

*In the matter of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act**
(West Bengal Act XXVI of 1961)
and in the matter of

Sri Aurobindo Society

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Society is SRI AUROBINDO SOCIETY.
2. The Registered Office of the Society shall be situated at Kolkata in the state of West Bengal.
3. The Society is established for the purpose of carrying out the following objects in and outside India:
 - (a) To make known to the members and people in general the aims and ideals of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, their system of integral Yoga and to work for its fulfilment in all possible ways and for the attainment of a spiritualised society as envisaged by Sri Aurobindo;
 - (b) To train selected students and teachers from all over the world in the integral system of education i.e. spiritual, psychic, mental, vital and physical;
 - (c) To help in cash and/or kind by way of donations, gifts, subsidies and also in other ways in the all-round development of Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education and to help similar centres of Education;

*Originally registered under the Societies Registration Act No.XXI of 1860

- (d) To establish study groups, libraries, Ashrams and other institutions, centres, branches and societies for study and practice of Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother and to help the existing ones;
- (e) To establish centres of Physical culture, sports and volunteer organisations for inculcating and promoting the spirit of discipline, co-operation and service to others and to undertake activities for promotion of health and bodily perfection;
- (f) To organize, encourage, promote and assist in the study, research and pursuit of Science, Literature and Fine Arts;
- (g) To help, contribute, promote, take over, affiliate or amalgamate wholly or partially with any other Society, trust, body or institution whether incorporated, registered or not having objects similar to those of the Society;
- (h) To print, publish, sell and distribute either free or for price, books, periodicals, bulletins, journals and other literature for the promotion of the objects of the Society and in furtherance thereof to produce, distribute and exhibit films;
- (i) To accept and raise monies required for the purposes of the Society by way of subscription, gifts, donations

or benefactions in cash or in kind or in movable or immovable properties;

- (j) For the purpose of the Society to borrow and raise money in such manner and from such person (including Government, any Trusts, public or private bodies) as the Society may think fit;
 - (k) To accept any gift of property movable or immovable whether subject or not to any special trusts or conditions in favour or furtherance of any of the objects of the Society;
 - (l) To acquire, purchase, build, construct or take on lease or in exchange or hire any movable or immovable property or rights or privileges;
 - (m) To undertake and execute any trust which may seem directly or indirectly conducive to any of the objects of the Society either gratuitously or otherwise;
 - (n) And generally to do all other acts, deeds and things necessary, conducive, suitable or incidental to or for the attainment of the above objects or any of them or part of them.
4. The income and property of the Society whencesoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of objects of the Society as set forth in this Memorandum of Association and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to any of the

members of the Society provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Society who may also be members thereof in return for any work done or services actually rendered to the Society nor prevent the payment of interest at a rate not exceeding six per cent per annum on monies borrowed from any member of the Society.

5. No person or persons in whom for the time being any funds or money or any other property, movable or immovable of the Society may be vested, shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration or application of the said trust funds or sums of money or for any damage to or deterioration in the property unless such loss, damage or deterioration shall happen by or through his or their willful default or neglect.
6. If upon the dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Association or any of them, but shall be given or transferred to Sri Aurobindo Ashram at Pondicherry or its branch at Perambai, Madras.
7. Madame M. Alfassa, the Mother, Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry shall be permanent President of the Society until she nominates another person in her place and stead.
8. The names, addresses and descriptions of the President, the General Secretary and the Treasurer, and member of the

Executive Committee to whom by the Rules of the Society the management of the affairs is entrusted are:

- i. Madame M. Alfassa, The Mother, Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry – President.
- ii. Shri Keshav Dev Poddar also known as Navajata, Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry – General Secretary & Treasurer.
- iii. Shri Arunendra Nath Tagore, Advocate and Notary Public, 6, Hastings Street, Calcutta-1 – Member.

We the undersigned being persons associated for the purposes prescribed in section 20 of the Societies Registration Act of 1860 or some of them are desirous of forming a Society in pursuance of this Memorandum of Association.

No.	Name & Address	Occupation	Signature
1.	Ajit Bose 125, Dharamtolla St., Calcutta-13	Business	<i>Sd.</i> A. Bose
2.	Himansu K. Niyogi 1, Commercial Buildings, Calcutta –1	Business	<i>Sd.</i> K. Niyogi
3.	Keshav Dev Poddar 1, Commercial Buildings, Calcutta –1	Industrialist	<i>Sd.</i> K. Poddar
4.	Pratap Chandra Das 20, Bethune Row Calcutta	Solicitor	<i>Sd.</i> P.C. Das

5.	Narottam Dass Mehra 1/1, Shib Krishna - Dass Lane Calcutta	Business	<i>Sd.</i> Narottam Dass Mehra
6.	Arunendra Nath Tagore 6, Hastings St., Calcutta	Advocate	<i>Sd.</i> A.N. Tagore
7.	Sitaram Jhunjunwala 1/B, Old Post Office St., Calcutta	Solicitor	<i>Sd. S.R.</i> Jhunjunwala
8.	Banwarilal Sharma 1, Goopta Lane, Calcutta	Industrialist	<i>Sd.</i> B.L. Sharma
9.	Shyam Sunder Jhunjunwala 4/1, Clyde Row Calcutta -22	Advocate	<i>Sd. S.S.</i> Jhunjunwala
10.	Madanlal Himatsingka 1A/2, Regent Park, Calcutta	Business	<i>Sd. M.L.</i> Himatsingka

Witness to all the above signatures:

Sd. Sankar Madhab Ghosh,
Commercial Buildings,
N.S. Road,
Calcutta -1
Occupation : Business
19.09.1960

(The West Bengal Societies Registration Act 1961)

SRI AUROBINDO SOCIETY

RULES AND REGULATIONS *

Interpretation

1. In these Rules and Regulations, unless there be something in the subject or context inconsistent therewith “The Society” means the above named Society, “The Act” means the West Bengal Societies Registration Act. “Month” means an English calendar month. “Financial Year” in relation to the Society means the year commencing on the 1st April and ending on the 31st March. “The Mother” means Madame M. Alfassa of Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry. Words importing the singular number include the plural and vice versa, and those importing the masculine include the feminine gender and vice versa.

Executive and Management

2. Madame M. Alfassa, the Mother, of Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry will be the permanent President of the Society.
3. (a) The management of the Society shall vest in the Executive Committee which shall consist of not less than three members and not more than twelve.

* As amended upto the general meeting held on 5.10.2002.

- (b) The Executive Committee shall have a Chairman who will also be the Chairman of the Society and a Member Executive – Administration who will discharge the functions of the Principal Executive Officer and a Member Executive – Finance. The office of the Member Executive – Administration and the Member Executive – Finance may be held by one person or by two persons.
Shri Navajata will be the first Chairman of the Executive Committee and the Society.
 - (c) The Executive Committee may co-opt members from time to time subject to the maximum number twelve.
 - (d) The Executive Committee may appoint such other office bearers for the Committee as it thinks fit from time to time.
4. The Executive Committee shall exercise all powers which are necessary for the management and administration of the Society including power :-
- (a) to make donations, and other disbursements of funds,
 - (b) to sell, lease mortgage, exchange or otherwise dispose of and deal with all or any part of the property of the Society as may be deemed necessary or expedient for the purpose of the Society.

- (c) to accept donation, gift, subscription, movable or immovable property subject to or without any conditions, restrictions or trust, for the purpose of the Society,
- (d) to interpret and decide any clause of the Memorandum of the Society and to decide which will be the acts, deeds, things, enterprises, ventures necessary, conducive, suitable and incidental to and for the attainment of the aims and objects of the Society and to start, promote and assist, execute, carry, undertake the same,
- (e) To appoint Regional Governors, Local Secretaries, representatives, convenors and other office-bearers, committees, sub-committees, branch executives etc. for promoting and carrying out the aims, objects and purposes of the Society, and if necessary to remove them,
- (f) to remove a person or institution from the membership to the Society,
- (g) to open or close branches and centres and to decide all matters pertaining to their administration and activities, and
- (h) to delegate such of its power or powers to such of its office-bearers or such other persons as it deems expedient.

- (i) to fix, review and revise rates of membership subscriptions of various categories of members of Sri Aurobindo Society from time to time.
5. (a) The Chairman will preside at all meetings of the Society or the Executive Committee. In the absence of the Chairman at any meeting the members present shall appoint one of them to take the chair.

(b) Two members will form the quorum.
6. The Executive Committee's resolutions can be adopted either in a meeting or by circulation.
7. The Executive Committee may, subject to the provisions of the Act, frame its own rules and procedure for its meetings and work.
8. A vacancy in the membership of the Executive Committee or in any office will be filled by the Executive Committee.

Membership

9. Any person or institution or organization either in India or abroad who subscribes to the aims and objects of the Society, and whose application for membership is approved by the Executive Committee, will be member of the Society. The membership is open to people everywhere without any distinction of nationality, religion, caste, creed or sex. The membership will be of the following kinds:
(A) GENERAL (B) AFFILIATED (C) CHARTERED

(A) GENERAL MEMBERS:

General Members will be of 5 kinds, namely: Life, Contributing, Ordinary, Student and Honorary.

- a) Life members will be those who are nominated by the Executive Committee to be Life Members.
- b) Contributing Members will be those persons or institutions who contribute such lumpsum or annual subscription as may be fixed by the Executive Committee from time to time.
- c) Ordinary Members will be those persons who will contribute such lumpsum or annual subscription as may be fixed by the Executive Committee from time to time.
- d) A student of any school, college, institution, centre of education, can be a student member. The Executive Committee will fix the contribution for student members from time to time. In case and so long as no such amount is fixed, student members can offer any amount which will be convenient to them. Student members will have no voting right,
- e) Honorary Members will be those who are invited or nominated by the Executive Committee to be Honorary Members,

- f) Any other kind as may be decided by the Executive Committee from time to time.

(B) AFFILIATED MEMBERS

Affiliated Members will be such Organisations or Institutions or Centres as will subscribe to the aims and ideals of this Society and whose application for such membership will be accepted by the Executive Committee. The Affiliated Members will have no right to vote in any meeting of the Society.

(C) CHARTERED MEMBERS

The Chartered Members will be the Organisations or Institutions or Centres chartered by the Executive Committee on such terms and conditions as the Executive Committee shall fix.

Cessation of Membership

10. Membership of Society shall cease in any of the following cases:
- (1) By failure of a member to pay any fees due to the Society within such period as may be prescribed in the notice given by the Executive Committee;
 - (2) On the resignation of a member in writing;

- (3) On the decision of the Executive Committee that the continuance of membership by a person would be prejudicial to the interests of the Society.

Centres and Branches

11. i) Persons desirous of forming a centre/branch of the Society at any place should write to the Society in a form to be prescribed by the Executive Committee.
- ii) Though the centres and branches will be all under the Executive Committee, they shall be treated as separate entities for the purposes of transactions among themselves and with the Headquarters and separate accounts shall be maintained by each centre/branch.
- iii) If any centre/branch is closed, the funds and assets of such a centre/branch after meeting its liabilities will be at the disposal of the Executive Committee of the Society.
- iv) Every year office-bearers for each centre/branch will be nominated by the Executive Committee. The executive of the centre/branch may consist of one or more members as may be nominated.
- v) A member of any centre/branch will not be ipso facto a member of the Society but will be eligible for such membership according to the provisions of Rule 9 hereof.

- vi) A General Member of the Society will be free to visit any centre/branch and attend such of its activities as the centre/branch makes available to non-resident members.
- vii) A non-resident member is he who is a general member of the Society and who does not ordinarily reside in the town or suburbs of the place where the centre/branch is situated.

General

12. MEETING

- (a) i. The Society shall hold an annual general meeting atleast once in every year and not more than 15 months shall elapse between two successive annual general meetings. Atleast 14 days notice specifying the time, place, day and hour shall be given to every member of the Society.
 - ii) The meeting will be held at such time as will be fixed by the Executive Committee to suit the convenience of the members.
- (b) The business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting shall be:

- i) To confirm the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting and of the special general meeting, if any,
 - ii) To adopt with or without modifications the report of the working of the Society for the previous year ended,
 - iii) To pass audited accounts for the said year,
 - iv) To appoint qualified auditor or auditors,
 - v) To consider any other matter whatsoever which is to be passed in a meeting of the members.
- (c) The quorum of any meeting of the Society will be 5 or 1/3 of the total number of the members in the register present either personally or by proxy whichever is less.
13. a) Account: The accounting year of the Society shall be from 1st April to 31st March or such year as may be determined by the Executive Committee from time to time.
- b) Audit: The accounts of the Society will be audited once a year by a Chartered Accountant.
- c) Contracts: The Executive Committee may by a resolution enter into any contract on behalf of the Society and authorise in such resolution any one or

more of the officebearers or any other person to execute all necessary documents in that behalf.

14. Suits: The Society may sue or be sued in the name of its Chairman, Member Executive – Administration or any other member or office bearer authorized by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee has constituted a subcommittee called “Finance & General Purpose Committee” which will have powers, interalia, to determine if and when a suit is to be filed or defended on behalf of the Society, provided, however, that all decisions of the Finance & General Purpose Committee shall be placed at the next earliest meeting of the Executive Committee for its ratification.

Properties and Assets

15. All properties and assets unless otherwise specified at the time of donation will be the properties of the Society to be used by it for or in furtherance or in fulfilment of any of its objects.
- 15(A).The Sri Aurobindo Institute of Research in Social Sciences, the Social Sciences Research wing of Sri Aurobindo Society, will maintain a separate account of the funds received by Sri Aurobindo Society or the said Institute for carrying out research in Social Sciences, to be incorporated in the consolidated accounts of the Sri Aurobindo Society at the end of the year.

In case there is any surplus fund not needed for immediate research work, the same will be invested by the said Institute only in deposits of nationalised banks or Govt. Securities. In case the Institute decides upon any other form of investment not covered by the above, such investment will be made only with the specific approval of the Prescribed Authority of the Government of India (at present the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology) from time to time.

Dissolution

16. Any number being not less than three-fifths of the members (excluding the affiliated members) of the Society may determine that the Society shall be dissolved and thereupon the Society shall be dissolved forthwith or at such time as may be agreed upon and all necessary steps shall be taken for the disposal and settlement of the property of the Society, its claims and liabilities according to the rules applicable thereto or otherwise as the Executive Committee shall find expedient but subject to the provisions of the Act.
17. In the case of winding up of the Society all assets will stand donated to Sri Aurobindo Ashram at Pondicherry.

Indemnity

18. The Chairman, Member Executive – Administration and Member Executive – Finance, members of the Executive Committee and all other officers of the Society shall be indemnified by the Society out of its funds against all loss or damage which such person or officer may incur or become liable to by reason of any contract entered into or any act or thing done by him as such officer or servant in any manner in the discharge of his duties.

Individual Responsibility

19. No officer of the Society shall be liable for the acts, receipts, neglects or defaults of any other officer or for joining in any receipt or other acts for conformity or for any loss or expense occurring to the Society unless the same shall happen through his wilful neglect or default.

The First Executive Committee

1. Madame M. Alfassa, The Mother, Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry - President.
2. Shri Keshav Dev Poddar also known as Navajata, Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry – General Secretary & Treasurer.

3. Shri Arunendra Nath Tagore, Advocate & Notary Public, 6 Hastings St., Calcutta-1 – Member.

I, the President of the Society, certify that this is a true copy of the Rules and Regulations of Sri Aurobindo Society.

Sd. M. Alfassa
PRESIDENT
19th September 1960

Sd. Keshav Dev Poddar
GENERAL SECRETARY & TREASURER

Sd. Arunendra Nath Tagore
MEMBER

NOTE:

This copy of the certificate signed by the Mother pertains to the original Rules and Regulations of the Society.

The Sri Aurobindo Society has about 400 Centres & Branches all over India. It has centres also in foreign countries viz. Bangladesh, Canada, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Kenya, Singapore, U.K., U.S.A. etc.

Sri Aurobindo Society holds information and consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and has

also been recognized by the Government of India as a Scientific Research Organisation in Social Sciences.

Contributions to the Society enjoy income tax exemption under Sections 80-G, and 35 (1) (iii) of the Indian Income Tax Act.

For any information about the Society, please write to:

The Chairman,
Sri Aurobindo Society,
Society House,
Pondicherry-605 002.

Registered Office:
Sri Aurobindo Bhavan,
8, Shakespeare Sarani,
Kolkata-700 071.