

Banga Maitri Sansad

(Registered under Public Trust Act No. F-607 (B) & Societies, Registration Act No. Bom 53/1939 GBB SD)
17, Air View, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Santacruz (E), Mumbai-400 055. Website : www.bangamaitrisansad.in

Minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting of Banga Maitri Sansad held on 23rd July 2023 for the Year 2022-23 at Sr. Railway Institute, Prabhat Colony, Santacruz East, Mumbai.

The 75th AGM of Banga Maitri Sansad held on 23rd July 2023 at 11.00 hours at Sr. Railway Institute, Prabhat Colony, Santacruz East. The participant's list is annexed.

The meeting was scheduled at 11.00 am but due to the nonfulfillment of the Quorum, the meeting was adjourned and again reconvened at 11.30 am as per the agenda of the meeting at the same venue.

Before starting the proceedings, Dr. Suptendu Roy Chowdhury, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Banga Maitri Sansad requested the house to be attentive as he is going to announce the Code of Conduct for the members of the Banga Maitri Sansad. He then explained the Code of Conduct in details along with other Trustees. The Code of Conduct is annexed in these minutes.

The Code of Conduct will be circulated to all members through WhatsApp group and members can give their suggestions (for any change) in writing to President/ Secretary or Chairman along with their names and contact details within 15 days of circulation this Code of Conduct. The Board of Trustees will discuss these suggestions and will finalise the Code of Conduct.

Proceedings

AGENDA 1: To welcome the Chairman.

The house welcomed Chairman Dr. Suptendu Roychowdhary, Chairman, BMS Board of Trustees.

The House also welcomed Mr. Debabrata Mitra, President, BMS.

The General Secretary Mr. Bivas Chakrabarty read the minutes of the last AGM held on 15th April, 2022 for confirmation. The House confirmed the minutes.

Resolution No. 1 RESOLVED that the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting of BMS held on 15th April, 2022 which was displayed in the notice board at BMS Club and are hereby confirmed.

- Proposed By: Mrs. Arpita Mukherjee
- Seconded by: Mr. Nirjash Roy Chowdhury.

It was confirmed and approved unanimously by the House.

AGENDA 2: To place and adopt the income and expenditure accounts of BMS for the year 2022-23.

Treasurer Mr. Rajesh Mukherjee placed internally audited accounts for the FY 2023. He informed the House that as per approval of the last AGM, BMS has changed the auditor and the new auditor started the audit work but this could be completed not before August as the audit firm is busy with the return

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submission for the individual tax payers. However, the audited account will be placed in the House as and when it is received from the auditor.

The House approved the internally audited account and authorised the Managing Committee to audit the same.

Resolution No. 2 RESOLVED that the internally audited accounts placed in the House was approved and is hereby adopted.

- Proposed By: Mr. Kunal Bhaduri
- Seconded by: Mr. Suman Layak.

It was **passed** unanimously by the House.

AGENDA 3: To appoint Auditor for the financial year 2023-24.

We have appointed a new audit firm **M/s. Bhavesh & Associates** to do the audit for the FY 23. Mr. Arunava Mukherjee suggested **M/s. Bhavesh & Associates** to continue as auditor for the FY 2024. The House accepted and approved to appoint M/s **M/s. Bhavesh & Associates** as auditor for the financial year 2023-24.

Resolution No. 3: RESOLVED that M/s. **M/s. Bhavesh & Associates** be appointed as auditor for the FY 24.

- Proposed By: Mr. Arunava Mukherjee
- Seconded by: Mr. Indranil Mukherjee.

It was passed unanimously by the House.

AGENDA 4: Secretary's Report

Mr. Bivas Chakraborty thanked the House and each member of BMS for their whole hearted support and cooperations in last four years in general but specially in the years of pandemic and for the grand celebration of 75th year of BMS and North Bombay Sarbojanin Durga Pujo. He was overwhelmed due to the trust, respect, love and belief that all of you have shown to me during my tenure.

The year FY23 will be best remembered for its year-round activities - many were maiden initiatives. All these activities elevated the club's image to an unforeseen high level and created trust amongst our members, sponsors and patrons. He deeply felt himself as the most fortunate GS that BMS has ever had in terms of challenges and opportunities that came in the ways during his tenure. To list a few are two years of pandemic, shifting of Durga Pujo venue, a galaxy of new members on board, 75th year celebration, bright corporate partnerships and programme with Governor three times in a 6-months period, all these happened once in few decades if not in centuries. He has also shared his feelings associated with BMS over the last 4 years.

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First thing is our strength. Last year immediate after the Kali Pujo we had our Special AGM to prepare ourselves for the 75th year Pujo. Some thoughts came in that meeting that should we do this in a great scale or to put it other way, do we have that capability to raise Rs 30 lakhs in 2022 for the puja? Rather we should concentrate on other activities like 80G and need not to plan for a grand celebration. He explain his thought how to generate funds for the 75th year celebration of Durga Pujo and yearlong activities of BMS. In 2021 BMS has generated a surplus of 7 lakhs and even if the team collects Rs 18 lakhs (collected in 2019) difference would be only Rs 5 lakhs. BMS has expanded its member base, and a slight increase in members contribution, it can easily mobilise extra 2 lakhs plus and thus the struggle will be for only Rs 3 lakhs or simply Rs 3000 per member considering 100 member which is not a big deal. And ultimately, the team has achieved what was planned.

Many of our members mainly from the AI colony have been relocated even outside the state. They played an important and effective role in managing the club affairs and were instrumental for successful Durga Pujo in every year specially in the years of pandemic. Their absence will definitely create a headwind for sure but sheer will power and dedications of our members will help us to excel in every parameter now and onwards. To this power of Unity, he mentioned that no one is indispensable to BMS. With this belief in mind, he stepped down from GS and MC in March this year.

He then stated the financials of last fiscal. This year income of BMS crossed Rs 27 lakhs, an increase of 50% over the FY 20. Despite of this level of spending, the club became richer in last 4 years, as it has added Rs 7 lakhs plus to its FD base and Rs. 1.20 lakh plus kept in the savings a/cs. He mentioned that for any charitable organisation like BMS, there is no scope for any inorganic growth. The organisation can grow up if and only if new members join and actively participate in club functions. It is non-compromising, especially when the old members are relocating and or becoming inactive. He mentioned that BMS has added 30 new members since 2021 pujo and got a rich dividend last year. Today who ever will be selected as GS, he needs to keep this in mind that only new members (whether new- new, or old- new) can now raise the bar further.

Despite of his 4 years tenure as GS and previous 2 years as treasurer he was not a bank signatory. This is one sense, very positive as the cheque signing was not rest with the decision makers. But dependence on others for their time to sign the cheque often outweigh the benefit. Moreover, banks do not listen to a non- signatory. Hence, non-routine banking activities got stuck in many times which actually slowed down the process. In fact, officially till today, bank account ownership is with those members who left the club a decade back or no more today. Whoever will be selected GS today, he urged to please note this point seriously as non-routine banking activities are as important as routine banking activities.

To run an organisation, he mentioned that one needs to have some cash in hand, unfortunately BMS doesn't have that system. So, we have to depend on some members (in most of the cases he paid in last four years) who usually make the payment and then take the reimbursement. BMS needs to have some fund in cash to meet up these expenses. It would be good if the next Secretary (for his convenience) can plan out properly a develop a system to handle cash for day-to-day management of the club, he stated.

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Every individual is multifaceted and their opinion on club issue matters a lot to us. While each opinion should be heard respectfully, but one cannot ignore the focus on cost control. The team often compromised and voiced for emotional expenditure. Last year BMS could have saved at least Rs 50K on the food/ bhog a/c. Saving money is very important for a small organisation as future income is uncertain for us. Emotional expenditure does not yield any dividend.

In the membership list there are members who did not update their club membership for last few years. He voiced for a clear-cut policy to cease the membership for such members.

Last year though it has been decided to apply for the Sec 80G of IT act but he has kept himself away from the process very deliberately because his capability to do this kind of job due to limited understanding of the complexities involved and obviously for his time constraint. The asset list is an important document for any organisation, unfortunately BMS does not have updated this at present. he hopes the new MC will take up these issues on priority and will work on war footing. This is extremely necessary. And therefore, he urged to all the members to provide the necessary support to the new MC to get this thing done before closing this present fiscal. He concluded that we need to further push our boundaries to create a history for BMS in this year.

AGENDA 5: Formation of BMS Managing Committee

The house decided to form the new subcommittee for the North Bombay Sarbojanin Durga Pujo for organizing the festivals in 2023. Accordingly, the Managing Committee formed and the Durga Pujo Sub-Committee is reshuffled. Considering the total number of Members of BMS, the number of members of the Managing Committee is decided at eleven (11), to conform with the provisions of Maharashtra Cooperative Societies Act 1960 and with those of Bombay Public Trust Act 1950 and in the said number of the Managing Committee, members Scheduled Caste (SC), Schedule Tribes (ST), Neo Buddhists (NBs) and 2 female members are considered.

BMS Managing Committee

PRESIDENT - Mr. Debabrata Mitra

GENERAL SECRETARY - Mr. Subir Dutta

TREASURER - Mr. Sujay Basu

JOINT SECRETARY - Mr. Indranil Mukherjee

MEMBERS

- Mrs Kabita Mukherjee
- Mrs Anuradha Banerjee
- Mr. Nirjash Roy Chowdhury
- Mr. Subrata Debnath

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The house could not find any members from Scheduled Caste (SC), Schedule Tribes (ST), Neo Buddhists (NBs) community in the house and therefore as per provisions of the law, these 3 posts kept vacant for the time being.

The house also decided to create a pull of resources to be called in the MC meeting as per requirement and the General Secretary will decide to call members in the MC meetings as and when required

- Ms. Vaishali Chakraborty
- Mr. Kunal Bhaduri
- Mr. Haradev Mukherjee, he will also act as **joint treasurer** of BMS
- Mr. Rajnath Bose
- Mr. Chandan Deb

Our present Internal Audit team was formed in 2022 and the house was of the opinion not to change this internal audit team. However, the house accepted the desire of Seema Parashar not to continue as internal audit committee member and therefore following members will continue:

1. Mr. Shirshendu Basu
2. Mr. Sandeepan Banerjee and
3. Mr. Indranil Mukherjee

Resolution No.4: RESOLVED that the newly elected Managing Committee will be responsible for managing the routine club work and will organise different events including North Bombay sarbojanin Durga Pujo 2023.

- Proposed By: Mrs. Moon Moon Chowdhury
- Seconded by: Mrs. Rini Mukherjee.

It was passed unanimously by the House.

AGENDA 6: Formation of 76th year Durga Puja sub- committee.

The new **Pujo Managing Committee** is formed in consultation with the newly elected Managing Committee.

Chairman- Mr. Subrata Debnath		
Secretary – Subir Dutta	Joint Secretary Mr. Rajnath Bose Mr. Ron Guha Mr. Chandan Deb	Treasurers Mr. Haradev Mukherjee Mr. Sujay Basu
Vice - Chairman Mr. Shekhar Chowdhury Mr. Nirjash Roy Chowdhury Ms. Shibani Patke Ms. J D Baishnab Mr. Ashokan Pillai Mr. Sandeepan Banerjee	Pujo Rituals Committee Mrs. Chinu Mazumder Mr. Kunal Bhaduri Mr. Haradeb Mukherjee Mrs. Arpita Mukherjee Mrs. Moonmoon Roy Chowdhury	Cultural Committee Ms. Anindita Mitra Ms. Rupashree Deb Ms. Gitika Banerjee Ms. Gargi Deb

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	Mrs. Bandona Dey Mrs. Sonali Chowdhury Mrs. Sreyeshi Basu Mrs. Sanchari Mukherjee Mrs. Shampa Mukherjee	
Bhog Committee Mr. Chandan Deb Mr. Rohit Basu Mr. Soumya Deb	Marketing & Publicity Committee Ms. Shibani Patke Ms. Kavita Mukherjee Mr. Rajesh Mukherjee Mr. Ron Guha	Pandel Committee Mr. Ron Guha Mr. Subrata Debnath Mr. Gokul Nath Mr. Shankar Diwanji Mr. Sagnik Mukherjee

Resolved that the Pujio subcommittee will be organising different festivals under the guidance of BMS Managing Committee.

- Proposed by: Mr. Subrata Debnath
- Seconded by: Mr. Sirsendu Basu

Other issues discussed with the permission of the Chair

1. Mr. Sagnik Mukherjee suggested that BMS should waived off the pending membership fees of the poor but active members to give an opportunity to them to rejoin the club. The house agreed to this proposal.
2. Mr. Sagnik Mukherjee also suggested to start sports and games event at the club along with provisions for singing and dancing classes. The house considered this as a good proposal and agreed to this.
3. Mr. Nirjash Roy Chowdhury suggested that members should refrain themselves in posting/ forwarding irrelevant posts in BMS official WhatsApp group.
4. Mr. Ron Guha also expressed his concern about casting of personal attacks through WhatsApp posts from Sr. members or from members holding key posts. Mr. Guha also suggested that BMS members, holding any portfolio should not be doing any business with BMS. The Chairman assures that these issues were taken up in the Code of Conduct.

As there were no other matters to be discussed in the meeting, it was ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Debobrata Mitra
President BMS

Bivas Chakraborty
General Secretary, BMS

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Annex

Code of Conduct for the Members of Banga Maitri Sansad

Prelude

A Code of Conduct is a set of principles and accepted rules that members need to follow in their day-to-day activities with BMS, interaction with its members and stakeholders. It provides a direction to the members for working with dignity, probity, morality, honesty and integrity, giving priority on the sustained commitment to follow ethical practices in a responsible manner.

Scope

This common Code of Conduct applies equally and uniformly to all the members of BMS alike regardless of their social, political and economic status or geographic location. The Code of discipline also applies to third parties, such as various contractors, decorators, caterers, electricians, vendors, suppliers and others acting on behalf of BMS

The Code

1. Membership subscription of BMS must be paid regularly in time, continuous default in paying for a period of three consecutive years will render such members a non – member, which will debar and deprive such non-member from non-member from receiving certain benefits including take away “Bhog Prasad” food packets free of cost during festivals and celebration in certain special circumstances like pandemic.
2. Members of BMS must attend meetings regularly in time as and when called for, in case of probable and potential absence, leave of absenteeism must be applied well in advance, unless there is a sudden emergency or due to Force Majeure which is an Act of God that includes natural calamity, civil commotion, communal riots etc.
3. Attending Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) is of paramount importance, which is mandatory and compulsory for all the bonafide members of BMS. If any

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member of BMS fails to attend AGM continuously for three consecutive years then such member shall lose his/ her membership.

4. Restoration of Membership of such Non- Members shall need the approval of the Board of Trustees. Sufficient reasons must be assigned by such non-Members for not attending AGM and/ or for non-payment of membership subscription due to which Membership has been terminated and satisfy the Trustees. The decision of the Trustees shall be the final, conclusive and binding on all concerned.
5. For all practical purposes, the Board of Trustees is the custodian of all present and future movable and immovable properties and assets of BMS such as the
 - a. Premises of BMS
 - b. All Fixed Deposits Receipts (FDRs)
 - c. All bank account – Current or Savings
 - d. All Bank Lockers
 - e. All gold and silver jewelleryes and ornaments of all idols including weapons, equipment, arsenals etc
 - f. Air condition unit
 - g. Machine, tools and tackles
 - h. Utensil, Crockeries, potteries
 - i. Fan, lights, furniture and fixtures
 - j. Donation Boxes
 - k. Books of A/cs, Files, documents, papers, vouchers, receipts, souvenirs, gift items
 - l. Trophies, cups, Shields, Medals, mementoes, certificate so on and so forth

Any alteration, modification, change, disposal, withdrawals, sale, mortgage, hypothecation, rental, lease, hire shall have prior written permission of the Board of Trustees, endorsed by the Chairman of Trust Board.

6. Considering the total number of Members of BMS, the number of members of the Managing Committee at no point of time shall exceed eleven (11), which is in conformity with the provisions of Maharashtra Cooperative Societies Act 1960 and with those of Bombay Public Trust Act 1950 and in the said number of the

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Managing Committee Members Scheduled Caste (SC), Schedule Tribes (ST), Neo Buddhists (NBs) and female members are required to be included proportionately.

7. Since the Members of BMS Managing Committee are elected directly by the AGM, hence no person can be arbitrarily inducted in the Managing Committee midway unless there is an utter emergency, serious situation and dire compulsion evolved creating vacancies owing to the death, retirement, resignation of a Member of the Managing Committee or due to the expulsion of a Managing Committee Member for anti BMS activities.

However, for the induction of any person midway as the Member of the Managing Committee, a special general body meeting (SGM) shall be required to be convened either by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees in consultation with other Trustees or by a requisition made by not less than 1/5th (One Fifth) of the total number of Members of BMS. In that SGM, a member of the Managing Committee will be elected.

8. Whenever a member of the Managing Committee is elected, selected or nominated for a certain post or portfolio and such elected member is entrusted with some responsibilities, such delegated responsibility becomes joint and several responsibilities because the work done is for BMS and not a personal job.
9. No member of BMS shall castigate as persons on any other member at personal level accusing either directly in person or indirectly over phone in order to express dissatisfaction, displeasure, dejection, discontent or despair for any shortfall, defect, drawback, deficiency, insufficiency or inefficiency as the nature of work done is voluntary and not remunetary.
10. All members should treat our BMS's property, whether material or intangible, with respect and care. Members should not misuse BMS equipment or use it frivolously and should respect all kinds of intangible properties like trademarks, copyrights and other assets including intellectual property. Members should use them only to complete specific tasks or duties. Additionally, the use of our assets for individual profit or any unlawful, unauthorized personal or unethical purpose is strictly

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prohibited. Use of drugs and alcohol at club/ hired premises is not encouraged at all.

11. All the bonafide members of BMS shall be required to abide by the rules, regulations, laws, byelaws and government guidelines governing social media – along with this code of conduct. No members should disclose any confidential information about BMS or about any of its members, patrons, third parties such as vendors, contractors, suppliers. Confidential information is an asset which must be protected. Confidential information includes all non-public information and information obtained from any source while doing our work. No member shall engage in any kind of political propaganda on behalf of BMS. All members must avoid situations involving an actual or potential conflict of interest. To avoid conflicts of interest and any appearance of favouritism, members should not work directly for it. All the members of BMS shall be required to follow the code of conduct framed, formulated and constituted by the Board of Trustees, which is mandatory.
12. Any deliberate defiance of disobedience and disregard shown to the code of conduct by any member of BMS, who habitually, regularly, repeatedly flout the sanctity of the code of conduct will face disciplinary action and will be served upon with show cause notice who shall be required to explain his/ her stand. If the explanation is not satisfactory then such member shall be suspended for a minimum period of three years. Membership can also be terminated. Legal action shall be taken in cases of corruption, theft, embezzlement, misappropriation of funds or other unlawful activities and behaviour.

This Common Code of Conduct was announced by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the Annual General Body Meeting held on 23rd of July 2023 for the knowledge, information and record of all the members of BMS which shall come into force with immediate effect from the date and time of the AGM.