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THE FARMERS' FEDERATION OF INDIA

1. NAME

The Name of the Union shall be "THE FARMERS' FEDERATION OF INDIA".

2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Federation shall be -

- (a) To promote the interests of farmers and farming;
- (b) To further or oppose legislation which, in the opinion of the Federation, may be sound and beneficial or prejudicial to the interests of farmers or farming;
- (c) To promote sympathetic understanding, co-operation and good feeling among the farming community;
- (d) To afford to all persons interested in farming, as well as to the community generally, facilities for discussion and the exchange of information and ideas concerning farming;
- (e) To deal on a representative basis with all questions affecting the relations between farmers and workers or between land-lords and tenants;
- (f) To deal on a representative basis with all questions and disputes of whatsoever nature affecting farming;
- (g) To consider, discuss and advise on all questions affecting farmers and farming, including questions concerning wages and prices, terms and conditions of the employment of labour, tenure, compensation for acquisition, take-over, improvements, etc., taxes levies and cesses;

- (h) To collect and disseminate statistical, trade, economic or commercial information;
- (i) To set up branches in all parts of India with a view to promoting local interests and the discussion and ventilation of local questions;
- (j) To promote scientific knowledge of the cultivation, and processing and preservation of farm products;
- (k) To secure adequate facilities for transport of produce and all materials and services required for farming at fair prices;
- (l) To set up or organise bodies and agencies for marketing of produce of farming as may be considered necessary or expedient;
- (m) To promote and facilitate co-operation amongst farmers and between farmers and other persons/bodies;
- (n) To institute facilities for financial arrangements for members, warehousing, insurance, etc.;
- (o) To subscribe to, assist, subsidise or co-operate with any association or institution whose objects are in whole or in part similar to those of the Federation and to subscribe to any funds or objects charitable or otherwise, which may be deemed likely to promote the interests of farm or to benefit the Members of the Federation;
- (p) Subject to the provisions of the law to sponsor representatives to State or Central Legislatures and to set up a political fund in furtherance of this objective.
- (q) To purchase, take on lease or hire or otherwise acquire any movable or immovable property or any rights or privileges necessary or convenient for the purpose of the Federation; and to

- construct, alter and keep in repair any buildings required for use by the Federation and to demolish any building not so required;
- (r) To establish, to contribute to and support funds or trusts in furtherance of the objects of the Federation;
 - (s) To promote Agro-based industry in Rural sector;
 - (t) To sell, improve, develop, lease, mortgage, change, exchange, dispose of or otherwise deal with all or any part of the property and assets of the Federation;
 - (u) To invest and deal with all monies of the Federation in such a manner as may be determined by the Council;
 - (v) To apply the income of the Federation such a manner as may be determined by the Council;
 - (w) To do all such other lawful things as may be incidental to the attainment of the above objects;
 - (x) To keep contact and to have close collaboration with Farming Institutions, and research Institutions in countries outside India.

3. DEFINITION

In these rules, where the context permits ;

- (a) 'Farmer' means a person carrying on the business of farming in India for the purpose of gain or research;
- (b) 'Farming' includes agriculture, planting, horticulture, silviculture, the keeping or breeding of livestock of all kinds including poultry and other birds, seed growing, crop drying and primary food processing;
- (c) 'Planting' means the cultivation of any land for the production of tea, rubber, coffee, cardamom, cinchona, pepper, coconut and arecanut;
- (d) 'Horticulture' includes the production of fruits, flowers, shrubs, young plants or trees, glass house produce, vegetables and mushrooms;
- (e) 'Council' means the Council mentioned in rule 11;
- (f) 'Person' includes a firm of partners, and any organisation, institution or other body of persons whether incorporated or otherwise;
- (g) 'Federation' includes all the Branches of the Federation;

4. MEMBERSHIP

- (1) Ordinary Members : Farmers (including their wives and children), retired farmers and representatives of farmers shall be eligible for membership of the Federation as "Ordinary Members."
- (2) Association Members : Any organisation or institution or other body of persons, whether incorporated or otherwise, which has objects in whole or in part similar to the objects of the Federation and does not carry on any business for profit will be eligible for membership as "Association Members".
- (3) Firm Members : Any Company, firm or co-operative not being eligible for membership as an 'Ordinary Member' but having regular business connections with the members of the Federation will be eligible for membership as "Firm Members".
- (4) Personal Members : Agricultural students, scientists and agricultural economists are eligible to be admitted to "Personal Membership" of the Federation.
- (5) Honorary Members : Any person who has rendered outstanding service to the Federation or to farming, may be admitted to "Honorary Membership" by the Council.

5. ADMISSION

The members of the Union shall be those duly qualified persons who, on their application, have been admitted to membership by the Council.

6. SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION

(1) If the Executive Council is of opinion that the conduct of any member renders it necessary so to do, the said Council may suspend for such period as may be determined or expel that member from membership of the Federation;

Provided that any member so suspended or expelled may appeal to the Council who shall hear and determine the case and whose decision shall be final.

(2) Any person so expelled may later be readmitted to membership at the discretion of the Council.

7. NORMAL RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION

(1) (1) The annual subscription for the year from the _____ to _____ shall, in the case of every member who has holdings, consist of a basic subscription of Rs. _____ and, in addition, an acreage subscription ascertained by reference to all the land comprised in the member's holdings on the following scale :-

<u>Description of land</u>	<u>Rate of subscription</u> Rs. per hec.
1. Land used for the production of cereals	... Rs.
2. Land used for the production of plantation products	... Rs.
3. Land used for the production of fruits and vegetables	... Rs.
4. Land used for the production of flowers and bulbs	... Rs.
5. Land used for growing nurseries	... Rs.
6. Land used for coconut and arecanut groves	... Rs.
7. Land used for growing sugar cane	... Rs.
8. Any land not described above	... Rs.

Notes: In this rules the expression 'holding' means all the land occupied by a member which qualifies him for membership of the Federation.

(2) The rate of subscription for specialist farming such as poultry keeping, bee-keeping, etc. shall consist of a basic subscription of Rs. _____ and in addition a service subscription at the following rates :-

1. Poultry	..Rs. _____	for every 100 birds or part thereof.
2. Bee-keeping	..Rs. _____	for every 100 hives or part thereof.
3. Dairy farming	..Rs. _____	for every head of cattle.
4. Sheep rearing	..Rs. _____	for every head of sheep.

(3) The basic and service subscription for the financial years subsequent 31st March 1972 shall be such amounts as may be fixed by a resolution of the General Body on the recommendation of the Council.

(4) The annual subscription of a member shall not exceed Rs. _____ per annum.

(5) The Council shall have the power to allow general or special remission of the subscription to all or any section of members or to an individual member as it thinks fit and desirable.

(6) The annual subscription of a member who has no holdings shall be Rs. _____.

(7) The subscription payable by an Association or a Firm Member shall be Rs. 500/- per annum.

(8) The subscription payable by a Personal Member shall be Rs. 25/- per annum.

8. SPECIAL RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION

If in the opinion of the Council the special circumstances of the Federation as a whole or of a State or a District so require, the Council may levy a special subscription at such rates and on such members as may be approved by the General Body.

9. Any member shall have the right of resigning his membership by giving notice in writing to the Secretary on or before the 31st March in any year, providing that his/its subscription shall have been paid upto the 31st March of that year. Any former member who has so resigned may nevertheless apply for re-election as a new member.

10. GENERAL ORGANISATION

The organisation of the Federation shall comprise a National Association, State Association, District Association and Taluka Association. The State Association shall consist of members of the National Federation from the State concerned. Similarly, the District Association shall consist of members of the National Federation from the District concerned. The Taluka Association shall consist of members of the National Federation from each Taluka.

11. NATIONAL COUNCIL

The affairs of the Federation shall be administered by the National Council consisting of the National Federation Chairman, Executive National President and not more than 27 representatives of the State Association.

elected annually by the State delegates from amongst themselves, attending the annual convention. The Council will constitute the supreme central executive body of the whole Federation.

12. STATE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

Each State Council shall consist of delegates from the District Association at a rate not exceeding two delegates for each district and shall have such powers and perform such functions as are conferred on the State Association by the National Council.

13. DISTRICT ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

Each District Association Council shall consist of two delegates for each Taluka and shall have such powers and perform such functions as are conferred on the District Association by the State Council.

14. TALUKA ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

Each Taluka Association Council shall consist of one delegate for every ten members of the Association in the Taluka, subject to a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 10 delegates.

15. NATIONAL FEDERATION DELEGATE

The National Federation delegates will be elected by each State Association from amongst the District delegates at the rate of 4 delegates for each State.

16. NATIONAL CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

(1) A Chairman and a Vice-Chairman shall be elected by the Council from amongst the members of the Federation at the annual convention every year. Each of them shall office until the end of the meeting of the Council at which his successor is elected.

(2) Any District or State Association may submit nominations for the offices of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman not later than _____(day) of _____(month) in any year.

(3) The Chairman shall take the Chair at all meetings of the Council. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and in the absence of both, a member elected by the meeting shall take the Chair.

17. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The National Council shall appoint an Executive Council of which the National Chairman shall be the Chairman. The Executive Council shall consist of 7 members from among the members of the National Council.

18. POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

(1) The Executive Council shall exercise such powers and functions on behalf of the Council as are delegated to it by the Council. The Council shall, however, have the right of review of any decision taken by the Executive Council.

(2) The Executive Council may appoint such Committees and Sub-Committees as may be considered necessary or expedient and may delegate to such Committees any of its powers, but every such Committee or Sub-Committee shall comply with any general or specific instructions issued by, and shall report the proceedings to, the Executive Council.

19. EXECUTIVE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

The National Council shall appoint on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit and suitable an Executive National President who shall be an ex-officio member of the Council immediately upon appointment and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as are conferred or imposed upon him by the National Council.

20. OFFICERS

The Executive Council shall appoint a Secretary and such other Officers and Staff as may be considered necessary from time to time and fix and revise their terms and conditions of service.

21. BYELAWS

The National Council may from time to time fix what number shall form a quorum and make byelaws for the conduct of its business including the business of the Executive Council and any Committees or Sub-Committees appointed by it. The National Council shall also make byelaws to prescribe the functions and powers of the Branch Association.

22. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER OF COMMITTEES & SUB-COMMITTEES

The National Chairman and the Executive National President shall be ex-officio members of all Committees and Sub-Committees.

23. BRANCH ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES

(1) The Council shall with the consent of the appropriate Branch Association form Branch or Area Committees for the State District and Taluka Association consisting of representatives of the members of the Association from the State, District or Taluka as the case may be. The Council may also similarly appoint Specialist Branch Committees within an area.

(2) The constitution and functions of an Area Committee or Specialist Committee shall be determined by the Council and the Council shall make regulations for its procedure and shall provide the secretarial and clerical assistance required for the conduct of its business.

(3) The expenses of the Area Committee/Specialist Committee shall be defrayed from the funds of the Council.

24. MEMBER-OFFICERS

(a) No person other than a member of the Federation may become or continue as a member of the Council or any Committee set up under these Rules.

(b) No paid official of the Council or any Branch other than the Executive National President may become or continue as a member of the Council or any Committee.

25. ANNUAL CONVENTION

(1) An Annual Convention of the Federation shall be held in or about the month of March, and at least one calendar month's notice thereof shall be given to all members of the Federation and to the Secretaries of the State, District and Taluka Association.

(2) The business to be transacted at the Annual Convention shall be :

(a) To receive the report and accounts of the Council;

(b) To fix the subscriptions for the year;

(c) To appoint auditors for the year;

(d) To transact any other business of which written notice has been given to the Secretary of not less than 14 days prior to the date of the Convention by any member entitled to vote at the meeting.

26. SPECIAL CONVENTIONS

(1) A Special Convention may be called at any time either by the Council or by the Executive President or by seven members of the Council, and shall be called on the joint written request of three or more State Association.

(2) Written notice of every special Convention and of the business to be transacted shall be sent to the members of the Federation, Secretaries of State and District Association, not less than 7 days before the date of the Convention.

(3) The Council may from time to time make by-laws for the regulation of the conduct of the business conventions and also for holding conventions of the State and District Association;

27. ATTENDANCE AT CONVENTIONS

(1) All members of the Federation shall be entitled to attend a Convention.

(2) Every State Association may send five delegates to a Convention for the first 100 members of the State Federation and one additional delegate for every subsequent 100 members of the State Association or part thereof.

(3) Every District Association may send three delegates to a Convention.

28. VOTING

(1) The right to vote at a Convention shall be confined to the delegated attending it on due nomination by the State and District Association.

(2) All voting in a Convention shall be by show of hand unless a poll is then and there demanded by any 3 or more of the delegates present.

(3) On a poll, the basis of voting shall be as follows :-

- (a) Each State Association shall be entitled to 5 votes for the first 100 of its members and at the rate of 1 vote for every subsequent 100 members;
- (b) Each District Association shall be entitled to 1 vote for every 10 members of the District Association

29. FINANCE

(1) The funds of the Council are derived from-

- (a) The subscriptions which may be levied by the Council pursuant to these rules;
- (b) Any charges made on members for providing specialist schemes;
- (c) Donations or grants from members, other persons or bodies;
- (d) Income from property of the Council.

(2) There shall be no separate funds for the State or District Associations but they may hold funds in the name of the National Council.

(3) All expenses of the State and District Federations shall be met out of the funds of, and reimbursed by, the National Council

(4) No financial liability shall be incurred by or on behalf of the Council without the approval of the Council or some Committee of the Council duly authorised in that behalf.

30. ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

(1) The Council shall keep all proper accounts and shall, annually, make out a balance sheet and income and expenditure account and cause them to be audited by a professional accountant, or firm of accountants appointed for the purpose by the previous annual convention.

(2) The accounts so audited shall be presented to the Annual Convention next following the close of the period covered by the accounts.

31. TRUSTEES

(1) All properties of the Federation, movable and immovable, shall vest in the Trustees for the use and benefit of the Federation

(2) The Council shall appoint as Trustees from members amongst themselves at every annual Convention.

(3) All documents relating to the properties and investments of the Federation shall be executed by not less than two Trustees or by one Trustee and the Executive National President for and on behalf of the Federation.

(4) The Trustees shall on instructions from the Council or the Executive Council invest, realise or re-invest the funds of the Federation.

32. POLITICAL FUND

The Council may set up a political fund and frame rules to govern the use to which such fund may be applied from time to time.

33. INSPECTION OF BOOKS, ETC.

The books and accounts and any lists of members of the Federation in possession of the Council shall be open to the inspection of any person duly authorised by any District or State Council.

34. SCOPE OF RULES

These rules and any amendment thereof shall be binding upon every member of the Federation.