Society of Sri Lanka” (hereinafter referred to as the “body corporate”) and by that name may sue and be sued, with full power and authority to have and use a common seal and alter the same at its pleasure.

Incorporation
of the
National
Photographic
Art Society of
Sri Lanka

(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 corporation.

3. The body corporate shall operate exclusively as a not-for-profit Organization and it is solely for the benefit of the Society and its members.

Body
corporate as a
not-for-profit
Organization

4. (1) The general objects for which the body corporate
5 is constituted are hereby declared to be—

The General
objects of
the body
corporate

- (a) to accomplish the task of teaching photography to Sri Lankan free of charge and promoting professional skills of photography;
- 10 (b) to provide guidance and recommendations to Sri Lankan photographers to achieve international achievements as well as international qualifications as the only local operational member of the International Federation of Photographic Art;
- 15 (c) to compile of syllabus for photography education of school children, provision of resource persons, conducting annual school photography examination and contributing to the introduction and implementation of photography as a co-curricular activity of the Ministry of Education;
- 20 (d) to release publications useful to the development of photographic arts, under the supervision of the Society; and
- (e) to co-operate with local as well as foreign photographers' societies in order to achieve the
25 above objectives.

(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 discrimination based on race, religion, language, caste, sex,
30 political opinion, place of birth or any of such grounds.

5 **5.** The objects of the body corporate shall be carried out in such manner so as not to create any conflict between the work of the body corporate and any work being carried out simultaneously by any Ministry or Department of the Government or any Provincial Council.

Body corporate to ensure no conflict with work of Ministry or Department of the Central Government or Province

10 **6.** (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, management and the administration of the body corporate shall be carried out by a an Executive Committee (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) consisting of such number of office bearers as may be specified by the rules made under section 8.

Management of the affairs of the body corporate

15 (2) (a) The Executive Committee of the Society that holds office on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Act, shall function as the Interim Committee of the body corporate until the First Executive Committee is appointed or elected in the manner provided for by rules made under section 8.

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

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

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

(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.

7. Subject to the provisions of this Act and any other
5 written law, the body corporate shall have the power to do,
perform and execute all such acts and matters as necessary
or desirable for the promotion or any one of them, including
the power—

Powers of
the body
corporate

10 (a) to purchase, acquire, rent, construct, renovate and
otherwise obtain lands or buildings which may
be required for the purpose of the body corporate
and to deal with or dispose of the same as may be
deemed expedient with a view to promoting the
objects of the body corporate;

15 (b) to raise funds and receive grants, gifts or donations,
in cash or kind with or without security:

20 Provided that, the Board shall obtain the prior
written approval of the Department of External
Resources of the Ministry of the Minister assigned
the subject of Finance, in respect of all foreign
grants, gifts or donations made to the Body
corporate;

25 (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 and close accounts in any
banks;

30 (d) to invest any funds not immediately required for
the purposes of the body corporate in such manner
as the Committee may determine;

- (e) to undertake, accept, execute, perform and administer any lawful trust or any real or personal property with a view to promoting the objects of the body corporate;
- 5 (f) 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, allowances and gratuities as may be determined by the body corporate;
- 10 (g) to do all other things as are necessary or expedient for the proper and effective carrying out the objects of the body corporate.

8. (1) It shall be lawful for the body corporate, from time to time, at any general meeting and by the votes of not less
15 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:—

Rules of
the body
corporate

- 20 (a) the classification of membership, admission, withdrawal, expulsion or resignation of members and fees payable by members;
- (b) the election of office bearers of the Committee or vacation of or removal from office of office bearers and the powers, duties and functions of the office bearers;
- 25 (c) the terms and conditions of appointment, powers, functions and duties of the various officers, agents and servants of the body corporate;

(d) the procedure to be followed at the summoning and holding of meetings of the Committee, or any subcommittee thereof, notices and agenda of such meetings, the quorum and the conduct of business thereat;

(e) the qualification and disqualification to be a member of the Committee and the body corporate;

(f) the administration and management of the property of the body corporate; and

(g) the management of the affairs of the body corporate and the accomplishment of its' objects and dissolution of the body corporate.

(2) The rules 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).

(3) The members of the body corporate shall at all time be subject to rules of the body corporate.

(4) The rules made under this section shall be published in the *Government Gazette*.

9. The Committee shall maintain a register of members in which name, address and other essential details of the members be inscribed.

Register of
members

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

Fund of the
body corporate

(2) All moneys received by way of gift, bequest, donation, subscription, contribution, fees or grants for an account of the body corporate shall be deposited in one or more banks approved by the Committee to the credit of the body corporate.

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

- 5 **11.** (1) The financial year of the body corporate shall be the calendar year. Accounts and
the auditing

(2) The body corporate shall cause proper accounts to be kept of income and expenditure, assets and liabilities and all other transactions of the body corporate.

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

(4) For the purpose of this section “qualified auditor” means—

- 15 (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
- 20 (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
- 25 of such Institute.

12. (1) The Committee shall prepare a report of the activities of the body corporate for each financial year and submit such report together with the audited statement of accounts to the membership at the Annual General Meeting. Annual Report

(2) A separate account 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).

5 **13.** All debts and liabilities of the Society existing on the day 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 payable to the Centre on that day shall be paid to the body corporate for
10 the purpose of this Act.

Debts due by
and payable to
the Society

15 **14.** Subject to the provisions of this Act, the body 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,
15 testamentary disposition or otherwise, and all such property shall be held by the Body corporate for the purposes of this Act, and subject to the rules of the body corporate made under section 8, with power to sell, mortgage, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of the same.

Body
corporate may
hold property
movable and
immovable

20 **15.** The moneys 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 to the members of the body
25 corporate.

Application
of money and
property

30 **16.** (1) The seal of the body corporate shall not be affixed to any instrument whatsoever, except in the presence of two members of the Committee 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
body
corporate

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

- 5 **17.** (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 institution having objects similar to those of the body corporate, and which is
10 by the rules thereof prohibited from distributing any income or property among its members.
- Property remaining on dissolution

- (2) For the purpose of this subsection (1) the appropriate institution shall be determined by the members of the body corporate immediately before the dissolution at a general
15 meeting by the majority of votes of the members present.

18. Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or affect the rights of the Republic or of anybody politic or corporate.

Saving of the Rights of the Republic and others

19. 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

