



# Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India

Freemasons' Hall, 14 Ethiraj Salai, Chennai - 600008

C.152/2016

10 June 2016

*C152*

To  
E.Comp.S.Krishnan  
Scribe E., Chapter Satsang No.152      **M:98432 21486**  
C-43 Chaitanya Nest  
9 Rathna Nagar Main Road  
Teynampet  
Chennai-600 018

Dear Sir and Companion,

## **SUB:BYE-LAWS OF CHAPTER SATSANG NO.152, CHENNAI**

I am forwarding herewith a copy of the bye-laws of Chapter **SATSANG NO.152, Chennai** duly approved by M.E.The Grand Superintendent(30-04-2016) and M.E.The First Grand Principal(6-6-2016).

Kindly print the bye-laws and send two copies each to the Grand Chapter and Regional Grand Chapter for our records.

Yours fraternally,

*Y.S.*  
(L.SUKUMAR)  
Regional Grand Scribe E.

**Encl:bye-laws**



V. K. GUPTA  
Grand Scribe E

# Supreme Grand Chapter of India

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Ph. : 91 (11) 23321956, 23321949 Telefax : 91 (11) 23320276  
e-mail : grandlodgeofindia1961@gmail.com Website : www.masonindia.org

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- 9 JUN 2016

No.152(C)

6<sup>th</sup> June 2016

The Regional Grand Scribe E,  
Regional Grand Chapter of S.I.,  
Freemasons' Hall,  
14 Ethiraj Salai,  
Chennai-600 008.

Dear Sir and E.Comp.,

With reference to your letter No.C-152/2016 dated 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016, I return  
herewith two copies of bye-laws of R.A.Chapter Satsang No.152 duly approved by  
M.E.the First Grand Principal.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

  
(V.K.GUPTA)  
Grand Scribe E

9 JUN 2016

# CHAPTER SATSANG NO. 152

## BYLAWS

### PREAMBLE

It is necessary for good governance and well-being of every institution and lawfully organized society that a set of Rules and Regulations be framed to guide its members on that, which is acceptable, and, equally, on the ones that are to be eschewed. Accordingly, the Principals and the Companions of Chapter SATSANG NO. 152, for the purpose of preserving that harmony which should always distinguish Royal Arch Masons, do hereby establish and agree to the following Bylaws which are consistent with and conform to the Laws contained in the General Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India

HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER SATSANG has been founded in Chennai under the Charter dated 18<sup>th</sup> of April, 2016, corresponding to the 29<sup>th</sup> day of Chaithra, 1938, Saka Era, from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India and the Chapter was consecrated and constituted into a Regular Chapter, by **M.E. Comp. Harcharan Singh Ranauta**, M.E. the First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India, on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of Vaisakha in the Saka era of 1938, corresponding to the Gregorian calendar of Thursday, the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and is assigned the No. 152 on the Roll of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India.

### MEMBERS

1. The Members of the Chapter shall comprise two classes, namely Subscribing Members, and Honorary Members.
  - a) **Subscribing Members:** All the Founder Members and those members ordinarily residing within the limits of District of Chennai and exalted into or joined or rejoined the Chapter as per the provisions of Book of General Regulations.
  - b) **Honorary Members:** Any Companion of good standing and worthy of such distinction by reason of his service to the Craft or to the particular Chapter, who is or within the previous year has been a subscribing member of a Regular Chapter, may be elected as such by the Chapter in accordance with Book of General Regulations.

### REGULAR CONVOCATIONS

2. The Regular Convocations of the Chapter shall be held at Freemasons' Hall, 14, Ethiraj Salai, Egmore, Chennai 600 008, on the Second Sunday of January, April, July and October or at such other place and time as the Principals may fix from time to time.

*V.K. Gupta*

E.Comp. G. Prabhakar  
First Principal

*Ch*

*S. Umesh*  
E.Comp S. Umesh  
Second Principal

*G. Natarajan*  
E.Comp. Dr. Gurumurti Natarajan  
Third Principal

*S. Krishnan*  
E.Comp. S. Krishnan  
Scribe 'E'

## **EMERGENCY CONVOCATIONS**

3. Emergency Convocations of the Chapter may at any time be called by the authority of the First Principal, or by the other two Principals with the concurrence of the First Principal strictly in accordance with Regulation 63 of the Book of Royal Arch Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India.

## **ELECTION AND INSTALLATION CONVOCATION**

4. The Three Principals of the Chapter shall be elected annually by ballot in Open Chapter at the Regular Election Convocation in the month of April and shall be installed at the next Regular Convocation in the month of July.
5. The Treasurer of the Chapter shall be elected annually by ballot in Open Chapter at the Regular Election Convocation in the month of April.
6. The Janitor, if a serving member, shall be elected annually by show of hands at the Regular Election Convocation in the month of April.

## **OFFICERS**

7. The Officers of the Chapter shall be elected and / or appointed in accordance with Rule 52 of the Book of General Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India and shall be installed at the next Regular Convocation in the month of July.

## **ADMISSION OF MEMBERS**

8. Candidates for Exaltation, Joining or Re-Joining the Chapter must be proposed and seconded by subscribing members of the Chapter. Such propositions may take place at Regular Convocations of the Chapter or by notice in writing transmitted by the proposer to the Scribe E at least fourteen days before the Convocation. Such proposal(s) shall be included in the Summons for the Convocation at which the ballot is to take place giving full particulars of the candidate(s) in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 70 of the Book of Royal Arch Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India.
9. Candidate(s) for Joining or Re-Joining not already registered in the books of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India shall make the Declaration as provided in Regulation 71 of the Book of Royal Arch Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India.
10. Before the ballot for Exaltation / Joining / Re-Joining is proceeded with, the Scribe E of the Chapter shall satisfy himself that he has taken care of the provisions of Regulations 69 to 72 of the Book of Royal Arch Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India.

*V.K. Umesh*

E.Comp. G. Prabhakar  
First Principal

*3. Umesh*

E.Comp. S. Umesh  
Second Principal

E.Comp. Dr Gurumurthy Natarajan  
Third Principal

*S. Krishnan*

E.Comp. S. Krishnan  
Scribe 'E'

11. No person shall be considered for being admitted as a Member of the Chapter unless and until the Membership Committee of the Chapter considers and reports favourably to the Chapter upon the character, qualifications and general desirability of the candidates proposed for Membership.
12. No one shall be admitted if, on the ballot, there appears more than three black balls.
13. A candidate or a Companion rejected on ballot for Exaltation or membership shall not be eligible to be proposed again until after the expiry of One Year from the date of such rejection.

## FEES

14. The scale of Fees and Subscription shall be as follows:

### 14.A. FEE STRUCTURE:

#### i. Exaltation:

- Exaltation Fee payable to the Chapter Rs. 2,000/-

*Additionally, the following fees are payable:*

- Annual Subscription payable to the Chapter (as in Bylaw 14(B))
- Exaltation Fees payable to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India, and to the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India as applicable from time to time.

#### ii. Joining from Indian Constitution:

- Joining Fee payable to the Chapter Rs. 2,000/-

*Additionally, the following fees are payable:*

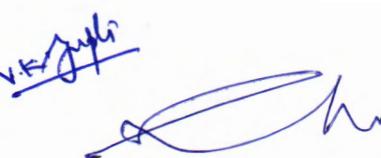
- Annual Subscription payable to the Chapter (as in Bylaw 14(B))
- Joining Fees payable to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India, and to the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India as applicable from time to time.

#### iii. Joining from Other Constitutions:

- Joining Fee payable to the Chapter Rs. 2,000/-

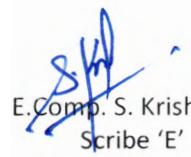
*Additionally, the following fees are payable:*

- Annual Subscription payable to the Chapter (as in Bylaw 14 (B))

  
E. Comp. G. Prabhakar  
First Principal

E. Comp S. Umesh  
Second Principal

E. Comp Dr. Gurumurti Natarajan  
Third Principal

  
E. Comp. S. Krishnan  
Scribe 'E'

- Joining Fees payable to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India, and to the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India as applicable from time to time.

iv. Re-Joining:

- Re-joining Fee payable to the Chapter Rs.500/-

Additionally, the following fees are payable:

- Annual Subscription and Stewards' Fund payable to the Chapter (as in Bylaw 14 (B))
- Re-joining Fees payable to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India, and to the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India as applicable from time to time.
- The above Fees are payable in advance before Exaltation or Joining or Rejoining.
- A candidate for Exaltation, Joining or Re-Joining at any part of the year shall pay the full annual subscription.

#### 14.B. MEMBERS SUBSCRIPTION:

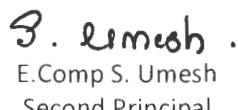
The Annual Membership fees payable to the Chapter shall consist of:

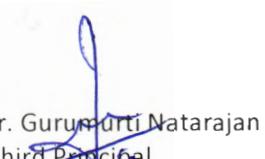
1. Annual Subscription payable to the Chapter Rs 750/-

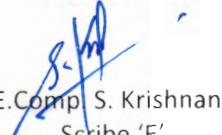
Additionally, the following fees are payable:

2. Annual dues payable to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India, and to the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India as applicable from time to time.
3. All ruling Principals shall pay in the Annual Subscription an additional Rs.50/- to Regional Grand Chapter and Rs.75/- to Supreme Grand Chapter or such fee in accordance with Rule 100 of the Book of General Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India as applicable from time to time.
4. The above subscriptions shall be payable in advance each year and the official year shall be from 1<sup>st</sup> of July of every English year
5. Honorary Members are not liable to pay any subscription fees.

  
E. Comp. G. Prabhakar  
First Principal

  
E. Comp. S. Umesh  
Second Principal

  
E. Comp. Dr. Gurumurti Natarajan  
Third Principal

  
E. Comp. S. Krishnan  
Scribe 'E'

15. Any Candidate at whose request, an Emergency Convocation is convened shall pay a fee of Rs. 500/- and also such other expenses which are incurred on account of holding such Emergency Convocation.

## EXCLUSION

16. Any Member, whose subscription remains unpaid for two years after it becomes due, shall be liable for exclusion in accordance with the provisions contained in Rule 75 of the Book of General Regulations of the Supreme Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India.

17. Any Member, who has been excluded under Bylaw No 16 may be permitted to rejoin, provided he pays all arrears due of him and the prescribed Fees for Rejoining and he is regularly proposed and balloted for favourably in accordance with Rule 70 of the General Regulations.

## RESIGNATION

18. Any Member of the Chapter may resign his membership by notifying such Resignation by a written notice to the Scribe E or by a declaration in open Chapter and such notice shall take effect from the date on which it is given, subject to all arrears due from the resigning Companion up to the date of resignation is fully discharged. Any Member who has resigned his Membership, will be permitted to rejoin on payment of Rejoining Fee and any arrears due, but shall be subject to a fresh ballot.

## DUTIES OF THE SCRIBE 'E'

19. i) The Scribe E shall be in-charge of all Chapter records other than the books of accounts that will be maintained by the Treasurer. He shall conduct all general correspondence, record the Minutes of the proceedings, issue Summons for all Convocations, keep the Membership Register and the Declaration Book and prepare and submit all returns due to Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India and Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India. He shall be the Ex-officio Secretary of the Standing Committee.
- ii) The Scribe 'E' along with the outgoing incumbent in the said office, shall every year, soon after taking charge of his office but not later than the next Regular Convocation of the Chapter, prepare an inventory of all articles, books, and records of the Chapter and sign the same, countersigned by the First Principal and the Immediate Past Zerubbabel and place the same before the Standing Committee for its inspection and information.
- iii) He shall make payment for petty contingent expenses for which purpose he shall receive an advance of not more than Rs. 1,000/-

*v.k.singh*  
*G.P.*

E.Comp. G. Prabhakar  
First Principal

*S.Umesh*  
E.Comp S. Umesh  
Second Principal

*G.Natarajan*  
E.Comp. Dr. Gurumurti Natarajan  
Third Principal

*S.Krishnan*  
E.Comp. S. Krishnan  
Scribe 'E'

## DUTIES OF THE TREASURER

20. i) The Treasurer shall collect all fees and monies due to or held for the Chapter and shall issue official receipts for the same. He shall without undue delay deposit them in an appropriate account in the name of the Chapter at a Scheduled Bank approved by a resolution of the Chapter.
- ii) The Treasurer shall regularly maintain accounts of all Funds of the Chapter.
- iii) The Treasurer, the First Principal and the Scribe 'E' shall carry out all financial transactions of the Chapter. The Treasurer and any one of the other two officers, namely the First Principal or the Scribe 'E' shall be the joint signatories to the operation of the bank accounts and all financial transactions of the Chapter.
- iv) The Treasurer shall prepare a Statement of Accounts annually made up as on 30th June of each year showing the exact financial position of the Chapter and submit the same to the Audit Committee.
- v) The Treasurer shall at every Regular Convocation submit and read in open Chapter, a Statement of Accounts for period from the preceding Regular Convocation and the current Regular Convocation.
- vi) The Chapter, by a resolution, may also invest its funds in approved Fixed Deposits or bonds in banks, Government and other recognized institutions.

## DUTIES OF JANITOR

21. i) The Janitor shall prepare the Chapter for the convocations and see that every Companion, whether a Member or a Visitor is properly clothed, prior to admission into the Chapter. The Janitor shall also be in charge of the Regalia, Furniture, etc., belonging to the Chapter.
- ii) In case the Janitor is a serving Companion, he shall receive for the proper discharge of his duties, a fee as decided by the Standing Committee from time to time, for every Convocation attended by him.

## PROPOSITIONS

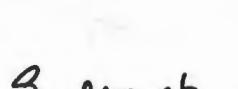
22. i) No motion unless it is purely formal or technical shall be raised in the Chapter at any Convocation for which Notice has not been given in the previous Regular Convocation or by a Communication addressed to the Secretary not less than 14 days before the Convocation at which convocation such proposition is to be considered. The said motion shall be included in the Summons.

*G. Prabhakar*

E.Comp. G. Prabhakar  
First Principal



*S. Umesh*  
E.Comp S. Umesh  
Second Principal



*D. Gurumurti Natarajan*  
E.Comp D. Gurumurti Natarajan  
Third Principal



*S. Krishnan*  
E.Comp. S. Krishnan  
Scribe 'E'



- ii) In the case of a tie on any vote arising out of consideration of such proposition(s), the First Principal shall have the right of a casting vote, which shall decide the ballot.
- iii) No question once decided shall be raised again without the permission of the First Principal or until three months have elapsed after its last decision.

### **PERMANENT /STANDING COMMITTEE**

23. i) The Three Principals, all Past Principals of and in the Chapter, Scribe 'E', Scribe 'N', Treasurer, Director of Ceremonies and two companions elected at the Installation Convocation shall constitute the Standing Committee.
- ii) It shall be the duty of this Committee to check the accounts, make arrangements for the convocations and consider all matters connected with the working of the Chapter, to inspect and check all the properties of the Chapter, and report upon general questions affecting the Chapter. The First Principal, if present shall preside and in his absence, the Immediate Past First Principal or in his absence, the senior-most Companion present shall preside. The role of the Standing Committee is to assist the First Principal and his Officers in the well ruling of the Chapter; whereas the Standing Committee may make recommendations on financial matters of the Chapter such matters shall however have to be deliberated, voted and decided upon only in Open Chapter. The Standing Committee shall meet on such date and time as the First Principal may order once before each Regular Convocation. A quorum of the Standing Committee is deemed to have been met if four or more members of the Committee assemble to transact any business pertaining to the Chapter, and the result of its proceedings shall be reported at the following Regular Convocation of the Chapter.
- iii) It shall be the duty of the Committee to submit at the Installation Convocation an Annual Report containing the details of the workings, events and status of the Chapter for the year and its recommendations for the consideration of the Chapter.

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

24. The Chapter shall elect at the Regular Installation Convocation, a Membership Committee consisting of two members for the purpose of considering and reporting to the Chapter upon the character, qualifications and the general desirability of the candidates proposed for membership of the Chapter.

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

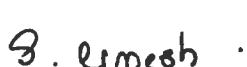
25. At the Regular Installation Convocation of the Chapter in July, every year, the Chapter shall elect two members to the Audit Committee, consisting of two members, not being any of the regular officers, to verify and audit the Annual Statement of Accounts prepared by the

*V.K. Jayaram*

E.Comp. G. Prabhakar  
First Principal



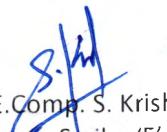
*S. Umesh*  
E.Comp. S. Umesh  
Second Principal



*G. Natarajan*  
E.Comp. Dr. Gurumurti Natarajan  
Third Principal



*S. Krishnan*  
E.Comp. S. Krishnan  
Scribe 'E'



Treasurer. It shall be the duty of the Committee to submit at the Installation Convocation an Audited Statement of Accounts of the previous year for the adoption by the Chapter.

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

26. The First Principal may, at his discretion, appoint a Special Committee for the consideration of any special subject or matter as may be assigned by him. Such a Committee shall comprise four members of whom two shall be Past First Principals of or in the Chapter besides the Scribe 'E' who will be the Ex-officio Secretary of the Special Committee. Three members shall constitute a quorum of any such committee.

### **SUMMONS AND NOTICE**

27. i. Summons or notice which are to be sent to any member shall be deemed sufficiently served, if sent through Electronic Mail to the address stated in the Membership Register. Every notice of exclusion or intended exclusion shall be sent through registered post with acknowledgment due to the last known address of the member.

ii) All changes of addresses shall be invariably notified to the Scribe 'E' in writing by members immediately when they occur.

### **CONSTITUTIONS**

28. In respect of matter not specifically and expressly provided for in the Bylaw, the Law and Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India as embodied in the General Regulations and Bylaws of the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India shall apply.

### **DRESS REGULATIONS**

29. The members of the Chapter will attend the Convocations of the Chapter in Black or Dark Suit, Tie, White Shirt, Black Shoes and Black Socks.

### **CEREMONIES**

30. At every Convocation, there shall be Masonic Education immediately after the ritual of the day.

31. At every Convocation, the Chapter will observe "Moments of Contemplation" in the form of Five minutes silence immediately after the Masonic Education.

### **ALMS (CHARITY FUNDS)**

32. a. Immediately before the closing of the Chapter, regular or emergency, the charity box shall be taken around as directed by the First Principal in which the Companions may deposit their freewill offerings.

E.Comp. G. Prabhakar  
First Principal

S. Umesh  
Second Principal

E.Comp. Dr. Gurumurti Natarajan  
Third Principal

E.Comp. S. Krishnan  
Scribe 'E'

- b. The monies thus collected shall be kept separate from the Chapter funds and appropriated to only such charitable purposes as the Companions in Open Chapter may direct.

## BYLAWS

33. i) It shall not be competent for the Companions to abrogate, amend, add to or alter these Bylaws, unless the abrogation, amendment, addition or alteration, shall have been Proposed in writing at one regular Convocation and Approved by a majority of the members voting in favour of such change(s) at the next Regular Convocation of the Chapter and also be approved by the M.E. Grand Superintendent of the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India and the M.E. the First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India.
- ii) In the event of any abrogation, amendment or revision of any Bylaw or Bylaws, the Scribe 'E' shall provide each Member with a copy thereof, after approval by the M.E. Grand Superintendent of the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India and the M.E. the First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India.
- iii) Every Member of the Chapter on his Exaltation, or Joining shall be presented with a copy of these Bylaws and his acceptance thereof shall be deemed a pledge of his strict adherence and submission to the rules contained herein.

Adopted unanimously at the consecration and constitution of the Chapter on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at Chennai.

*S. Umesh*

E.Comp. Sundaramurthi Umesh  
Second Principal

E.Comp. Gopalratnam Prabhakar  
First Principal

*S. Umesh*  
E.Comp. Sankaran Krishnan  
Scribe 'E'

E.Comp. Dr. Gurumurti Natarajan  
Third Principal

*V. Venkatesh*

E.Comp. G. Prabhakar  
First Principal

*S. Umesh*  
E.Comp. S. Umesh  
Second Principal

*S. Umesh*  
E.Comp. Dr. Gurumurti Natarajan  
Third Principal

*S. Umesh*  
E.Comp. S. Krishnan  
Scribe 'E'

Approved by M.E. the Grand Superintendent  
of the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India, Chennai



Place : Chennai

Date: 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016

M.E.Comp. Arvind Prasad Chitra  
Regional Grand Mark Master

Approved by M.E. The First Grand Principal  
of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India, New Delhi



(M.E. Comp. V.K. Gupta)  
Grand Scribe 'E'

Place : Delhi

Date: 06.06.2016



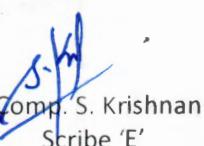
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3. Umesh .

E.Comp S. Umesh  
Second Principal



E.Comp. Dr. Gurumurti Natarajan  
Third Principal



E.Comp. S. Krishnan  
Scribe 'E'