

**Second Session Fifth Parliament Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago**



REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Act No. 26 of 1997

[L.S.]

**AN ACT for the incorporation of the Saraswati
Mandiram and for matters incidental thereto**

[Assented to 30th August, 1997]

WHEREAS there has been established in Trinidad and
Tobago, an Organisation known as the Saraswati
Mandiram:

And whereas it is expedient that the said
Organisation be incorporated for the purposes
hereinafter set forth:

Enactment	ENACTED by the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago as follows:—
Short title	1. This Act may be cited as the Saraswati Mandiram (Incorporation) Act, 1997.
Incorporation	2. The Saraswati Mandiram (hereinafter called “The Organisation”) is hereby created a body corporate.
Aims and objects	3. The aims and objects of the Organisation are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) to provide a place of worship on a regular basis to discuss the impact of all religions on mankind in general and to explore and promote the good in both Eastern and Western philosophies, using the Holy texts (such as the Vedas and associated texts, Gita, Koran, Bible) and any such inspired books of wisdom, that recognize the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of Man and God’s love for his creation and peace on earth by coexistence;(b) to provide opportunities for children to participate and learn the value of Hindu Dharma, Indian culture and heritage;(c) to promote educational, spiritual and cultural activities;(d) to establish schools with the Accelerated Learning model K–14 from kindergarten to advance level and to grant diplomas and certificates to students at post-secondary level;(e) to promote the concept of Holistic Health through music, yoga, science, medicine, meditation and philosophy;(f) to promote vegetarianism as defined by the ancient, as well as the modern nutrition scientists, through seminars, workshops, lectures and fraternities;

- (g) to establish Holistic Health centers based on the principle of Ayur Veda;
- (h) to publish, print and use any form of media including video and radio on Holistic Health, Music, Yoga, Hindu Dharma, Science, Philosophy or any discipline that is in keeping with the aims and objectives of the Organisation;
- (i) to purchase, rent or lease any real estate that can be acquired as assets to the Mandiram;
- (j) to receive gifts that are tax-deductible including real estate, insurance policies, Deed of Covenants;
- (k) to develop religious and cultural exchange programs between Trinidad and Tobago and other countries of the world;
- (l) to set up charitable and scholarship funds to help the under-privileged, irrespective of their nationality, race, colour, sex and creed;
- (m) to provide housing accommodation where the Organisation considers it necessary;
- (n) to train pundits, social workers, counselors and health care professionals;
- (o) to obtain and accept subscriptions, donations, grants or gifts, including personal and real property;
- (p) to do all such things which are necessary, incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

4. The Organisation shall have power—

Powers of the
Organisation

- (a) to acquire by purchase, transfer, donation, exchange, devise, bequest, grant, gift, conveyance or howsoever otherwise, any real or personal property or any estate or interest therein;
- (b) to accept surrenders or reconveyances and to enter into contracts;

(c) to sell, exchange, demise, mortgage or otherwise dispose of and deal with all property which may for the time being be vested in it, subject to any restraint, reservation or condition contained in the document under which it has acquired title thereto.

Transfer and vesting
of property

5. All real or personal property now held by or vested in any person for the use and benefit of the Organisation, is hereby transferred to and vested in the Organisation.

Mode of execution of
documents

6. All documents requiring the seal of the Organisation shall be sealed with its common seal in the presence of the President and Secretary for the time being in office or in the event of incapacity or absence from the territory in the presence of some other person or persons authorised for that purpose by the Organisation who shall both sign every such document and such signing shall be *prima facie* evidence that the said seal was duly affixed and that the same is the lawful seal of the Organisation.

Service of documents

7. (1) The Organisation shall at all times have a fixed address in Trinidad and Tobago for the service of documents on the Organisation and that address and any change thereof shall be registered with the Registrar General within twenty-eight days of the date of incorporation or the change of address as the case may be.

(2) Every document to be served on the Organisation may be served by leaving the same at, or by sending the same by registered post to the registered address of the Organisation.

(3) Failure to register the address and any change thereof is a summary offence and renders the Organisation liable to a fine of one hundred and twenty dollars and to a further fine of ten dollars for each day during which the offence continues after conviction therefor.

8. The Organisation may from time to time make ^{Power to make rules} rules for the proper conduct of its proceedings and discharge of its duties, powers and functions.

9. Nothing in this Act shall affect or be deemed to ^{Saving of State and other rights} affect the rights of the State, or of any bodies politic or corporate or of any persons, except such as are mentioned or referred to in this Act and those claiming by, through, from or under them.

Passed in the House of Representatives this 18th day of July, 1997.

J. SAMPSON
Clerk of the House

Passed in the Senate this 12th day of August, 1997.

N. COX
Clerk of the Senate