

BY - LAWS of  
**Lodge Vidya**

No. 164

6th March 1965  
(Amended upto 31st March 2002)

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**Lodge Vidya NO. 164**

**I. Members**

1. The members of the Lodge shall comprise three classes viz.,
  - (a) Resident members,
  - (b) Honorary members.

Explanation 1. Resident members are those who reside within 25 miles of Fort St. George.

Explanation 2. Honorary members are those who are elected as such for service rendered to Masonry in general or to this Lodge in particular.

**II. Days of Meeting**

3. The Regular Meetings of the Lodge shall be held at Freemason's Hall, Egmore, on the **first Monday of every month**, at such hour as the Master may, from time to time, direct.

4. Summons for convening the regular meetings of the Lodge shall be issued at least seven days previous to such Meetings.

### III. Subscriptions and Fees

5. The annual subscription of a Member shall be Rs.890 payable in advance, plus the annual dues payable to the Grand Lodge of India and the half-yearly dues to the RGL of Southern India at the Prevailing rates.

6. The following shall be the fees payable in advance:-

Initiation	.....	Rs. 750
Joining (same constitution)	.....	Rs. 350
Joining from a foreign Constitution	.....	Rs. 750
Re - Joining	.....	Rs. 350

7. The expense of any Emergency Meeting and the Dispensation Fee, If any, due to the Regional Grand Lodge, Shall be defrayed by the Brother or Brethren at whose instance the meeting is held or Dispensation obtained.

### IV. Admission and Retirement of Members

8. No candidate for Freemasonry shall be initiated, and no Brother shall be admitted as a joining member of the Lodge if, on the

ballot, two back balls appear against him or if 1/3 of the members vote against him.

9. 'A' candidate rejected for initiation or joining shall not be again proposed in Lodge until after the lapse of six months from the date of the last ballot.

10. Any member whose subscription for a period of six months or more remains unpaid shall be liable to exclusion under the provisions of Rule 156 of the B. of C.

11. A member who has resigned or has ceased to be a member or has been excluded for non-payment of dues, shall be permitted to rejoin only on payment of all former arrears -together with his re-joining fee but shall be subjected to a fresh ballot.

### V. Elections etc.

12. The Master and Treasurer shall be elected by ballot at the Regular Meeting in February and shall be installed and invested respectively at the next Regular Meeting in March.



13. The Tyler, if a serving Brother, shall be elected by show of hands at the Regular Meeting in February.

14. No motion shall be made or discussed in the Lodge which is not mentioned in the Summons unless, in case of emergency, the Master directs otherwise.

15. No question once decided in open lodge shall be raised again a second time without the permission of the Master or until 3 months shall have elapsed after its last decision.

16. The control of the property of the Lodge shall be as provided in Rule 119 B of C.

17. At the Regular Meeting in March, the Lodge shall appoint a Standing Committee consisting of the Master, Immediate Past Master, Wardens, the Secretary, the Treasurer and three other members.

18. At the Regular Meeting in March, the Lodge shall appoint the Committee referred to in Rule 130 of the Book of Constitutions.

19. The duties of the Standing Committee appointed by the Lodge shall be to enquire about and report on candidates for initiation and joining, to examine the Secretary's books and check the Treasurer's accounts to inspect and check all the property of the Lodge at least once a year, and to submit at the Regular Meeting in March, before the Installation of the Master Elect, an annual Report of the financial condition of and upon general questions affecting the Lodge during the period under review.

20. The Secretary to the Lodge shall be Ex-officio Secretary to all Committees appointed by the Lodge.

21. All letters from members of the Lodge shall be addressed to the Secretary.

22. The Secretary shall conduct all the general business and correspondence of the Lodge. He shall issue summons for, or notices of all Meetings of the Lodge or Committees, record Minutes of their proceedings and keep the register of members and all the registers and records except the accounts kept by the Treasurer. He shall carefully preserve all books and records, and keep a register of all moneys passing

through his hands. He shall immediately they are due, prepare the Returns for the Grand and Regional Grand Lodges and forward them, through the Master, together with all fees and contributions due there on, to the authorities concerned.

23. The Treasurer shall have charge of and be responsible for the money and the account books of the Lodge. He shall receive direct all moneys due to or held for the Lodge and deposit the same in the name of the Lodge, in a Bank approved by a Resolution of the Lodge, and shall make payments for current ordinary expenses on the authority of the Master or other Officer-in-charge of the Lodge. No other payment shall be made without a Resolution of the Lodge. He shall submit his accounts to the Regular Meetings of Lodge.

23 A. The Lodge shall open a STEWARD'S FUND ACCOUNT in the name of THE LODGE VIDYA STEWARD'S FUND to be operated by ANY TWO of the following viz. The W. Master, the Secretary and the Treasurer. All members shall contribute to this fund, the sum as may be decided by the Lodge from time to time.

Explanation: The proceeds of the STEWARD'S FUND is to be utilised for Dinner expenses on the days of the meeting.

24. A sum of Rs.250/- from the General funds of the Lodge, shall be annually placed at the disposal of the Master to meet emergent cases of distress. In case the Master exercises this privilege, he shall report the circumstances at the next Regular Meeting of the Lodge: otherwise, the sum shall, at the close of the year, be carried to the Charity Account.

25. All ordinary cases of distress shall be submitted for discussion in open Lodge.

26. It shall not be competent for the Brethren to abrogate, amend or alter these By-laws unless the abrogation, amendment or alteration shall have been duly proposed and passed at one Regular Meeting, after insertion in the summons, and confirmed at the next Regular Meeting. It shall become effective when it is approved by the Regional Grand Master and by the Grand Master.



These By-laws were approved and adopted at the Consecration Meeting of the Lodge held on the sixth day of March 1965.

(Sd.) E.N. NARAYANASWAMY,      (Sd) A.R. NARAYANA RAO,  
*Senior Warden.*                      *Worshipful Master.*

(Sd.) R. RAMAKRISHNAN,      (Sd.) S.R. GOVINDARAJAN,  
*Junior Warden.*                      *Secretary.*

Approved by the R.W. Regional Grand Master on 26th, April 1965  
(Sd.) S.T. SRINIVASA GOPALACHARI,  
*Regional Grand Master,*

Approved by the M.W. Grand Master on 2nd May 1965.  
(Sd.) P.M. SUNDARAM,  
*Grand Secretary.*