

**REQUEST BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION TO BE
ACCREDITED TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE**

Deadline: 30 April 2025
**for examination by the Committee in 2025 and accreditation by the
General Assembly in 2026**

Form may be downloaded at:
<https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms>

Please provide only the information and supporting documentation requested below.

A. Identification of the organization

A.1. Name of the organization submitting this request

A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears in the supporting documentation establishing its legal personality (section D.2. below).*

Kattaikkuttu Sangam

A.1.b. *Name of the organization in English and/or French.*

Kattaikkuttu Sangam

A.2. Address of the organization

Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. The postal address should correspond to where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organizations, provide the address of the headquarters.

Address: Kuttu Kalai Kudam | Centre for Performing Arts
36, Punjarasantangal Village, Aiyangarkulam Post -631502, Kanchipuram
District, Tamilnadu, India

Telephone number: +91 9944369600

Email address: info@kattaikkuttu.org

Website/social media: www.kattaikkuttu.org

Other relevant information:

- YouTube: Kattaikkuttu Theatre - traditional & contemporary
<https://www.youtube.com/@kksspeaks>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Kattaikkuttu.Theatre>

- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/kattaikkuttusangam/>

A.3. Contact person for the correspondence

Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this request.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Dr. (Mrs.)

Family name: Hanne M.

Given name: de Bruin

Position in the organization: Secretariat | Programme Director | Fundraising | Productions

Address: Kattaikkuttu Sangam, 36, Post, Punjarasantangal village, Aiyangarkulam Post - 631502, Kanchipuram District, Tamilnadu, India

Telephone number: +91 9894299940

Email address: kattaiku@gmail.com

Other relevant information: Hanne holds a Ph.D. in Kattaikkuttu from Leiden University, the Netherlands and has published widely about the theatre

A.4. Country or countries in which the organization is active (Paragraph 91(b) of the Operational Directives)

Identify the country or countries in which your organization actively operates. If it operates entirely within one country, indicate which one. If its activities are international, indicate whether it operates globally or in one or more regions, and list the primary countries in which it carries out its activities.

- ☒ local✓
- ☐ national
- ☐ international (please specify)
- ☐ worldwide
 - ☐ Africa
 - ☐ Arab States
 - ☐ Asia and the Pacific
 - ☐ Europe and North America
 - ☐ Latin America and the Caribbean

Please list the primary country(ies) in which it is active: India

B. Organization's competence, expertise, and experience in the field of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage (Article 9 of the Convention and paragraphs 91(a) and (c) of the Operational Directives)

B.1. Objectives of the organization

Describe the objectives for which your organization was established, which should be in conformity with the spirit of the Convention. If the organization's primary objectives are other than safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, explain how its safeguarding objectives relate to those larger objectives.

Not to exceed 300 words

The Kattaikkuttu Sangam is a not-for-profit, grassroots initiative that aims to uphold the prestige and quality of the local Kattaikkuttu theatre. The Sangam is a member-based association with a democratically elected board run by and for professional Kattaikkuttu actors and musicians.

Kattaikkuttu is Tamil Nadu's unique heritage theatre. It is a Tamil-language based, physical and vocal form of rural, open-air ensemble theatre that is widespread and popular in the state of Tamil Nadu in South India. The Indian performing arts scene is divided into forms labelled 'classical' and 'folk'. This divide represents power relationships and is used to validate art forms as higher/better or lower/backward. As a 'folk' theater, Kattaikkuttu enjoys little social and cultural standing and respect among the urban arts establishment although it is complex and profoundly meaningful for its rural spectators, who commission and pay for its all-night performances.

Kattaikkuttu Sangam aims to realize Kattaikkuttu's full potential as a carrier of traditional artistic knowledge and skills and a contemporary theatre that is attuned to the cultural and economic demands of today's society. The Sangam works towards maintaining and developing Kattaikkuttu as a respected art form of exceptional quality and craftsmanship and a sustainable and dignified profession for its performers. It does so through various kinds of trainings, the development of new repertory, artistic collaborations, an annual festival and through strengthening the social security of its professional practitioners.

Until recently, Kattaikkuttu used to be a male-only prerogative. The Sangam has introduced girls and women into the profession giving them a voice on and off the stage. It strongly believes that all art forms count equally and should be inclusive and accessible to all.

B.2. Domain(s) in which the organization is active

Tick one or more boxes to indicate the primary domains in which the organization is most active. If its activities involve domains other than those listed, tick 'other domains' and indicate which domains are concerned.

- ☒ oral traditions and expressions✓
- ☒ performing arts✓
- ☒ social practices, rituals and festive events✓
- ☐ knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
- ☒ traditional craftsmanship✓
- ☐ other domains - please specify:

Briefly describe your organization's work in relation to the domains chosen (if your organization covers all domains, explain how).

Not to exceed 250 words

Oral traditions and expressions | performing arts

Kattaikkuttu's knowledge is practice-based and orally transmitted. The theatre is taught organically and as a 'whole' with a student acquiring sensorial, cognitive and emotional skills through listening, observing, repeating and doing/performing with minimal verbal instructions from the teacher. The Sangam is dedicated to safeguarding Kattaikkuttu's intricate, tacit knowledge and know-how which are under threat because of a changing creative economy, a lack of training opportunities and the disappearance of senior, knowledgeable performer-teachers.

Social practices, rituals and festive events

Kattaikkuttu performances are ingrained in the local communities and their agrarian and ritual practices carried out for the benefit and wellbeing these communities. All-night Kattaikkuttu performances are commissioned and paid for by villages collectively, and sometimes by individuals, as part of these festivals or rites of passage of individuals. Local patrons insist on shows for an entire night, with professional companies doing between 100-150 such shows during the theatre's season. From mid-October to mid-January professional performers are out of work as the rain makes outdoor performances impossible.

Traditional craftsmanship

In addition to the craft of performance, Kattaikkuttu's ornaments made out of wood and inlaid with colourful mirror work require the expertise of local craftsmen. Similarly, the making and repair of Kattaikkuttu's musical instruments, some rare, require specialists. These often belong to the untouchable or lowest castes as their work involves handling leather, a fabric considered polluting to higher-ups in the caste hierarchy.

B.3. Primary safeguarding activities in which the organization is involved

Tick one or more boxes to indicate the organization's primary safeguarding activities. If its activities involve safeguarding measures not listed here, tick 'other safeguarding measures' and specify which ones are concerned.

- ☒ identification, documentation, research (including inventory-making)✓
- ☒ preservation, protection✓
- ☒ promotion, enhancement✓
- ☒ transmission, formal or non-formal education✓
- ☒ revitalization✓
- ☐ other safeguarding measures – please specify:

Briefly describe your organization's work in relation to the primary safeguarding activities chosen (if your organization covers all primary safeguarding activities, explain how).

Not to exceed 250 words

Identification, documentation, research

The Sangam has more than 200 artist-members. Since its inception in 1990, it has identified numerous styles of Kattaikkuttu featuring them at its annual festivals to validate them. In addition to a number of academic essays, most recently a book on Kattaikkuttu's knowledge system appeared authored by the Sangam's facilitator in the *Forms of Drama* series published by Bloomsbury, UK.

Preservation, protection | promotion, enhancement

The Sangam addresses the stigma attached to the tradition through its social media, creating a branding that showcases the richness, beauty and cultural validity of Kattaikkuttu.

Transmission, formal education

Historically, senior artists transmitted their knowledge to younger members of their families. Over the last 50 years, few such members have opted for a career in theatre, discouraged by their elders who experienced first-hand the theatre's hardships.

From 1993 to 2006, the Sangam ran a programme of evening theatre schools in 117 villages familiarizing more than 1300 young people with Kattaikkuttu after school hours. From 2002 to 2020, it offered fully-fledged Kattaikkuttu training in combination with formal education and comprehensive care through the Kattaikkuttu Gurukulam. This residential school for disadvantaged children taught more than 750 students, including boys and girls.

Revitalization | Other safeguarding measures

The Sangam has revitalized Kattaikkuttu ensuring higher remuneration for its performers, supporting them with grants to improve costumes and ornaments, better social security, training young people, and developing new repertory. The Sangam's cofounder, actor, director and playwright P. Rajagopal, has a number of new plays to his name.

B.4. Description of the organization's activities

Briefly describe the organization's recent activities and relevant experience in safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, including those demonstrating the capacities of the organization to provide advisory services to the Committee. Relevant documentation may be submitted, if necessary, under section D.3. below.

Not to exceed 550 words

With the level of senior, traditionally trained performers dwindling and few successors to take over their role as teachers, Kattaikkuttu's transmission and continuity have reached a critical point. Performers' indebtedness to financiers, often from outside the profession, prevents mobility between theatre companies and, consequently, the circulation of Kattaikkuttu's tacit, embodied knowledge. This impacts negatively on the quality of today's performances.

Unable to reopen the Gurukulam after the pandemic for lack of funds, the Sangam plans to set up a Diploma Course in Kattaikkuttu imparting Kattaikkuttu's embodied knowledge and skills to actors, theatre directors and others interested in this complex way of making traditional theatre. It proposes that the physical training is matched by an online expandable multimedia repository designed to make Kattaikkuttu visible, preserve its knowledge and make it accessible to wider audiences. In preparation for the Diploma Course, the Sangam runs a series of workshops experimenting with different timings, durations and ages to identify its core target audience. The Sangam, by means of its members, is a living repository of artistic knowledge and know-how that is not easily accessible for those who are outside the theatre's immediate field of operation.

The Sangam conceptualizes collaborative projects that transcend genres and cultural boundaries. Examples are *Karnatic Kattaikkuttu*, an experimental production that explores the intersection between 'classical' Karnatic music and 'folk' Kattaikkuttu theatre; an artistic exchange with Birati Samuho in Kolkata, a collective of differently-bodied performers, and the production of *Santippu* in which Kattaikkuttu meets Storytelling. Such projects showcase the versatility and flexibility of Kattaikkuttu as an art form, but also foster inter-State and cross-genre dialogue and exchange within India.

Paarvai or *The Gaze* is the Sangam's latest production. Featuring an interracial love relationship at the times of the Great Madras Famine (1877-78), it was conceptualized in response to the 19th century European orientalist ballet *La Bayadère* (1878) as part of a collaboration with the Dutch National Ballet.

The Sangam possesses a unique informal contact network that covers several different districts and reaches deep into the rural communities that support Kattaikkuttu. In addition, as an organization that bridges the rural, the urban and the global, the Sangam works with local, urban and global theatre and performing arts companies, such as Arts Council England, Scuola Teatro Dimitri in Switzerland, the Netherlands Embassy in New Delhi, Goethe Institut and several Indian and international colleges and universities (Ashoka University, Flame University, Bennington College, USA) and International Research Centre Interweaving Performance Cultures, Berlin. Its knowledge of and contacts within the local cultural field of the performing arts puts the Sangam in a unique position to reach out not only to rural stakeholders, who often feel excluded from debates about culture and the rights of artists, but also to national and international partners.

Drawing on its rich experience and deep understanding of the challenges inherent in preserving intangible cultural heritage, including Kattaikkuttu theatre and similar local performing art forms, the Sangam is uniquely positioned to provide advisory services to organizations such as UNESCO's Committee on strategies for heritage preservation and promotion.

B.5. Description of the organization's competence and expertise

Provide information on the personnel and members of the organization, describe their competence and expertise in the domain of intangible cultural heritage, in particular those that demonstrate the capacities of the organization to provide advisory services to the Committee, and explain how they acquired such competence. Documentation of such competences and expertise may be submitted, if necessary, under section D.3. below.

Not to exceed 200 words

P. Rajagopal is the cofounder and current Executive Director and Artistic Leader of the Sangam. Born into a family of traditional performers, he left school when he was 10 to join his father's theatre company. With a performance and teaching career spanning more than 60 years, he commands a wide informal network of local contacts with other performers and Kattaikkuttu's patrons and spectators, a network he matches with national and international contacts. He also commands an impressive knowledge of the theatre, making him an expert per excellence to advice on local performance cultures. A prolific writer, he has 12 plays to his name. At 71, he continues to perform and direct his students in new productions.

Combining academia with praxis, Hanne M. de Bruin is in charge of the Sangam's secretariat, fundraising and productions, in addition to being an independent researcher holding a Ph.D. in Indology from Leiden University. She has published widely on Kattaikkuttu and the theatre's indigenous knowledge system, art as labour, women performers and the Sangam's new productions she helped bring about and she taught at Indian and European universities.

Post-pandemic the Sangam works with a minimal staff, including a Director Finance, Operational Manager and Facilities Manager.

C. Organization's experiences in cooperating with communities, groups and intangible cultural heritage practitioners (Paragraph 91(d) of the Operational Directives)

Briefly describe how your organization collaborates with communities, groups and, where appropriate, individuals that create, practise and transmit intangible cultural heritage.

Not to exceed 350 words

The principal goal of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam is to preserve and promote Tamil Nadu's unique heritage theatre, Kattaikkuttu, to as broad an audience as possible and ensure the transmission of its complex, tacit knowledge involving multiple media. The Sangam—

- unites Kattaikkuttu actors and musicians, who are each other's professional competitors, across companies, stylistic and geographical divides; it gives them a platform to discuss their professional needs, empowers them vis-à-vis the bureaucracy and arts establishment and supports them through new productions, employment and social security schemes
- has built a generation of well-trained and well-educated performers, including for the first time women performers, through its flagship programme, the Kattaikkuttu Gurukulam
- is dedicated to ensuring that Kattaikkuttu's fragile, unwritten, tacit knowledge is transmitted and available to generations to come through a proposed Diploma Course
- has its own physical infrastructure, including an openair stage, musical instruments and costumes
- is a hub for the cultivation and dissemination of Kattaikkuttu engaging with Kattaikkuttu's rural practitioners and numerous other stakeholders, including cultural organizations, the media, schools, academic institutions and individual arts practitioners to ensure the visibility and continued vitality of this cultural heritage using its annual performing arts festivals, workshops, performances, presentations, a visitors' programme and informal discussions as tools.

As a seasoned Kattaikkuttu actor, director, and playwright, the Sangam's Director Rajagopal is central to the Sangam's work. He has a deep connection to Kattaikkuttu and the rural communities that own the theatre. His early immersion in the theatre and subsequent dedication to training children and young people highlight his passion, commitment and leadership to pass down cultural heritage to future generations and make responsible interventions and innovations within the tradition to keep it alive and kicking. Rajagopal has described Kattaikkuttu as the 'university for people who cannot read and write'. His deep, experiential knowledge of Kattaikkuttu, in combination with the academic expertise of his Dutch wife, Hanne M. de Bruin, complement each other. This enables them to successfully implement new ideas and activities and be a repository of information to others.

D. Documentation of the operational capacities of the organization (Paragraph 91(e) of the Operational Directives)

D.1. Members and personnel

Provide proof of the participation of the members of your organization. It may take diverse forms such as a list of directors, a list of personnel and statistical information on the quantity and categories of the members; a comprehensive membership roster usually need not be submitted.

Please attach supporting documents, labelled 'Section D.1.'

D.1.a – Executive Board members Kattaikkuttu Sangam

D.1.b – Staff members Kattaikkuttu Sangam

The Kattaikkuttu Sangam's membership stands at 194 as on date (membership list not included).

D.2. Recognized legal personality

If your organization has a charter, articles of incorporation, by-laws or similar establishing documents, a copy should be attached. If, under the applicable domestic law, your organization has a legal personality recognized through some means other than an establishing document (for instance, through a published notice in an official gazette or journal), please provide documentation showing how that legal personality was established.

Please attach supporting documents, labelled 'Section D.2.'

D.2.a – Registration Certificate of Kattaikkuttu Sangam under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975 (including name change)

D.2.b – By-laws Kattaikkuttu Sangam

D.3. Duration of existence and activities

State your organization's date of founding as it appears in the supporting documentation establishing its legal personality (section D.2. above).

01-11-1990

If it is not already clearly indicated in the documentation provided under section D.2., submit documentation proving that the organization has existed for at least four years at the time it requests accreditation. Provide documentation showing that it has carried out appropriate safeguarding activities during that time, including those described above in section B.4. Supplementary materials such as books, audiovisual materials or other publications cannot be taken into consideration and should not be submitted.

Please attach supporting documents, labelled 'Section D.3.'

Please see D.2.a: Registration Certificate

E. Membership in the ICH NGO Forum

Indicate whether your organization wishes to join the ICH NGO Forum. Please note that membership is contingent upon the accreditation of your organization by the General Assembly of the States Parties to the 2003 Convention.

For more information on the ICH NGO Forum and its activities, please see <https://ich.unesco.org/en/ngo-forums-00422>.

☒ Yes

☐ No

F. Signature

The request must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of the organization requesting accreditation. Requests without a signature cannot be considered.

Name: P. Rajagopal

Title: Mr.

Function: Executive Director and Artistic Leader

Date: 28-03-2025

Signature: P. RAJAGOPAL

S. No.	Name	Address	Position	Mobile no	Aadhar no	PAN no
1	G. Dhanapal	[REDACTED]	President	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2	K. Jalanathan	[REDACTED]	Vice - president	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
3	M. Shanmugam	[REDACTED]	Treasurer	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
4	A. Kailasam	[REDACTED]	Secretary	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
5	T.P. Durai	[REDACTED]	Vice-Secretary	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
6	M. Arumugam	[REDACTED]	Member	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
7	R. Devan	[REDACTED]	Member	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
8	P. Moorthi	[REDACTED]	Member	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
9	S. Tamilarasi	[REDACTED]	Member	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
10	R. Velu	[REDACTED]	Member	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
11	T. Veluchami	[REDACTED]	Member	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Staff members Kattaikkuttu Sangam**Executive management**

Executive Director

Executive Secretary | Facilitator | Fundraiser

Finance & Administration

Director Finance & Compliance

Media & Communications Manager

Financial year 2024-2025

P. Rajagopal

Dr Johanna Maria de Bruin

B. Lakshmi

Vacancy

Personnel Program

Artistic Director

Dramaturg & Producer

Researcher

Facilities Manager

Operational manager

Cooks (2)

Cleaner

Farmer

P. Rajagopal

Dr Johanna Maria de Bruin

Dr Swathi Sudhakaran

Venda K

Gobinath S

Dhanalakshmi V, Thangamani

Chitra V

Balakrishnan

FORM No. II

(Sec rule 8 of the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Rules, 1978.)

Certificate of Registration Under Section 10 of the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975 (Tamil Nadu Act. 27 of 1975)

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION SOCIETIES

S. No. 91 of 19 90

I hereby certify that (name of the society) தமிழ் நாடு கட்டுகத்தி சதல வளர்ச்சி
has this day been registered under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975 (Tamil Nadu
Act. 27 of 1975)

Given under my hand at காஞ்சிபுரம்

this day of (month) நவம்பர் year) 1990.



Signature of the Registrar.

Station: காஞ்சிபுரம்.

Form No. II.

(See Rule 8 of the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Rules, 1978.)

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION UNDER SECTION 10 OF THE TAMIL NADU
ACT, 1975 (TAMIL NADU ACT 27 OF 1975)

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OF SOCIETIES.

Regn. No. 91/90


I hereby Certify that Kattaikkuttu Sangam has this day been
Amended under the Societies Registration Act 27 of 1975.

Given under my hand at Kancheepuram this 14 th day of
September 2009.

seal

Station: Kancheepuram




Signatruue of the Registrar
KANCHEEPURAM.

மாவட்டப்பதிவாளர் அலுவலகம்,
காஞ்சிபுரம்.

ந.க.எண்.6621/ஈ1/2010/நாள். 30.11.2010.

ஐயா,

பொருள்: சங்கம்-கட்டைக்கூத்து சங்கம்-பதிவு எண்.91/1990
பெயர் மாற்றி அமைத்தற்கு சான்று வழங்குதல்
தொடர்பாக.

பார்வை: சங்க செயலாளர்/மேற்படி சங்கம்
கடித நாள்.26.11.2010

பார்வையில் காணும் சங்க செயலாளர் கேட்டுக்கொண்டதையடுத்து, தமிழ்நாடு
கட்டைக்கூத்து கலைவளர்ச்சி முன்னேற்ற சங்கம் என்ற பெயரிலிருந்து, “கட்டைக்கூத்து
சங்கம்” என, ந.க.எண்.4480/ஈ1/2009/நாள்.14.09.2009-ல் பெயர் மாற்றம் செய்யப்பட்டது
என சான்று அளிக்கிறேன்.

பெறுநர்:

சங்க செயலாளர்,
கட்டைக்கூத்து சங்கம், பதிவு எண்.91/1990,
புஞ்சரசந்தாங்கல்,
காஞ்சிபுரம் வட்டம்.


மாவட்டப்பதிவாளர்,
காஞ்சிபுரம்.
30/11/20

MCNO : 15/09



773

8-9-2009

தமிழ்நாடு

54AA 939440

V.S. Sreenivasulu

வி. குஞ்சாமி, பி.ஏ.
சத்திரத்தார் விழப்பணியாளர்.

பாட்டு-2.

உரிமம் எண்: 8749/பி/93

Reg. NO. 91/1990

AMENDMENT TO THE RULES OF ASSOCIATION.

(By-laws of the KATTAIKKUTTU SANGAM, Purjaraman
thandal, approved by the General body meeting on
2 June 2009)

1st Page Correction!

T. G. W. H. B. J. L.
PRESIDENT

- 6.2.3. To run formal or non-formal educational institutions, which implement artistic training and education with the objective to deliver well-qualified, all-round performers.
- 6.3 To explore and use the artistic potential of Kattaikkuttu and its exponents so as to improve the quality of Kattaikkuttu performances and develop new repertory.
- 6.4 To stimulate the co-operation and exchange between performers at the organisational and the artistic level.
- 6.5 To stimulate the artistic exchange between Kattaikkuttu performers and representatives of other theatrical styles in and outside India.
- 6.6 To promote the use of Kattaikkuttu as an effective medium to stimulate critical thinking and learning.
- 6.7 To preserve and document Kattaikkuttu and other (rural) art forms and to make information about these traditions and culture forms accessible to others.
- 6.8 To implement all activities deemed necessary to realize the above Aims.
- 6.9 To raise funds necessary to realize the above Aims.
- 6.10 To ensure that the membership and activities of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam are open to all, irrespective of caste, religion and gender.

7. Membership:

- 7.1 Any person who is in agreement with the Aims of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam, desires to work for the growth and progress of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam and is willing to pay the stipulated entry fee and annual subscription fee may become a member of this organization.
- 7.2 After submitting the prescribed membership application, the Executive Committee of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam shall decide on the application and the committee's decision to admit, or to not admit, him/her, shall be final.

8. Fee structure:

- 8.1 Entrance fee: Every person shall pay Rs. 200/- (Rupees Two Hundred Only) as entry fee at the time of enrolment.
- 8.2 Annual subscription: Every member shall pay an annual subscription of Rs. 50/- (Rupees Fifty Only). The annual subscription must be paid every year before the end of the financial year at the office of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam after which the member will be issued a receipt.
- 8.3 If a person has not paid the subscription before the end of the financial year, the Executive Committee may decide to terminate his/her membership. If, however, the defaulting member expresses regret for the default and wishes to continue his/her membership, a sum of hundred rupees (Rs. 100/-) may be recovered from him/her as a penalty along with the amount of subscription due and the Executive Committee may then decide on the question of his/her readmission to membership of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam.

3rd Page Correction: Nil



- 8.4 Life membership: Every person who wishes to be enrolled as a life member of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam shall pay a one-time amount of Rs. 1000/- (Rupees One thousand only) as a life membership fee.
- 8.5 The Executive Committee of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam reserves the right to propose a revision of the amounts of entrance fee, annual subscription fee, life membership fee and penalty on a bi-annual basis. Such a revision will demand the consent of the General Body of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam.

9. Rights and duties of members:

- 9.1 Every member has the right to elect the members of the Executive Committee, to bring resolutions for consideration by the General Body and to express his views before the General Body.
- 9.2 Every member shall endeavour to fulfil and further the Aims and objectives of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam.
- 9.3 Every member shall so conduct him/herself as not to violate the By-laws and rules of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam.
- 9.4 If a member fails to pay the subscription for a year, or fails to attend successively three meetings of the General Body or if his/her conduct violates the rules and By-laws of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam, such a person may be removed as a member of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam. If, however, the member appeals against such decision, it shall be reviewed and the decision of the Executive Committee on the appeal shall be implemented. In addition, any member who acts contrary to or violates in any manner the By-laws and Aims of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam may be subject to any other legal steps as the Executive Committee may decide.
- 9.5 If any member desires to have a copy of the By-laws or the Statement of accounts, according to Rule 23 under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975 a copy of such records may be issued. After receipt of the prescribed fee such copy must be given within fifteen days of the requisition. Members may be freely permitted to scrutinise the records of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam at the office of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam on working days (Monday to Friday) from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. without paying any fee therefore.

10. Executive Committee

- 10.1 The Kattaikkuttu Sangam shall have an Executive Committee having a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Deputy Secretary, and a Treasurer, besides a maximum of ten other members elected from the General Body.
- 10.2 An elected Executive Committee cannot on any account hold office beyond three years.
- 10.3 An Executive Committee shall meet at least once in four months after a notice of seven days.

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- 10.4 A resolution can be passed in the Executive Committee if at least two third (quorum) of the Executive Committee are present. A resolution may be declared passed with the support of the majority of the quorum.
- 10.5 If any vacancy arises in the Executive Committee in between one election and the following one, such vacancy may be filled by election of a new candidate by the General Body.
- 10.6 Those who stand for membership of the Executive Committee must be those who conduct themselves in accordance with the By-laws and rules of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam and also pay their subscription without default.
- 10.7 If a member of the Executive Committee fails to attend three subsequent meetings of the Committee, he/she shall be removed from the membership of the Committee. If, however, such member expresses regrets for his/her absence, the Executive Committee may consider his/her explanation and decide either to retain him/her or to drop him/her from the Committee.
- 10.8 The Executive Committee shall appoint an Executive director, who is responsible for the day to day administration and management of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam. He/she shall report to the Executive Committee about the functioning of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam in general and its specific activities in particular during every Executive Committee meeting and he/she may call for such a meeting, if and when necessary.
11. Duties, responsibilities and powers of the Executive director
 - 11.1 The Executive director is authorised to issue directions for the every day administrative and other activities.
 - 11.2 He/she will appoint staff members, including a Facilitator, as per the requirements of and budget available with the Kattaikkuttu Sangam and the activities it undertakes.
 - 11.3 The functioning of the Executive director will be evaluated and the extension of his/her appointment will be decided by the Executive Committee on an annual basis.
12. Duties, responsibilities and powers of the Executive Committee and its individual members:
 - 12.1 Executive Committee:
 - 12.1.1 It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee, in collaboration with the Executive Director, to ensure the implementation of planned activities, to enhance the functioning and facilities of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam by obtaining grants and donations in addition to subscriptions, to control and maintain the possessions of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam and to timely submit all relevant reports to the

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12.1.2 Furthermore, the Executive Committee will be responsible for the annual (re-) appointment of an Executive director

13.1 President:

13.1.1 The President shall preside over the meetings of the Executive Committee and of the General Body.

13.1.2 He/she shall explain the important activities of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam to the Executive Committee and carry out the administration.

13.1.3 The Kattaikkuttu Sangam shall conform to his/her directions.

13.2 Vice President:

13.2.1 The Vice President shall carry out the duties of the President in his/her absence.

13.3 Secretary:

13.3.1 The Secretary shall issue notices of all meetings of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam, prepare and submit a list of persons who have defaulted payment of their subscriptions and place the list before the Executive Committee.

13.3.2 He/she shall also take care of the properties of the Sangam.

13.3.3 He/she shall record the resolutions of the Committee in the relevant books.

13.3.4 He/she shall maintain order at the meetings.

13.3.5 He/she must ensure that the documents due to be submitted to Registrar of Societies according to section 16 (3) of the Societies Act, in addition to any other documents that have to be submitted to the relevant authorities on an incidental or periodical basis so as to safeguard the proper functioning of the organisation, are promptly submitted along with the prescribed fee, if any.

13.3.6 He/she shall also make available all the necessary documents when the Registrar's staff inspects the records of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam.

13.3.7 The Secretary is the person to sue or to be sued on behalf of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam.

13.4 The Deputy Secretary:

13.4.1 The Deputy Secretary shall carry out the duties of the secretary whenever he/she is absent.



13.5 Treasurer:

- 13.5.1 The Treasurer shall issue receipts for the amounts obtained from the members and other receipts.
- 13.5.2 He/she shall make payments on the vouchers as may be authorised by the Executive Committee.
- 13.5.3 He/she shall maintain all relevant records and report about the utilization of the funds and income of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam entrusted to him/her in a transparent way.

13.6 Members of the Executive Committee:

- 13.6.1 The Members of the Executive Committee shall co-operate with the Executive Committee in carrying out the By-laws, Aims and activities of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam.

14. Auditor:

- 14.1. The independent Auditors, responsible for the (cross-) checking and correction of all the accounts of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam so as to make it possible for the Kattaikkuttu Sangam to submit the necessary and correct financial and other reports to the different authorities and donors concerned within the timeframes set for these submissions.
- 14.2 The independent Auditor will advise the Kattaikkuttu Sangam in writing with regard to financial and legal issues that are pivotal to the correct and smooth functioning of the organisation.
- 14.3 On the request of the Executive Committee the Auditor may act as the Kattaikkuttu Sangam's legal representative towards the relevant authorities concerned, e.g. the Commissioner of Income Tax.

15. Funds:

- 15.1 The income and the funds (if any) of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam shall be utilized solely for the realization of its Aims.
- 15.2 Any surplus left over after meeting the expenditure of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam shall be invested in accordance with the provisions of section 13(1) (d) read with section 11 (5) of the Income Tax Act 1961. Surplus will be transferred to Corpus Fund and that will be invested as per Section 24 of the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975.
- 15.3 The Sangam will not carry on any activity with the intention of earning profit.
- 15.4 Neither the members of Executive Committee nor the members of the General Body are entitled to any share in the income of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam by way of profit, interest or dividends, etc.

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- 15.5 The Kattaikkuttu Sangam can make grants to disabled members, the families of members who expire or grants, which support the artistic training and/or education of (young) performers. The Executive Committee will manage the grants earmarked for this purpose and decide on payments to be made. Taking into account the Conditions fixed by the Kattaikkuttu Sangam Under which funds may be released to individuals.
- 15.6 The Treasurer may retain up to Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Only) in cash to meet the daily contingent items of expenditure of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam. Any amount in excess of Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Only) shall be remitted into one or more accounts opened in a Nationalised Bank in the name of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam. Such accounts shall be operated jointly by any two of the President, Treasurer and Executive director.
- 15.7 Contributions from foreign sources will be accepted in accordance with the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act or any other Act which, in the future, will be applicable to regulate all foreign contributions to the Sangam.
- 15.8 The Kattaikkuttu Sangam will maintain a separate account with a Nationalised Bank showing all receipts from foreign sources. This account will be operated jointly by any two of the President, Treasurer and Executive director.

16. Employees:

Employees, including the Executive director, may be appointed on contract basis only. Such employees may be paid a consolidated pay according to the decision of the Executive committee and within the budgetary provisions of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam.

17. Maintenance of records:

All the records of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam shall be maintained according to the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975 and rules there under. In particular, the Sangam shall maintain daily accounts (Day Book) of Receipts and Expenditure, Ledger, Register of Members, Register of Resolutions, Receipts, Vouchers, Monthly documents of Receipts and Expenditure, etc. The accounts of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam will be maintained regularly and will be audited at the end of each financial year by a qualified auditor.

18. Meetings and Resolutions:

- 18.1 General Body: The General Body of the Sangam shall meet before the end of September every year. A written notice shall be sent by post to each member about such a meeting at least twenty-one days before the day of the meeting. At this meeting Resolutions may be passed for the adoption of Accounts of Receipts and Payments, etc., of the



preceding year, appointment of the Auditor for the succeeding year, appointment of the necessary executives, discussion of future plans, activities, etc. A report of such meeting shall be submitted to the Registrar within two months. Any resolution to amend the Memorandum of Association, By-laws and Rules of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam brought before either the Annual General Body Meeting or at any Extra-ordinary meeting of the Sangam shall be carried out only with approval of the Director of Income Tax (Exemptions).

- 18.2 Extra-ordinary Meeting: An Extra-ordinary Meeting of the General Body shall be convened within a month, if a requisition for such an extraordinary General Body Meeting is received signed by not less than one third of the Members of the Sangam. Notice shall be given at least twenty-one days in advance of the date of such an Extra-ordinary Meeting. Only such resolutions or points as are notified while calling the meeting shall be discussed. No other points or resolutions shall be discussed.
- 18.3 Quorum: A Quorum for a valid meeting of the General Body shall be one-third of the total strength of the members. The meeting shall be adjourned if one-third of the total number of members is not present. No quorum is required for such a meeting is called again and it shall be conducted with the members present being taken as the quorum. However, if the Rules or By-laws are to be amended, no amendment shall be accepted unless 75% percent of the total number of members of the General Body are present, such resolution being accepted if fifty percent of the members so present accept it. If any Aims of the Sangam or any of the Bye-laws or Rules are amended, in a special resolution such amendment shall be submitted to the Registrar with in 90 days, along with the prescribed fee.
19. The Kattaikkuttu Sangam will at all times conform to the Law prescribed by the Government and will never endeavour to do any act against the Government.
20. All legal actions to be met by the Kattaikkuttu Sangam or litigation to be carried out by the Kattaikkuttu Sangam for furthering its Aims, shall be carried only in the name of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam. (vide Bye law no. 13.37)
21. The deed under which the Kattaikkuttu Sangam has been formed is irrevocable. The existence of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam is perpetual. Its elected Executive Committee will carry on the activities necessary to realize the Aims of the Kattaikkuttu Sangam, having obtained the authorization of the General Body of the society. If, however, owing to a critical situation, the Kattaikkuttu Sangam is to be dissolved, then under section 44 of the Tamil Nadu Societies Act the assets if any,



