

HINDI-SPEAKING UNION ACT

Act 33 of 1994 – 14 December 1994

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HINDI-SPEAKING UNION ACT

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Hindi-speaking Union Act.

2. Interpretation

In this Act—

“Council” means the Executive Council appointed under section 5;

“Fund” means the General Fund referred to in section 8;

“Union” means the Hindi-speaking Union established under section 3.

3. Establishment of Union

(1) There is established for the purposes of this Act the Hindi-speaking Union which shall be a body corporate.

(2) The Union shall have its registered office at the Indira Gandhi Centre for Indian Culture, Quatre Bornes, or at such other place as the Council may determine.

(3) The Union may be affiliated to an organisation in another country whose objectives are similar to those of the Union.

(4) The Union may open branches throughout the country on a regional basis.

(5) Membership of the Union shall be open to all persons who have a keen interest in the promotion of Hindi.

4. Objects of Union

The objects of the Union shall be to—

- (a) promote the Hindi language in its spoken and written forms;

- (b) promote friendship and understanding between the Hindi-speaking peoples of the world and engage in any educational work designed to further that objective;
- (c) provide facilities for the interchange of views affecting the interests, well-being, development, relationships and common problems of the Hindi-speaking peoples of the world;
- (d) promote and encourage education amongst all peoples interested in Hindi with special reference to the historical, cultural, artistic, economic and social development of those peoples;
- (e) provide facilities for exchange programmes, scholarships and social intercourse between the Union and other organisations;
- (f) promote and encourage correspondence, debates and other activities in Hindi between universities, colleges, schools, and other bodies situated either in Mauritius or in another country;
- (g) promote and encourage the interchange of Hindi books, pamphlets, periodicals and other information between local colleges, schools and other educational establishments situated overseas;
- (h) promote and encourage the publication, exhibition, distribution and sale of Hindi books, magazines, newspapers; and
- (i) promote and encourage debating competitions in Hindi, *Geet* and *Ghazal* concerts, *Bhajans* and *Qawali* programmes, *Kavi* and *Mushaira* meetings and other cultural activities.

5. Executive Council

(1) The Union shall be managed by an Executive Council composed of not less than 20 nor more than 30 members.

(2) The members of the Council shall be such persons as may be prescribed.

(3) The office bearers of the Council shall be such persons as may be prescribed.

(4) The Council may remove any member, other than an *ex officio* member, or fill any vacancy arising in its membership or any office thereof.

(5) One third of the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum.

6. Patron of Union

(1) The Council may appoint a suitable person to be the Patron of the Union.

(2) —

7. Execution of documents

(1) Every document of a financial nature issued by or on behalf of the Union shall be signed by the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

(2) Where the President, the Treasurer or the Secretary is absent or, for any other reason, unable to act, the Vice-President, the Deputy Treasurer or the Assistant Secretary, as the case may be, shall act in his stead.

8. General Fund

(1) There shall be a General Fund into which shall be paid all monies accruing to the Union, including the fees and contributions that may be raised from its members and its donors.

(2) The Council may pay out of the Fund any sum which is lawfully due by the Union or any sum to promote the objects of the Union.

9. Audit

(1) The Council may appoint a qualified person as its auditor.

(2) The auditor shall, not later than the end of March in every year, furnish to the Patron of the Union and to the Council, a report on an audit of accounts of the Union for the previous year.

(3) —

10. Donations

Article 910 of the Code Civil Mauricien shall not apply to the Union.

11. Rules

(1) The Council may, for the purposes of this Act, make rules for the Union which shall be binding on the Union and the Council.

(2) Rules under this section shall not be required to be—

- (a) approved by the Minister;
- (b) laid before the Assembly; or
- (c) published in the *Gazette*.

(3) A copy of such Rules shall be forwarded within a reasonable time to the Patron of the Union.

[S. 11 amended by s. 3 of Act 38 of 2002.]

FIRST SCHEDULE

[Spent.]

SECOND SCHEDULE

[Section 5]

1. Mr. Deepchand Beeharry	.....	President
2. Dr. Moonishwurlall Chintamunnee	.....	Vice-President
3. Dr. Bushan Gupt Domah	.....	Vice-President
4. Mr. Rampersad Proag	.....	Secretary
5. Mr. Ajamil Matabadal	.....	Assistant Secretary
6. Mr. Vivek Chadda	.....	Treasurer
7. Mrs. Nazma Currimjee	.....	Assistant Treasurer
8. Miss Suchita Ramdin	.....	Public Relations Officer
