

# PARLIAMENT OF CEYLON

5th Session 1952



## Anuradhapura Buddhist Association Act, No. 11 of 1952

*Date of Assent : March 8, 1952*

*Printed on the Orders of Government  
and published as a Supplement to Ceylon Government  
Gazette Part II of March 14, 1952*

Printed at the CEYLON GOVT. PRESS, COLOMBO. To be purchased at the GOVT. PUBLICATIONS BUREAU, COLOMBO Annual Subscription (including Bills) Rs. 25, payable in advance to the SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS BUREAU, POST OFFICE BOX 500, Secretariat, Colombo 1

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE ANURADHAPURA BUDDHIST  
ASSOCIATION, ANURADHAPURA.

[Date of Assent: March 8, 1952]

WHEREAS an Association, called and known as  
“Anuradhapura Buddhist Association, Anuradha-  
pura,” has heretofore been established at Anuradha-  
pura for the purpose of effectually carrying out and  
transacting all matters connected with the said  
Association according to the rules agreed to by its  
members.

Preamble.

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 be incorporated, and it will be for the  
public advantage to grant the application:

BE it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excel-  
lent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of  
the Senate, and the House of Representatives of  
Ceylon in this present Parliament assembled, and by  
the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Anuradhapura  
Buddhist Association, Anuradhapura, Act, No. 11 of  
1952.

Short title.

2. From and after the passing of this Act the  
President, Vice-Presidents, and members of the Com-  
mittee of Management for the time being of the said  
Anuradhapura Buddhist Association, Anuradhapura,  
and such and so many persons as now are members of  
the said Anuradhapura Buddhist Association, Anu-  
radhapura, or shall hereafter be admitted members of  
the Association are hereby constituted and shall be  
a corporation with perpetual succession under the  
style and name of “The Anuradhapura Buddhist  
Association, Anuradhapura” 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 their pleasure.

Incorporation  
of the  
Anuradhapura  
Buddhist  
Association,  
Anuradhapura.

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

General objects  
of the  
corporation.

(a) The study and propagation of Buddhism.

(b) The encouragement of the practical obser-  
vance of Buddhism.

(c) The promotion of Unity and co-operation  
among Buddhists.

Committee of  
Management.

4. (1) The affairs of the corporation shall, subject to the rules in force for the time being of the corporation as hereinafter provided, be administered by a Committee of Management consisting of the President, three Vice-Presidents, the Honorary General Secretary, Honorary Assistant General Secretary, and Honorary Treasurer respectively of the corporation and not less than nine other members, to be elected respectively in accordance with rules for the time being of the corporation.

(2) All members of the corporation shall be subject to the rules in force for the time being of the corporation.

(3) The first Committee of Management shall consist of D. C. R. Gunawardene, Esq.; M. Senanayake, Esq.; G. Dahanayake, Esq.; L. H. Illangantillaka, Esq.; T. B. Weerakone, Esq.; J. Ramanayake, Esq.; E. M. C. Ekanayaka, Esq.; M. Jayasingha, Esq.; K. B. Ratnayake, Esq.; K. S. de Abrew, Esq.; H. B. Samarakoon, Esq.; T. B. Galgamuwa, Esq.; G. Wanasundara, Esq.; A. M. P. B. Tummodera, Esq.; S. Godage, Esq.; W. J. Fernando, Esq.

Power to make  
Rules.

5. It shall be lawful for the corporation from time to time at any general meeting of the members, and by a majority of votes to make rules for the admission, withdrawal or expulsion of members; for the conduct of the duties of the Committee of Management and of the various officers, agents, and servants of the corporation; for the procedure to be observed in the transaction of business; and otherwise generally for the management of the affairs of the corporation and the accomplishment of its objects. Such rules when made may, at a like meeting, be altered, added to, amended, or rescinded subject, however, to the requirements of section 7.

Rules in the  
schedule to be  
the rules of the  
corporation.

6. Subject to the provisions of section 5, the rules set out in the Schedule to this Act shall for all purposes be the rules of the corporation:

Provided, however, that nothing in this section contained shall be construed to prevent the corporation at all times hereafter from making fresh rules, or from altering, amending, adding to, or rescinding any of the rules set out in that Schedule or any rules hereafter made by the corporation.

Procedure for  
amendment of  
rules.

7. No rule in the Schedule to this Act nor any rule hereafter passed at a general meeting shall be altered, added to, amended or rescinded, except with the prior

approval of the Committee of Management and by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at a general meeting of the Association.

8. On the coming into operation of this Act all property belonging to the said Anuradhapura Buddhist Association, Anuradhapura, whether held in the name of the said Anuradhapura Buddhist Association, Anuradhapura, or in the name or in the names of any person in trust for the said Anuradhapura Buddhist Association, Anuradhapura, is hereby vested in the corporation hereby constituted, and the same, together with all after acquired property, both movable and immovable, and all subscriptions, contributions, donations, amounts of loan, and advances received or to be received, shall be held by the said corporation for the purpose of this Act and subject to the rules in force for the time being of the said corporation.

Property vested in corporation.

9. All debts and liabilities of the said Anuradhapura Buddhist Association, Anuradhapura, existing at the time of the coming into operation of this Act shall be paid by the corporation hereby constituted, and all debts due to and subscriptions and contributions payable to the said "Anuradhapura Buddhist Association, Anuradhapura," shall be paid to the said corporation for the purpose of this Act.

Debts due to and payable to the corporation.

10. The seal of the corporation shall not be affixed to any instrument whatsoever except in the presence of two of the 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.

How the seal of the corporation is to be affixed.

11. The corporation shall be 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 corporation for the purpose of this Act and subject to the rules for the time being of the said corporation, with full power to sell, mortgage, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of the same.

Corporation may hold property, movable and immovable.

12. Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or affect the rights of His Majesty the King, His heirs, and successors, or of any body 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 Crown and others.

6            *Anuradhapura Buddhist Association*  
              *Act, No. 11 of 1952.*

SCHEDULE

(Section 6).

Rules of the Anuradhapura Buddhist Association, Anuradhapura.

1. *Designation.*—The Association shall be called “ The Anuradhapura Buddhist Association, Anuradhapura ”.

2. *Objects.*—The objects of the Association are as follows:—

(a) The study and propagation of Buddhism.

(b) The encouragement of the practical observance of Buddhism.

(c) The promotion of unity and co-operation among Buddhists.

(d) The advancement of the physical, intellectual, cultural and social welfare of members.

3. *Membership.*—(a) Men not less than 18 years of age, having, any or all of the above objects in view are eligible for membership.

(b) Membership shall be classified as “ honorary ”, “ active ” and “ life ”.

(c) Any person who in the opinion of the Association has rendered distinguished service to the cause of Buddhism may be elected an honorary member at a General Meeting of the Association.

(d) Active members shall pay a membership subscription of 50 cents or more per month.

(e) Any person who pays a membership subscription of Rs. 100 or more at one time may be elected a life member.

(f) Every application for membership shall be countersigned by a member and shall be forwarded to the Honorary General Secretary who shall submit it to the Committee of Management at its next meeting.

(g) The name of an active member whose subscription has been in arrears for three months, may after 30 days' notice, be struck off the Register of members by the Committee of Management. He may not be re-elected until the arrears due from him are paid.

(h) No person who has been a member for less than three months immediately preceding the month in which a General Meeting is held and who has not paid his subscription for a period exceeding one month shall be entitled to vote at such meeting.

(i) The name of any member, whose conduct the Committee of Management finds, has been detrimental to the interests and honour of the Association, may be removed from the Register of members for a limited period or permanently, if two thirds of those Committee members present at such meeting approve of such action. The quorum for such meeting shall not be less than ten members.

4. *Management.*—(a) The affairs of the Association shall be administered by a Committee of Management consisting of a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Honorary General Secretary, a Honorary Assistant General Secretary and a Honorary Treasurer, who shall be ex officio members of the Committee of

Management and nine members to be elected at the annual general meeting of the Association. They shall hold office for one year or until their successors shall have been elected and have entered upon their duties.

(b) The various activities of the Association shall be in charge of Departmental Committees consisting of three members each, of whom two shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and the other nominated by the Committee of Management from among its members. Such nominee of the Committee of Management shall be the Secretary and Convenor of the Committee to which he is appointed.

(c) All office-bearers and members of the Committee of Management shall be Buddhists.

(d) In the absence of the President one of the Vice-Presidents shall take the chair. In the absence of the President and the Vice-Presidents a member shall be elected to the chair. The Chairman shall have a casting vote.

(e) The Honorary General Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Association and of the Committee of Management, a Register of members and any other record that may be necessary. The Honorary Assistant General Secretary shall assist the Honorary General Secretary.

(f) A meeting of the Committee of Management shall be held at least once a month. Upon the written requisition of five members of the Committee of Management the Honorary General Secretary shall call up a meeting of the Committee of Management to transact such business as is stated in the requisition. The quorum for a meeting of the Committee of Management shall be seven members of whom 3 shall be office-bearers.

(g) In case of any vacancies occurring during the year among the offices except the office of President, Honorary General Secretary and Honorary Treasurer or in the Committee of Management, the Committee of Management shall have power to fill such vacancies for the unexpired part of the term. In the case of the President, Honorary General Secretary and Honorary Treasurer the vacancies shall be filled at a General Meeting.

(h) The Committee of Management shall have power to make rules for its own government and for the management of the affairs of the Association and its Branches provided that such rules are not inconsistent with this constitution.

(i) The Committee of Management shall hold and manage for the Association all property belonging to the Association. It shall also have power with the consent of a two-thirds majority of members present at a General Meeting of the Association to sell, mortgage, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of the immovable property belonging to the Association provided that such decision be confirmed at a subsequent General Meeting held within one month.

(j) An inventory as approved by the Committee of Management of both movable and immovable property of the Association shall be maintained.

5. *General Meetings of the Association.*—(a) The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in the month of January at which the reports of the Committee of Management and of the Honorary Treasurer shall be presented.

(b) The Honorary General Secretary shall convene a special General Meeting of the Association at the request of the Committee of Management or upon the written requisition of no

fewer than 20 members entitled under these rules to vote at such General Meeting. In the event of failure on the part of the Honorary General Secretary to convene a General Meeting of the Association upon such requisition the members signing the requisition shall have the power to convene such meeting after due notice in writing to the President.

(c) A fortnight's written notice shall be given of any General Meeting and 15 members inclusive of 3 office-bearers shall constitute the quorum at such meeting.

(d) Every notice of a motion to be moved at a General Meeting of the Association shall be in writing and signed by the member giving notice. If such letter is not received by the Honorary General Secretary seven days prior to the date of General Meeting, such motion shall not be included in the agenda of such General Meeting.

(e) Every motion included in the agenda of a General Meeting shall have been previously approved by the Committee of Management.

(f) In the event of a motion due notice of which has been given, being rejected by the Committee of Management, such member shall have the right to move such motion with the permission of the meeting.

6. *Auditor.*—The members shall appoint at the Annual General Meeting of the Association an Auditor who shall audit the accounts of the Association for the ensuing year. In the event of an Auditor so appointed not being able to act through any cause the Committee of Management shall have power to appoint another Auditor.

7. *Branches.*—Branch Associations may be established wherever possible in the Province under such directions as shall be determined by the Committee of Management. All such Associations shall be worked on principles not inconsistent with the rules of this Association. A Certificate of affiliation shall be issued to such Branch Association so formed.

8. *Amendment of Constitution.*—This constitution can be amended only by a vote of two-thirds of the members eligible to vote present at a General Meeting of the Association. At least 14 days' written notice of any motion of amendment to the constitution shall be given to the members.

9. *General.*—This Association shall not align itself with any Political Association or Party.

10. (a) The Treasurer shall not incur any expenditure over Rs. 50 per month without the approval of the Committee of Management.

(b) The Treasurer shall not incur any expenditure over Rs. 500 per month, unless such expenditure has been authorized by the Association by resolution passed at a general meeting; and

(c) All monies of the Association shall be deposited in the name of the Association in such Bank or Banks approved by the Committee of Management.

(d) The Honorary Treasurer shall not have in his possession any cash exceeding Rs. 50.

(e) All cheques of the Association shall be signed by the President and Honorary Treasurer or one of the Vice-Presidents and Honorary Treasurer.