

CHAPTER 398

ALL CEYLON BUDDHIST CONGRESS

Act No. 24 of 1955. AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE ALL CEYLON BUDDHIST CONGRESS.

[16th April, 1955.]

Short title. **1.** This Act may be cited as the All Ceylon Buddhist Congress Act.

Incorporation of the All Ceylon Buddhist Congress. **2.** The members for the time being of the association known as the All Ceylon Buddhist Congress (hereinafter referred to as "the congress") shall be a body corporate (hereinafter referred to as "the corporation") with perpetual succession, a common seal, and the name "The All Ceylon Buddhist Congress". The corporation may sue and be sued in such name.

General objects of the corporation. **3.** The general objects of the corporation shall be—

- (a) to promote, foster and protect the interests of Buddhism and of the Buddhists and to safeguard the rights and privileges of the Buddhists;
- (b) to promote co-operation among Buddhists and Buddhist associations;
- (c) to represent the Buddhists and act on their behalf in public matters affecting their interests;
- (d) to provide opportunity to the Buddhists for the free discussion of any matters affecting their interests;
- (e) to undertake Buddhist charitable activities; and
- (f) to do all such things as may be necessary or conducive to the interests or benefit of the Buddhists or to the attainment of the abovementioned objects or any of them.

4. (1) The affairs of the corporation shall, subject to the rules for the time being of the corporation, be administered by an executive committee which shall consist of the office-bearers of the corporation, the representatives of the group members of the corporation, the office-bearers of the standing committees and one hundred other members elected at the annual general meeting of the corporation:

The affairs of the corporation to be administered by an executive committee.

Provided, however, that not less than sixty of the members so elected shall be members of the corporation of at least three years' standing.

(2) The executive committee may delegate any of its functions to one or more standing committees or sub-committees.

5. (1) The secretaries of the corporation shall keep a register of the members of the corporation.

Register of members

(2) The register of the members of the corporation shall contain the following particulars:—

- (a) In the case of group members of the corporation—
 - (i) the name and full postal address of each association which is a group member;
 - (ii) the date of inception of such association;
 - (iii) the date on which the first annual general meeting of such association was held;
 - (iv) the date on which such association was enrolled as a group member; and

(v) the date on which such association ceased to be a group member:

Provided, however, that in the case of group members existing at the commencement of this Act, the requirements of preceding sub-paragraphs (ii), (iii) and (iv) may be dispensed with.

(b) In the case of ordinary or life-members of the corporation who were enrolled under the rules of the congress in force before the commencement of this Act—

(i) the name, full postal address, rank or occupation or profession of each such member;

(ii) the period of membership completed by such member at the date of the commencement of this Act; and

(iii) the date on which such member ceased to be a member.

(c) In the case of sustaining members or honorary life-members of the corporation—

(i) the name, full postal address and rank, profession or occupation of each such member;

(ii) the date on which such member was enrolled as a member; and

(iii) the date on which such member ceased to be a member.

Rules.

6. (1) The corporation may, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at a general meeting of the corporation, make rules for admission to, and removal from, membership of the corporation, for the performance of the duties of the office-bearers and other members of the executive committee of the corporation, for the procedure in the

* Schedule omitted.—Private enactment.

transaction of business, and otherwise generally for the management of the affairs of the corporation and the accomplishment of its objects.

(2) Any rule of the corporation may be amended or rescinded by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at a general meeting of the corporation.

(3) Subject to the provisions of subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the rules set out in the Schedule* to this Act shall be the rules of the corporation.

7. All debts of the congress existing at the commencement of this Act shall be paid by the corporation and all debts due and fees, subscriptions and grants payable to the congress shall be paid to the corporation.

Liabilities of and debts due to the congress.

8. The corporation may acquire and hold any movable or immovable property by right of purchase, grant, gift, testamentary disposition or otherwise and, subject to the rules for the time being of the corporation, may sell, mortgage, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of any movable or immovable property of the corporation.

The corporation may hold property.

9. The seal of the corporation may be altered at the pleasure of the corporation. The seal shall not be affixed to any instrument whatsoever except in the presence of two office-bearers of the corporation one of whom shall be the president or in his absence a vice-president, who shall sign their names on 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 and the procedure for affixing it.

10. Any one of the secretaries of the corporation who is authorized for the purpose by the executive committee of the corporation shall have custody of the seal of the corporation.

Custody of the seal of the corporation.

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

Saving of the rights of the Republic &c.