



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

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**SAWEERA FOUNDATION  
(INCORPORATION)**

**A**

**BILL**

**to incorporate the Saweera Foundation**

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*Presented by Hon. (Major) Pradeep Undugoda,  
M. P. for Colombo District on 10th of June, 2022*

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**[Bill No. 121]**

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*Saweera Foundation (Incorporation)*

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE SAWEERA FOUNDATION

WHEREAS a Centre called and known as the “Saweera Foundation” 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 Foundation 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 expedient 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 Saweera Foundation (Incorporation) Act, No. of 2022.

Short title

2. From and after the date of commencement of this Act, such and so many persons as now are members of the Saweera Foundation (hereinafter referred to as the “Foundation”) or shall hereafter be admitted as members of the Corporation hereby constituted, shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession, under the name and style of the “Saweera Foundation” (hereinafter referred to as the “Body corporate”) and by that name may sue and be sued, in all Courts with full power and authority to have and use a common seal and alter the same at its pleasure.

Incorporation  
of the  
Saweera  
Foundation

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

The general  
objects of the  
body  
corporate

(a) to conduct courses , lectures and seminars to encourage self- employment among the community, directing them to jobs and providing them with necessary training and support;

- 5                      (b) to conduct specific skills development programmes and workshops for school leavers and employed youths with a view to enhancing leadership skills and personality development in young men and women;
- (c) to supply sanitary facilities, water and other infrastructure to households of people living in poverty.

10                    (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, political opinion, place of birth or any of such grounds.

15                    4. 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

20                    5. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act Management of the affairs of the body corporate shall be carried out by a Board of Management (hereinafter referred to as “the Board”) consisting of such number of office bearers as may be specified by the rules made under section 7.

Management of the Affairs of the body corporate

25                    (2) The first Board of the Body corporate shall be appointed or elected within one year of the date of commencement of this Act.

30                    (3) (a) Every office bearer of the Board 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 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 Board shall having regard to the rules of the Body corporate, elect or appoint a person to fill such vacancy.

5 (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 this Act and any other written law, the Body corporate shall have the power to do,  
10 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

15 (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;

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

25 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;

(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 Board 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.
7. (1) It shall be lawful for the Body corporate, from time to time, at any general meeting and by the votes 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:—
- Rules of the Body corporate
- 15            (a) the classification of membership, admission, withdrawal, expulsion or resignation of members and fees payable by members;

20
  - (b) the election of office bearers of the Board 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 Board, or any sub-committee thereof, notices and agenda of such meetings, the quorum and the conduct of business thereat;

30

- (e) the qualification and disqualification to be a member of the Board and the Body corporate;
- (f) the administration and management of the property of the Body corporate; and
- 5 (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  
10 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*.

15 **8.** The Board shall maintain a register of members in which name, address and other essential details of the members be inscribed. Register of members

**9.** (1) The Body corporate shall have its own Fund. Funds of the Body corporate

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

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

**10.** (1) The financial year of the Body corporate shall be the calendar year. Accounts and Auditing

(2) The Body corporate shall cause proper accounts to be  
30 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 by a qualified auditor appointed by Auditor General in terms of Article 154 of the Constitution.

For the purpose of this section “qualified auditor”  
5 means—

(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  
10 Institute; or

(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  
15 Institute.

**11.** (1) The Board shall prepare a report of the activities  
20 of the body corporate for each financial year and submit such report together with the audited statement of accounts to the Secretary of the Ministry of the Minister assigned the subject of Social Services and to the Registrar of Voluntary Social Services Organizations appointed under the  
25 Voluntary Social Services Organization (Registration and Supervision) Act, No. 31 of 1980 before the expiration of six months of the year succeeding the year to which such report relates.

Annual  
Report

(2) A separate account relating to the foreign and local  
30 moneys received by the Body corporate during the financial year shall be attached to the report referred to in subsection (1).

**12.** All debts and liabilities of the Foundation 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 the purpose of this Act.

Debts due by and payable to the Centre

**13.** Subject to the provision 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, 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 7, with power to sell, mortgage, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of the same.

Body corporate may hold property movable and immovable

**14.** 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 corporate.

Application of money and property

**15.** (1) The seal of the Body corporate shall not be affixed to any instrument whatsoever, except in the presence of two members of the Board 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 Board as may be decided by such Board.

**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,

Property remaining on dissolution

but shall be given or transferred to any other 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.

- 5 (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 meeting by the majority of votes of the members present.

10 **17.** 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

**18.** 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

