

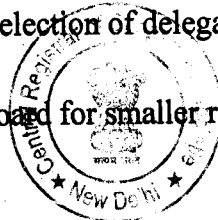
**BYE-LAWS
OF THE
BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LTD.**




CHIEF PROMOTER
BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED

INDEX

	Page No.
Chapter-1: PRELIMINARY, DEFINITIONS & OBJECTS	
1. Name of the Society	1
2. Principal place of business and registered office	1
3. Area of operation	1
4. Definitions	1
5. Objectives and functions	4
Chapter-2: MEMBERSHIP, ELIGIBILITY, RIGHTS & LIABILITY	
6. Membership	8
7. Ordinary Members	8
8. Nominal or associate members	9
9. Application for membership	9
10. Disposal of application	9
11. Conditions to be complied with for membership	9
12. Cessation of membership	10
13. Withdrawal or resignation from membership	11
14. Expulsion of a member	11
15. Rights and duties of ordinary members	11
16. Votes of ordinary members and manner of voting	12
17. Liability of a member	13
Chapter-3: CAPITAL AND FUNDS	
18. Authorized share capital	14
19. Classification of membership and subscription to share capital	14
20. Share certificate	15
21. Transfer of shares	15
22. Lien on shares and dividends	16
23. Funds raising	16
24. Maximum borrowing limit	16
Chapter-4: ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT	
25. General Body	18
26. Constitution of smaller representative body	18
27. Division of area of the Society for election of delegates of smaller representative body	20
28. Regulations to be framed by the Board for smaller representative body	20




CHIEF PROMOTER
BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED

29. Interim Board and general meeting for the first election	20
30. Powers and functions of the general body	20
31. Special general body meeting	21
32. Notice for annual general body meeting and the special general body meeting	21
33. Quorum of the general body meeting	22
34. Voting in general meeting	23
35. Chairperson of the general body meeting	23
36. Resolutions	23
37. Minutes of the general body meeting	23
38. Elections of members of Board	23
39. Board of Directors	24
40. Term of Board of Directors	25
41. Powers and functions of the Board of Directors	26
42. Disqualification for being a member of the Board	27
43. Removal of elected member of the Board by the general body	29
44. Vacancy in the office of Board of Directors	29
45. Meetings of the Board of Directors	29
46. Committees of the Board	30
47. Chairperson and Vice-chairperson	31
48. Powers and functions of the Chairperson	31
49. Prohibition to hold office of Chairperson, or President or Vice- Chairperson or Vice-President in certain cases	31
50. Holding of office in co-operative Society	32
51. Minutes of the meeting of Board of Directors	32
52. Chief Executive	32
53. Powers and functions of the Chief Executive	32

Chapter-5: DETERMINATION OF PRODUCT PRICE AND APPROPRIATION OF PROFIT

54. How to determine price of product	35
55. Disposal of net profit	35
56. Investments of funds	36
57. Reserve Fund	37
58. Dividend	37

Chapter-6: AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS

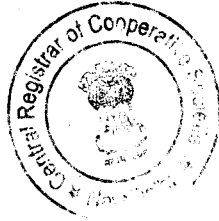
59. Accounts and records	38
60. Audit	38
61. Right of auditor to attend general meeting	40
62. Resolutions for appointment and removal of auditors, their qualifications, powers and duties.	40



63. Annual accounts and balance sheet	40
64. Filing of returns	40

Chapter-7: MISCELLANEOUS

65. Inspection of Minutes Book of general meeting	41
66. Amendment of the Bye-laws	41
67. Settlement of disputes	41
68. Services Regulations	41
69. Common seal	41
70. Educational course for members	42
71. Association of employees in management decision making process	42
72. Miscellaneous	42




CHIEF PROMOTER
BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED

Chapter-1: PRELIMINARY, DEFINITIONS & OBJECTS

1. Name of the Society –

Name of the Society shall be the “BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LTD.” and in Hindi version as: “भारतीय बीज सहकारी समिति लि.” (hereinafter it shall be referred to as the “Society”).

2. Principal place of business and registered office -

(1) The principal place of business and the Registered Office of the Society shall be situated at:-

✓IFFCO Sadan, C-1, District Centre, Saket Place, New Delhi - 110017.

(2) Any change in the address of the Society shall be notified to the Central Registrar within 15 days of its change and also published in local newspaper and shall be made by an amendment of its bye-laws after following the procedures laid down in section 11 of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002.

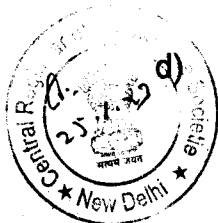
3. Area of operation.-

✓The area of operation of the Society shall extend to whole of Union of India.

4. Definitions.-

The words/expressions appearing in these bye-laws shall have the following meaning unless otherwise provided:

- a) “Act” means the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002, as amended from time to time;
- b) “Area of operation” means the area from which the persons can be admitted as members of the society;
- c) “Board” means the Board of Directors or Governing Body of the Society to which the direction and control of the management of the affairs of the society is entrusted;



“Bye-laws” means the Bye-laws of the Society for the time being in force which have been duly registered or deemed to have been registered under the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act in force and includes

CHIEF PROMOTER

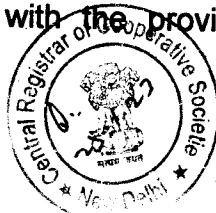
BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED Page 1 of 42

amendments thereto which have been duly registered or deemed to have been registered under the Act;

- e) "Central Registrar" means the Central Registrar of Co-operative Societies appointed by the Central Government in relation to the multi-State co-operative societies;
- f) "Chairperson" and "Vice-Chairperson" means the elected persons by the Board of Directors among themselves.
- g) "Chief Executive" means Chief Executive or Managing Director, by whatever designation called, of the Society appointed under Section 51 of the Act;
- h) "Clause" or "sub-clause" means a clause or sub-clause of these bye-laws;
- i) "Co-operative Bank" means a co-operative society or a multi-state co-operative society which undertakes banking business;
- j) "co-operative or co-operative society" means a co-operative society registered or deemed to be registered under any law relating to co-operative societies for the time being in force in any State or Union Territory and includes a multi-State co-operative society;
- k) "Co-operative Principles" means the co-operative principles as specified in the First Schedule of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002;
- l) "Co-operative year" means the period from 1st of April to 31st March;
- m) "Defaulter" means a member who has defaulted in payment of any kind of dues payable to the Society;
- n) "Delegate" means a person who is duly appointed/ elected by a member co-operative as its representative to the General Body of the Society;
- o) "Federation" or "Federal Cooperative" means a federation of co-operative societies registered under any law relating to co-operative societies for the time being in force and whose membership is available only to a co-operative society or a multi-State co-operative society;
- p) "General Body" means all members of the Society, and includes a smaller body consisting of delegates of members of the Society, if any, constituted in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 38 of the Act;

CHIEF PROMOTER
BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED

Bye-laws of Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Ltd.



- q) "General Meeting" means a meeting of the general body of the Society and includes special general meeting;
- r) "member" means persons joining in the application for registration of the Society and includes a person admitted to membership after such registration in accordance with the provisions of the Act, rules and Bye laws of the Society and includes a nominal or associate member;
- s) "member co-operative" means a co-operative society or a multi-State co-operative society which is a member of the Society;
- t) "Multi-State co-operative society" means a co-operative society with objects not confined to one state and registered or deemed to be registered under the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002 or under any law for the time being in force relating to such co-operatives societies;
- u) "National co-operative society" means a multi-State co-operative society specified in the Second Schedule to the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002;
- v) "Nominal member" means a person who has been admitted as a nominal member or associate member under the bye-laws of the Society;
- w) "Officer" or "office bearer" means a President, Vice-President, Chairperson, Vice-chairperson, Chief Executive or Managing Director, Secretary, Manager, Members of the Board, Treasurer, Liquidator, an Administrator appointed under Sec.123 of the Act and includes any other person empowered under the Act or the rules or the Bye-laws to give direction in regard to the business of the Society;
- x) "Prescribed" means prescribed by the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Rules, 2002;
- y) "Regulations" means regulations of the Society on various matters as adopted by the Society and includes all subsequent amendments thereto;
- z) "Rules" means the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Rules, 2002, as amended from time to time; and

- aa) "Society" means the 'Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Ltd' and in Hindi version as "भारतीय बीज सहकारी समिति लि." (hereinafter referred to as the 'Society').



CHIEF PROMOTER
BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED

5. Objectives and functions.-

(1) Subject to the provisions of the Act, the principal object of the Society shall be to promote and safeguard the economic interests of all its members by conducting its affairs in professional, democratic and autonomous manner; to organize, promote and develop infrastructure for quality seed production, procurement, processing, branding, labelling, packaging, storage, marketing, distribution and research & development, technology up-gradation, capacity building activities etc. in seed and technology sector; and to undertake inter-state, import and export trade, wholesale or retail as the case may be and to act and assist for the promotion and the working of its members, partners, associates and cooperative marketing, processing and supply societies in seed sector in India and abroad through self help and mutual cooperation in accordance with cooperative principles.

(2) The Society shall act as apex organization for production, procurement, processing, branding, labelling, packaging, storage, marketing, distribution and strategic research & development of quality seeds through various cooperative societies/FPOs and other related entities across the country with support from relevant ministries especially Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) and National Seed Corporation (NSC) through their schemes and agencies.

(3) The Society will carry out activities through all types of Societies/FPOs/other related entities/ all marketing channels in coordination with NSC, ICAR, and State Universities and other Indian / foreign agencies concerned with the field.

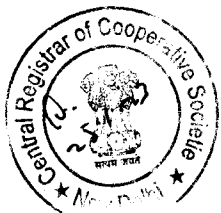
(4) The Society will develop participatory plant breeding approach through the members of cooperatives and make efforts to engage them for achieving desired Seed Replacement Rate (SRR) and Varietal Replacement Rate (VRR) by providing proper institutional support.

(5) The Society shall make efforts to increase the SRR, VRR, ensuring the role of farmers through the role of cooperatives in plant breeding and farm varietal trials, production and distribution of certified seeds with a brand name, by utilization of network of all levels of cooperatives and arranging the financial assistance to farmers through various schemes of Government.

(6) The Society shall carry out its activities in respect of all three generations of seeds i.e. breeder, foundation and certified seeds.

(7) Without prejudice to the generality of the provisions contained in preceding sub-clauses (1) to (6), in furtherance of above objectives, the

CHIEF PROMOTER
BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED



society may undertake one or more of the following activities which are indicative but not limited to:

- i. to ensure compliance of the co-operative principles;
- ii. to promote the development of cooperatives in seed sector to undertake production and distribution of quality seeds including organic seeds using latest technology for the betterment of crop production in the region and promote the use of quality seed;
- iii. to take on lease, hire, purchase and acquire land for production of quality seeds, processing, storage and research & development;
- iv. to create infrastructure for production, marketing and distribution of seeds including natural indigenous seeds in order to enhance the qualitative and quantitative seed production capabilities of its members;
- v. to identify natural seeds (मीठेबीज) of indigenous plant variants including but not restricted to seeds of food grain, vegetables, fruits etc and to develop system for their preservation, conservation, breeding, production, distribution, promotion and all other activities needed;
- vi. to setup seed bank of natural indigenous seeds and ensure its availability to farmers;
- vii. to implement schemes to incentivize farmers for cultivation of natural seeds (मीठेबीज) with financial assistance from various agencies;
- viii. to distribute seeds through cooperatives throughout the country and exports to other countries;
- ix. to enhance scientific research to acquire technology for seed production, processing and to fund start up for technology oriented research on quality seeds in India and abroad.
- x. to acquire, establish, construct, provide, maintain and administer factories, townships, estates, railway sidings, build yards, wells, water reservoirs, channels, pumping installations, purification plants, pipe lines, carriages, storage sheds and accommodation of all description for facilitating the business;
- xi. to strengthen seed production infrastructure in the country and to ameliorate and address issues of promotion of new varieties and SRR through production of adequate quantity of quality seed and to develop region specific seed technologies for improved yield and production;
- xii. to act as warehousing agency under the Warehousing Act and own and construct its own godowns or hire godowns for the storage of seeds;
- xiii. to help in identification of suitable seed treatments/ materials/ methods for scientific storage of seed;
- xiv. to promote maintain transport units of its own or in collaboration with any other organization in India or abroad for movement of goods;



CHIEF PROMOTER
BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED

- xv. timely supply of quality seeds at reasonable price at doorsteps of farmers;
- xvi. to develop market information system, logo, brand promotion, quality control and technology upgradation;
- xvii. to promote and organize its members and other cooperative societies in the field of production and distribution of seeds and augment the availability of foundation, certified and truthfully labelled seed as per requirement in the country and abroad;
- xviii. to promote new cooperatives and subscribe to the shares of cooperative and other institutions and make investments therein;
- xix. to promote entering into contracts and collaboration for purchases, production, marketing of quality seeds and also enter into the joint marketing and product exchange agreements with Central / State Government(s), other cooperative institutions, public sector undertakings or any other national/international agency/company;
- xx. to facilitate and access Government schemes or Government sponsored support systems for the benefit of itself and the member cooperatives after obtaining approval from the Board;
- xxi. to promote and provide e-marketing platform including information technology based interface and market intelligence to seed cooperatives across India;
- xxii. to promote and provide technical guidance and support to member societies and other agencies on production, value addition, branding, labeling, packaging, etc. of their products;
- xxiii. to establish testing laboratories/research centers and undertake tests of different seeds and to promote & facilitate cooperatives in applying standardized seed testing procedures for better quality of cereal, pulses, oilseed, fodder, Vegetable seeds etc jointly with Agricultural universities and research institutes or its own;
- xxiv. to promote reliable techniques for detection, identification and screening of seed materials, in phases, by strengthening of work on biological control of seed borne diseases in order to achieve optimum quality production;
- xxv. to promote and facilitate standard techniques and methodologies for production and processing of quality seeds and to ensure quality seed security to the farmers for sustainable agriculture;
- xxvi. to promote enhancing the genetic and physical characteristics of seed to increase productivity, quality and sustainability;
- xxvii. to organize manufacture and marketing of implements, tools, machinery and agri inputs used in the sector;
- xxviii. to establish linkages with Crop improvement projects, Seed Industry, Seed Regulatory Agencies, NGOs, KVKs, State and Central Agricultural Universities etc;

CHIEF PROMOTER
BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED

- xxix. to promote, provide, arrange and organize training programmes and exhibitions for employees and other stake holders on various aspects of basic seed testing, production, processing, grading, storage, marketing, distribution etc.;
- xxx. to represent the interests of members at various levels and establish and maintain relationships with other relevant organizations pursuing similar or related objectives;
- xxxi. to solicit / procure insurance business as a corporate agent and / or in association of any insurance company/joint venture insurance company in the country;
- xxxii. To perform such other activity or do such acts in furtherance of the stated objects as are conducive or incidental thereto and which the Board from time to time may determine.

(8) The Society may receive subscription and accept grant of money, securities, endowments, and property of any kind from Central and State Governments and other public or private organizations, co-operatives and individuals, etc. on such terms as may deem expedient.

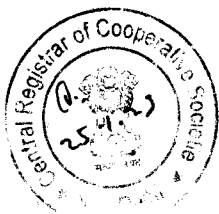
(9) The Society may acquire, purchase, sell, exchange, lease, license, relinquish, hire or otherwise transfer all or any portion of the property, movable or immovable, which may be necessary or convenient for its purpose and build, construct, improve, alter, demolish and repair such buildings, works and constructions, as may be necessary, for carrying out the objects of the Society.


(10) The Society may draw, make, accept, endorse and discount cheques, notes or other negotiable instruments in pursuit of its objectives.

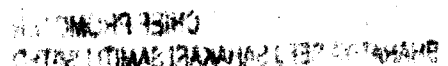
(11) The Society may create administrative, technical, clerical and other posts and make appointments thereto, subject to the Bye-Laws and service regulations.

(12) The Society may provide for different classes of membership and specify the obligations, rights and privileges of such different members.

(13) The Society may make Bye-Laws and Regulations on various matters, including service matters, for the conduct of its affairs and add, amend, vary or rescind them from time to time.




CHIEF PROMOTER
BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED



Chapter-2: MEMBERSHIP, ELIGIBILITY, RIGHTS & LIABILITY

6. Membership.-

The Society shall have following types of membership:

- i) Ordinary Members; and
- ii) Nominal or associate members.

7. Ordinary Members.-

(1) No person shall be admitted as a member of the Society except the following, namely-

- a) any multi-State co-operative society or any co-operative society;
- b) the National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) established under the National Co-operative Development Corporation Act, 1962 (26 of 1962);
- c) any other corporation owned or controlled by the Government;
- d) such class or classes of persons or associations of persons as may be permitted by the Central Registrar having regard to the nature and activities of the Society:

Provided that no person shall be admitted as member, unless the Board is satisfied, by enquiry or otherwise, that the applicant for membership has been performing such activities which are augmentative to the activities and conducive to overall growth of the society or is beneficial to achieving the objects and functions of the Society:

Provided further that no individual shall be eligible to become ordinary member of the Society:

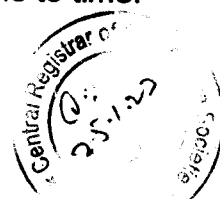
Provided also that any company created or incorporated under the Companies Act / Producer Companies Act, except a Government Company, can only become an Associate or Nominal Member.

(2) No right of membership shall be exercisable until a person has made such payments to the Society in respect of membership or acquired such interest in the Society as may be specified by the Society in its bye-laws as per the provisions of the Act and rules.

(3) Every member shall pay an admission fee of ₹500/- or such amount as may be specified by the Board from time to time.


CHIEF PROMOTER
BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED

Bye-laws of Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Ltd.



8. Nominal or associate member.-

The Society may, in the interest of promotion of its business, admit any other person as nominal member or associate member in accordance with the provisions of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act on payment of a non-refundable fee of ₹1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh only).

9. Application for membership.-

The application for membership of the Society shall be submitted by the applicant to the Chief Executive or Managing Director, by whatever designation called, of the society in the form specified along with full value of shares and admission fee.

10. Disposal of application.-

The application for membership of the Society found complete in all respects shall be disposed of by the Board within a period of four months from the date of receipt thereof by the Society and the decision of the Board thereon shall be communicated to the applicant by Registered Post or through electronic mode within fifteen days of the date of decision.

11. Conditions to be complied with for membership.-

(1) No person shall be eligible for being or continue to be a member of the Society if:-

- a) the business of the member is not beneficial to achieving the objects and functions of the Society:

Explanation: For the purpose of this clause, the members who are already performing activities in seed business may continue to perform them at their discretion and such activities would not be deemed to be non-conducive to the business of the Society.

- b) the person has not applied in writing in the form, if any, laid down by the Society or in the form specified by the Registrar, if any, for membership;
- c) the person has not fulfilled all other conditions of membership laid down in the Act or the rules or these bye-laws;
- d) the member incurs any disqualification laid down under the Act or the rules or these bye-laws for being the member of the Society;
- e) the application for membership is not approved by the Board of the Society;



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BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED

- f) the person, except in the case of members joining in for the application for registration of the Society, has not subscribed the minimum number of shares and paid full value thereof along with admission fee as specified in the bye-laws and/ or decided by the Board;
- g) in the case of a multi-State co-operative society or a co-operative society or a National co-operative society or any other corporation owned and controlled by the Central Government or body of persons whether incorporated or not, the application for membership is not accompanied by a resolution of the Board of such co-operative or authority letter from a competent authority of such organization, as the case may be, authorizing it to apply for such membership;
- h) the member has not attended last three consecutive general body meetings of the Society and such absence has not been condoned by the members in the general body meeting of the Society;
- i) the member has not used for two consecutive years any of the services provided by the Society;
- j) the member does not promote and protect the interests and objects of the Society; and
- k) the member has made any default in payment of any amount pertaining to share contributions, fee, subscriptions, if any, as decided by the Board from time to time to be paid to the Society under Bye Laws and has not cleared the amount even after 30 days' notice for clearance of default.

(2) The Society shall not admit members within thirty days prior to the date of the meeting of its General Body.

12. Cessation of membership.-

The membership of the Society may cease in case of-

- i) Resignation of the member, duly approved by the Board;
- ii) Cancellation of registration of the member co-operative;
- iii) Transfer of all the shares to another member of the society.
- iv) Expulsion of member by the general body;
- v) Incurring any of the disqualifications of membership:

Provided that except in the case of sub-clauses (i), (ii) and (iii) of this clause, the cessation of membership shall not take effect unless the member concerned has been given a reasonable opportunity of being heard and making representation in the matter.

CHIEF PROMOTER

BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED

