

### THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

### **HINDU ENDOWMENTS ACT 1968**

#### 2020 REVISED EDITION

This revised edition incorporates all amendments up to and including 1 December 2021 and comes into operation on 31 December 2021.

Prepared and Published by

THE LAW REVISION COMMISSION
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF
THE REVISED EDITION OF THE LAWS ACT 1983

# Hindu Endowments Act 1968

#### ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

#### Section

- Short title
- 2. Interpretation
- 3. Constitution
- 4. Board to be a corporation
- 5. Membership
- 6. Secretary
- 7. Appointments to be notified in *Gazette*
- 8. Determination of appointment
- 9. Revocation of appointment
- 10. Strangers at meetings
- 11. Chairman
- 12. Quorum
- 13. Use of seal
- 14. Duties and powers of Secretary and Finance member
- 15. Minutes
- 16. Appointment of committees
- 17. Power to acquire, develop, etc., property
- 17A. Power to form company, etc.
- 18. Minister may order endowment to be administered by Board
- 19. Property to vest in Board
- 20. Board to appoint committee of management
- 21. Powers and functions of Board
- 22. Power to require accounts from any trustee and others
- 23. Power to require trustees and others to attend and be examined
- 24. Penalty for non-compliance
- 25. Board to entertain application for advice
- 26. Notice of legal proceedings as to any endowment to be given to Board
- 27. Power to compromise and adjust actions, etc.
- 28. Power to sanction improvements
- 29. Annual report, accounts and audit
- 30. Publication of annual report and accounts
- 31. Power of Board to frame new scheme
- 32. Filing of scheme and notice thereof

### Section

- 33. Court may alter or modify or approve scheme
- 34. Schemes when approved to be certified by Court
- 34A. Protection from personal liability
- 35. Rules
- 36. Temples, etc., not to be used for political purposes
- 37. Transfer and vesting of property vested in Muslim and Hindu Endowments Board

An Act to provide for the administration of Hindu religious and charitable endowments.

[1 May 1969]

### Short title

1. This Act is the Hindu Endowments Act 1968.

### Interpretation

**2.** In this Act, "endowment" means any endowment in land, building or money given or to be given for the support of any Hindu temple or Hindu shrine or school or other Hindu pious, religious, charitable or beneficial purpose.

### Constitution

**3.** There shall be constituted a Hindu Endowments Board (referred to in this Act as the Board) which shall exercise the functions conferred on it by this Act.

# Board to be a corporation

- **4.**—(1) The Board shall be a body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal, and the seal may from time to time be broken, changed, altered and made anew as to the Board seems fit.
  - (2) The Board may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

### Membership

- **5.**—(1) The Board shall consist of
  - (a) a Chairman;

- (b) a Vice-Chairman;
- (c) a Finance member; and
- (d) not less than 8 and not more than 12 other members, all of whom shall be appointed by the Minister.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of this Act and unless the contrary intention appears in the instrument of appointment, the appointment of members under subsection (1) shall be for a period of 3 years from the date thereof.
- (3) The members of the Board shall be eligible for re-appointment except that a Finance member shall not be appointed for more than 2 consecutive terms as a Finance member but may, at the end of the second consecutive term, be appointed in any capacity in the Board except as a Finance member.
- (4) No person shall be appointed a member of the Board under subsection (1) unless he
  - (a) is a Hindu; and
  - (b) is a citizen of Singapore.
- (5) The members of the Board shall be deemed to be public servants for the purposes of the Penal Code 1871.

# Secretary

- **6.**—(1) The Secretary of the Board shall be a public officer and shall be appointed by the Minister.
- (2) The Secretary of the Board shall convene and attend all meetings of the Board but shall not have the right to vote.

# Appointments to be notified in Gazette

7. All appointments made under this Act shall be notified in the *Gazette*.

# **Determination of appointment**

**8.** Without prejudice to sections 5(2) and 9, the appointment of any member of the Board determines —