

No. 17 of 1959

VIDYANIKETA SANRAKSHAKA SABHA

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE VIDYANIKETA SANRAKSHAKA SABHA.

[15th May, 1959.]

- Short title. 1. This Act may be cited as the Vidyaniketa Sanrakshaka Sabha (Incorporation) Act, No. 17 of 1959.
- Incorporation of the Vidyaniketa Sanrakshaka Sabha. 2. The members for the time being of the Vidyaniketa Sanrakshaka Sabha shall be a body corporate (hereinafter referred to as "the Corporation") with perpetual succession, a common seal and the name "The Vidyaniketa Sanrakshaka Sabha". The Corporation may sue and be sued by that name.
- Objects of the Corporation. 3. The general objects of the Corporation shall be—
- (a) the management and maintenance of the Vidyaniketa Pirivena situated at Kamburupitiya (hereinafter referred to as "the Pirivena") and the other institutions connected therewith and founded, held or presided over, by the Venerable Narandeniye Ratanapala Thero ;
 - (b) the management and maintenance of any other schools or institutions which may hereafter be established ;
 - (c) the establishment, management and maintenance of centres for scientific and religious research ;
 - (d) the propagation and protection of Buddhism and Buddhist culture ; and
 - (e) the printing and publishing of books, journals, newspapers and pamphlets.

4. (1) The affairs of the Corporation shall, subject to the rules for the time being in force of the Corporation, be administered by a Board of Management which shall consist of—

The Board of Management of the Corporation.

- (a) ten Life-Members, and
- (b) seven Ordinary Members elected annually in accordance with the rules for the time being in force of the Corporation.

(2) The following shall be the first Life-Members of the Board of Management :—

- (i) Senator the Honourable C. Wijesinghe, O.B.E., Minister of Nationalized Services and Road Transport.
- (ii) Mrs. S. L. Wijesinghe, M.B.E., Kamburupitiya.
- (iii) L. D. Sedara, Esq., Muhandiram, Kamburupitiya.
- (iv) A. H. A. Don Arnolis Ralahamy, Kamburupitiya.
- (v) G. W. D. Mallis Ralahamy, Kamburupitiya.
- (vi) Mrs. A. R. K. Nissanka, Kamburupitiya.
- (vii) Torrington Wickramaratna, Esq., Kamburupitiya.
- (viii) A. W. Rajapaksa, Esq., Kamburupitiya.
- (ix) Venerable N. Ratanapala Thero, Kamburupitiya.
- (x) Rev. Pandit G. Sugathapala Thero, Kamburupitiya.

(3) Whenever a vacancy occurs among the Life-Members of the Board of Management, the Board of Management shall elect a person to fill the vacancy.

(4) The following shall be the first Ordinary Members of the Board of Management, and they shall, unless they cease to hold office earlier, hold office as such Members from the date of commencement of this Act until the election of the Ordinary Members of the Board of Management for the next succeeding year and shall be eligible for re-election as Ordinary Members of the Board of Management :—

- (i) K. Somaratne, Esq., Kamburupitiya.
- (ii) D. A. Abeygunawardhana Ralahamy, Kamburupitiya.
- (iii) J. Wellappili, Esq., Kamburupitiya.
- (iv) B. Weeratunga, Esq., Kamburupitiya.
- (v) D. H. P. Pandipperuma, Esq., Kamburupitiya.
- (vi) W. Ratnayaka, Esq., Kamburupitiya.
- (vii) M. D. Jayasooriya, Esq., Kamburupitiya.

Office-bearers
of the
Corporation.

5. (1) The Board of Management shall elect from its own members the following office-bearers of the Corporation :—

- (a) The President.
- (b) Two Vice-Presidents.
- (c) An Honorary Treasurer.
- (d) Two Honorary Joint Secretaries.

(2) The office-bearers of the Corporation shall, unless they cease to hold office earlier, hold office from the date of their election until the election of the office-bearers for the next succeeding year.

Advisory
Board and
Councils.

6. (1) The Board of Management shall appoint suitable bhikkus as members of the Advisory Board of the Corporation.

(2) The Board of Management shall appoint Councils to promote the fulfilment of the objects of the Corporation.

The Principal
of the
Pirivena.

7. (1) The Venerable Narandeniye Ratanapala Thero shall be the Principal of the Pirivena. On the post of such Principal becoming vacant by the death or resignation of the Venerable Narandeniye Ratanapala Thero, a suitable and qualified bhikku who is in the line of pupillary succession to the Venerable Narandeniye Ratanapala Thero, shall be appointed to that post by the Board of Management. In the absence of such a bhikku, an elderly bhikku in the line of such pupillary succession shall be appointed Director of the Pirivena. The Director of the Pirivena shall appoint, with the approval of the Board of Management, a qualified and competent bhikku to the post of Principal and shall be generally responsible for the proper administration of the Pirivena.

(2) The bhikku in the line of such pupillary succession as is referred to in subsection (1) shall have the right to reside in the Pirivena and shall be subject to the disciplinary rules of the Pirivena. If he behaves in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the Pirivena, his conduct shall be examined by a body consisting of not less than five members of the Board of

Management and if he is found guilty of having behaved in such manner, he shall be ejected from the Pirivena.

8. (1) The annual general meeting of the members of the Corporation shall be held in the month of January, and the reports of the Principal of the Pirivena and of the Honorary Treasurer shall be submitted for consideration at such meeting. Meetings.

(2) The Honorary Secretary shall convene a special general meeting of the members of the Corporation at the request of the President or upon the written requisition of not less than seven members of the Corporation, and not less than three days' notice of such meeting shall be given to the members of the Corporation.

(3) At least ten days' notice of any general meeting shall be given to the members of the Corporation.

(4) Five members of the Corporation shall constitute the quorum for any meeting of the members of the Corporation.

(5) The Board of Management shall meet at least once in three months.

(6) At least ten days' notice of any meeting of the Board of Management shall be given to the members of the Board and five such members shall constitute the quorum for such meeting

9. The Corporation may acquire and hold any movable or immovable property by right of purchase, exchange, grant, gift, testamentary disposition or otherwise, and may sell, mortgage, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of any of its movable or immovable property. The Corporation may hold property.

10. The Corporation may invest its funds in any securities in which trustees are required by the Trusts Ordinance to invest trust money. Funds of the Corporation. Cap. 87.

Rules.

11. It shall be lawful for the Corporation, at any meeting of the members of the Corporation specially called for that purpose and by a vote of two-thirds of such members present and voting at such meeting, to make such rules not inconsistent with this Act as the Corporation may deem expedient for all or any of the following purposes :—

- (a) The limitation of membership and the fixing of the membership fee.
- (b) The election of members.
- (c) The removal of members from the roll of members.
- (d) The election of office-bearers and auditors and the determination of their duties.
- (e) The election of Ordinary Members of the Board of Management and the determination of the duties of the Members of the Board of Management.
- (f) The appointment of a Principal or Director of the Pirivena and determination of the duties and the term of office of such Principal or Director.
- (g) The procedure to be followed in the transaction of business of the Corporation.
- (h) The custody of the seal of the Corporation.
- (i) The general administration of the affairs of the Corporation.

Seal of the Corporation.

12. The seal of the Corporation shall not be affixed to any instrument whatsoever except in the presence of the President and one other member of the Board of Management, 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.

Saving of the rights of the Crown and others.

13. Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or affect the rights of Her Majesty the Queen, Her 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 under them.