



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

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**COLOMBO ASSOCIATION OF LANGUAGE SKILLS  
AND DRAMATIC ART (INCORPORATION)**

**A**

**BILL**

**to incorporate Colombo Association of Language  
Skills and Dramatic Art**

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*Presented by the Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam,  
M.P. for Batticaloa District on 20th of June, 2024*

(Published in the Gazette on June 06, 2024)

*Ordered by Parliament to be printed*

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**[Bill No. 267]**

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PRINTED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING, SRI LANKA  
TO BE PURCHASED AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS BUREAU, COLOMBO 5

**Price : Rs. 24.00**

**Postage : Rs. 150.00**

*This Bill can be downloaded from [www.documents.gov.lk](http://www.documents.gov.lk)*



*Colombo Association of Language Skills and  
Dramatic Art (Incorporation)*

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE COLOMBO ASSOCIATION OF LANGUAGE  
SKILLS AND DRAMATIC ART

WHEREAS an Association called and known as the “Colombo Association of Language Skills and Dramatic Art” has heretofore been established in Sri Lanka for the purpose of effectually carrying out its objects 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 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 Colombo Association of Language Skills and Dramatic Art (Incorporation) Act, No. 2024.

Short title

2. From and after the date of commencement of this Act, such and so many persons as now are members of the Colombo Association of Language Skills and Dramatic Art and shall hereafter be admitted as members of the body corporate hereby constituted shall have perpetual succession under the name and style of the “Colombo Association of Language Skills and Dramatic Art” (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  
Colombo  
Association  
of Language  
Skills and  
Dramatic Art

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

General  
objects of the  
body  
corporate

- 5 (a) to recruit, train and maintain a panel of examiners qualified and experienced in communication and performance skills and conduct examination in Speech, Drama, Verse, Prose, Public Speaking, Spoken and Written English, Personal and Professional English and grant certificates of competence by conducting examinations and awarding certificates ;
- 10 (b) (i) to prepare syllabuses in a wide variety of Oral Communication and Performing Arts reflecting the needs of candidates ;
- 15 (ii) to keep these syllabuses under constant review of response to changing patters of training and comments from examiners, teachers and candidates ;
- 20 (iii) to conduct fair examinations as stated in the syllabuses ;
- (iv) to give reasonable notice of such examinations to relevant individuals and examination centre; and
- (v) to collect and distribute the results as early as possible while safeguarding essential checking procedures ;
- 25 (c) to select material within the syllabuses which will form part of students' repertorie, enabling the grade examinations to be used as a guideline for teachers;

- (d) to encourage students to take the appropriate grade and diploma examinations in a variety of subjects, thereby broadening and developing their skills to the highest level, of their ability;
- 5 (e) to foster and encourage a closer bond of friendship and understanding among teachers of English, Speech, Drama and allied subjects;
- (f) to conduct regular teacher training programmes, workshops and seminars in English, Speech, Drama and allied subjects;
- 10 (g) to conduct specialised English courses for the development of personal and professional communication skills ; and
- (h) to provide the government, professional and educational bodies and other interested persons or bodies the opportunity of ascertaining the view of the body corporate in matters relating to Oral Communication and Dramatic Art, if required to do so.
- 15
- 20 (2) In the implementation of the objects specified in subsection (I), the body corporate shall ensure that such implementation shall be carried out without any distinction based on race, religion, language, caste, gender, political opinion, place of birth or such other ground.
- 25 **4.** The objects of the body corporate shall be carried out in such a 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 of any Provincial Council or local authority.
- Body corporate to ensure no conflict with work of Ministry or Department of the Government or Province

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5. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the management and administration of the affairs of the body corporate shall be carried out by the Council. Management of the affairs of the body corporate

(2) The Council shall consist of the following members:-

- 5 (a) the President ;  
(b) the Vice President ;  
(c) the Honorary General Secretary;  
(d) the Honorary Assistant Secretary ;  
(e) the Honorary Treasurer ;  
10 (f) the Honorary Assistant Treasurer ;  
(g) the Chairman-Examination Board ;  
(h) the Honorary Secretary of the Examination Board ;  
15 (i) the Two Founder Directors ;  
(j) any such other member elected or appointed in accordance with the rules made under Section 7.

(3) (a) The members of the Council of the Colombo Association of Language Skills and Dramatic Art who hold office on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Act shall function as an Interim Committee of the body corporate until the first Council is appointed or elected in the manner provided for by rules made under Section 7.

25 (b) The Interim Committee shall have the power to make rules relating to the interim administration of the body corporate and the election or appointment of the members of the first Council of the body corporate.

(c) The quorum for a meeting of the Interim Committee shall be six members.

(d) Any decision of the Interim Committee shall be taken by the majority of its members present at any meeting.

(e) The first Council of the body corporate shall be appointed or elected within one year of the date of commencement of this Act.

(4) (a) Every office bearer of the Council shall be appointed or elected for a period of one year from the date of the annual general meeting and any such office bearer shall be eligible for re-appointment or re-election after the lapse of the said period of one year:

Provided however, the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and corporate members of the Council shall not hold such office for more than three consecutive terms.

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

(c) The person elected or appointed under paragraph (b) shall hold office only for the unexpected portion of the term of office of the member whom the succeeds.

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

Powers of the  
body  
corporate

(a) to act on matters affecting the interest of the members of the body corporate ;

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- (b) to regulate professional activities and ensure the maintenance of high standards in the general conduct of the members of the body corporate;
- 5 (c) to establish an Examinations Board, Advisory Board and Disciplinary Committee consisting of such number of members as may be specified by rules ;
- (d) to take disciplinary action against members of the body corporate ;
- 10 (e) 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 (f) to enter into an perform or carry out, whether directly or through any officer or agent authorized on that behalf by the body corporate, all such contracts or agreements as may be necessary for the attainment of the objects or the exercise of the powers of the body
- 20 corporate ;
- (g) to borrow or raise funds with or without securities and to receive grants, gifts or donations in cash or kind:

25 Provided that, the Council shall obtain the prior written approval of the Department of External Resources in respect of all foreign grants, gifts or donations made by the body corporate ;

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- 5 (h) to make, draw, accept, discount, endorse, negotiate, buy sell and issue bills or exchange, cheques, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments and to open operate, maintain and close accounts in any bank ;
- (i) to invest any funds that are not immediately required for the purpose of the body corporate, in such manner as the Council may determine ;
- 10 (j) to undertake, accept, execute, perform and administer any lawful trust or any real or personal property with a view promoting the objects of the body corporate ;
- 15 (k) 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 ;
- (l) to organize, lectures, seminars and conferences to promote the objectives of the body corporate ;
- 20 (m) to liaise and co-ordinate with other local and foreign institutions having similar objects to that of the body corporate ;
- (n) to train personnel in Sri Lanka or abroad for the purpose of the body corporate ; and
- 25 (o) to do all other things as necessary or expedient for the proper and effective carrying out of the objects of the body corporate.



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7. (1) It shall be lawful for the body corporate, from time to time, at any general meeting of the body corporate and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present of this Act or any other written law, for all or any of the following matters :-
- Rules of the  
body  
corporate
- 5
- (a) the classification of membership abbreviated designations of the membership admissions, withdrawal, expulsion or resignation of members and subscription payable by the members ;
- 10
- (b) the election of office bearers of the Council or vacation of or removal from office of office bearers and the powers, duties, and functions of the office bearers ;
- 15
- (c) the composition of the Examination Board, Advisory Committee and Disciplinary Committee, the term of the office bearers of such Board and Committees; the powers, duties and functions of such Board and committee, the functions of the Secretary to the Examinations Board, the nomination of the panel of examiners; and any other matters relating to such Board and Committee ;
- 20
- (d) the terms and conditions of appointment, powers, functions and duties of various officers, agents, and servants of the body corporate;
- 25
- (e) the procedure to be followed for the summoning and holding of meetings of the Council or any sub-committee thereof, notices and agenda of such meetings, the quorum and the conduct of business thereat ;

- (f) the qualifications and disqualifications to be a member of the Council and the body corporate and the code of conduct for the members of the body corporate ;
- 5 (g) the administration and management of the property of the body corporate ; and
- (h) generally the management of the affairs of the body corporate and the accomplishment of its objects and dissolution of the body corporate.
- 10 (2) Any rule 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) of this section.
- (3) The rules made under subsection (1) shall be published in the *Gazette*.
- 15 (4) The members of the body corporate shall, at all times be subject to the rules of the body corporate.
- 8.** The Council shall maintain a register of members in which the name, address and other essential details of the members shall be inscribed. Register of members
- 20 **9.** (1) The body corporate shall have its own Fund. Fund of the body corporate
- (2) All sums of money received by way of gifts, bequests, donations, subscriptions, contributions, fees or grants and on account of the body corporate shall be deposited in one or more banks approved by the Council to the credit of the body corporate.
- 25 (3) There shall be paid out of the Fund, all such sums of money as are required to defray any expenditure incurred by the body corporate in the exercise, performance and discharge of its powers, duties and functions under the Act.

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

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

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

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

(a) an individual who, being a member of the Institute of  
Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka or of any other  
15 Institute established by law, possesses a certificate to  
practice as an Accountant, issued by the Council of  
such Institute ; or

(b) a firm off Accountants, each of the resident partners  
of which, being a member of the Institute of Chartered  
20 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  
Institute.

**11.** (1) The Council shall prepare a report of the activities Annual  
of the body corporate for each financial year and submit Report  
25 such report together with the audited statement of accounts  
certified by the Auditor - General or qualified auditor  
appointed by the Auditor - General, to the Secretary to the  
Ministry of the Minister assigned the subject of Education  
under Article 43 or 44 of the Constitution before the  
30 expiration of six months of the year succeeding the year to  
which such report relates.

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(2) A separate statement of accounts relating to the foreign and local sums of money received by the body corporate during the financial year shall be attached to the report referred to in subsection (1).

5       **12.** All debts and liabilities of the Colombo Association of Language Skills and Dramatic Art existing on the day immediately 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 Colombo Association of Language Skills and Dramatic Art on that day shall be paid to the body corporate for the purpose of this Act.

Debts due by and payable to the Colombo Association of Language Skills and Dramatic Art

15       **13.** Subject to the 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, testamentary disposition or otherwise, and all such property shall be held by the body corporate for the purpose 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

25       **14.** The sums of money 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 divided, bonus or profit to the members of the body corporate.

Application of sums of money and property

30       **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 Council 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

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

5 **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, 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 subsection (1) of 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.

**17.** Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or affect the rights of the Republic or any body politic or corporate.

Saving of the rights of the Republic

**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

