

19 AUG 2024

# GRAND LODGE OF INDIA



RW Bro. AJAY BHARGAVA  
Grand Secretary



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No.530(45)

13<sup>th</sup> August 2024

The Regional Grand Secretary  
Regional Grand Lodge of SI  
Chennai.

Dear Sir and RW Brother,

With reference to your letter No.L.45/2024 dated 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024, I return herewith two copies of amendments to bye-laws of Lodge Ekram No.45 duly approved by MW the Grand Master.

With best wishes

Yours fraternally

AJAY BHARGAVA  
Grand Secretary



## Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India

Lodge Ekram

No. 45

Place: Secunderabad

### Proposed Amendments to/Revised By Laws (To be submitted in Triplicate)

Existing By laws	Proposed Amendments to By Laws
As per Attachment	As per Attachment

The above amendments were regularly Proposed and Seconded in open Lodge at the regular Meeting held on 04 January 2024, Passed at the regular Meeting held on 01 February 2024 and Confirmed at the regular Meeting held on 20 March 2024. The revised by laws with the changes advised by GLI per GLI Letter 530(45) of 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 were again proposed, seconded and confirmed at the regular Meeting held on 04 July

Place: Secunderabad

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024

W. Master

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Secretary

Approved by R.W. the Regional Grand Master

Place: Chennai

Date 1.8.2024

Regional Grand Master

Approved by M.W. the Grand Master

Place: New Delhi

Date 13.08.2024

Grand Secretary



1888

2024

**Lodge Ekram No. 45****Secunderabad, Telangana State****05 JUL 2024****Proposed Amendments to/Revised Bylaws***(to be submitted in triplicate)**"These amendments to the bylaws, in their entirety, will be effective from 01 JAN 2024 retrospectively, **AFTER** the RGL SI and GLI accord their approval."**Approved in the Lodge meeting held on THU, 04 JUL 2024, as per Summons Agenda Item No. 16.*

S. No.	Bylaw No.	Existing Bylaws	Bylaw No.	Proposed Amendments to Bylaws
1	4	<b>Regular Meeting</b> The regular meeting of the lodge shall be held on the <b>FIRST</b> Thursday of every month at St. John's Hall, Secunderabad	4	<b>Regular Meeting</b> The regular meeting of the lodge shall be held on the <b>FIRST</b> Thursday of every month <b>EXCEPT</b> in the months of <b>MAY, JULY</b> and <b>OCTOBER</b> , at St. John's Hall, Secunderabad.
2	5	<b>Members</b> The Lodge shall consist of Resident, Absent, Honorary and Senior Members. The following procedure should be adopted by the Lodge to grant Absentee Membership. Members should notify the Secretary in writing indicating the future period of their absence from the Lodge by giving their New Address. However, such cases will be considered only if the period of	5	<b>Members</b> The Lodge shall consist of Resident, Absent and Honorary Members. Honorary Members shall not have any voting rights and shall not be required to pay any lodge subscription fees or the GLI and RGL SI fees. The following procedure should be adopted by the Lodge to grant Absentee Membership: Members who qualify for Absentee Membership should notify the Secretary in writing indicating the period of their absence from the Lodge, and provide their full contact information including the

	<p>such cases will be considered only if the period of absence should be three months and above. The Secretary will announce the same in the Open Lodge and place such Members on the Roll of Absentee Members effective from the following month.</p> <p>Should an absentee member attend any meeting or banquet, he shall be charged full subscription of a Resident Member for the said month.</p> <p><b>Senior Member</b></p> <p>Any Resident Member can apply for Senior Membership, provided he is 65 years old and above and he must have completed 25 years of Service in Masonry of which at least 5 years as Member of Lodge Ekram No.45.</p> <p>a) He should make an application to the Lodge giving the details of his date of birth, dates of initiation, passing and raising in the Lodge GLI certificate number and has present ranks in RGL/GLI.</p> <p>b) The Lodge at its next regular meeting will consider such application at its discretion and grant Senior Membership to those applicants</p> <p>c) Such Senior Members will continue to enjoy all privileges and rights on par with other members of the Lodge.</p> <p>Senior Members are required to pay monthly subscription as stipulated in By-Law No.8</p>	<p><b>Members who qualify for Absentee Membership should notify the Secretary in writing indicating the period of their absence from the Lodge, and provide their full contact information including the new address, e-mail, phone number etc. However, such cases will be considered only if the period of absence is three months or more.</b></p> <p><b>The Secretary will announce the same in the open Lodge meeting and place such members on the Roll of Absentee Members, effective from the month following the month in which it was approved in the open lodge meeting.</b></p> <p><b>Should an Absentee Member attend any meeting or banquet during the period of his being an Absentee Member, he shall be charged full pro-rata subscription of a Resident Member for the said month.</b></p> <p><b>This sub-clause titled 'Senior Member' stands deleted in its entirety.</b></p>
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**Fees and Subscription**

**A. Fees**

i) Initiation - Rs.3000

ii) Joining from a Lodge not under GLI - Rs.2000

iii) Joining from a lodge under GLI - Rs.2000

iv) Re-joining - Rs.2000

**B. Subscription**

i) Resident Member - Rs. 350/-pm

ii) Absent & Senior Member - Rs.175/- pm

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**Fees and Subscription**

<b>(a) Fees</b>		
<b>i</b>	<b>Initiation</b>	<b>Rs.4,000</b>
<b>ii</b>	<b>Joining from a Lodge not under GLI</b>	<b>Rs.3,000</b>
<b>iii</b>	<b>Joining from a lodge under GLI</b>	<b>Rs.3,000</b>
<b>iv</b>	<b>Re-joining</b>	<b>Rs.3,000</b>

<b>(b) Subscription</b>		
<b>i</b>	<b>Resident Member</b> The Annual Lodge Subscription amount shall be as may be decided from time to time by the General Committtee and brought on the Summons of the next immediate regular meeting and duly approved by a majority of the Brethren present and voting at that Regular Meeting. Such increase shall come into effect AFTER due approval of the RGLSI and the GLI. The Annual Lodge Subscription for the present shall be Rs.4,800/ from the effective date, that is 01 JAN 2024, AFTER the approval of the GLI and RGL SI of these amended bylaws'	<b>Rs. 4,800 per annum</b>
<b>ii</b>	<b>Absentee Member</b> (at 50% of Resident Members' subscription as may be decided from time to time as stated in 8 (b) i above)	<b>Rs. 2,400 per annum</b>
<b>iii</b>	<b>In <u>addition</u> to the Lodge Subscription as above, every Resident and Absentee</b>	

		<p>C. The subscription as noted above shall be payable half yearly in advance i.e., 1st January &amp; 1st July every year.</p> <p>D. Out of the monthly subscription of resident members, a sum of Rs. 200/- shall be appropriated as Stewards Fund.</p> <p>e) A sum of Rs. 15/- from the monthly subscription of all Subscribing Members will be credited towards "Lodge Benevolent Fund" and</p>		<p>iii In <u>addition</u> to the Lodge Subscription as above, every Resident and Absentee member shall also pay the full fees payable to GLI and RGLSI at actuals, as stipulated from time to time by GLI and RGL SI respectively. The members shall be notified of any increase in the GLI and RGL SI fees as and when the same come into effect or notified.</p>	
				<p>c) Subscription Payment Dates: The Lodge Subscription and the GLI &amp; RGL dues shall be payable within thirty days of First January and First July, of each year, towards the half yearly fees, payable in advance.</p> <p>d) Out of the subscription of Resident Members, a pro-rata sum of Rs. 350/- per member shall be appropriated towards the banquet expenditure of each regular meeting, except the installation meeting. This amount of Rs.350/ per member per banquet, shall stand enhanced by 5% each year, or as may be recommended by the GC from time to time, and shall be effective only AFTER such enhancement is duly approved in open lodge meeting immediately following". All bills related to the banquet shall be presented to the Secretary for authorisation after which the Treasurer shall make the payment(s). The Lodge banquet funds shall not be used for expenditure towards any refreshments and shall be used to meet the expenditure on food and non-alcoholic/soft beverages ONLY.</p> <p>e) A sum of Rs. 300/- from the Lodge subscription of all Subscribing Members, shall be credited towards "Lodge Benevolent Fund" <u>for each half year</u> on the first of June and the</p>	

		all administrative expenses and dues to RGLSI and GLI shall be paid from the General Fund.		<p><b>first of December each year, totalling Rs.600/ per year per member.</b></p> <p><b>f) All administrative expenses and dues to RGL SI and GLI shall be paid from the General Fund.</b></p>
4	9	All charges for dinner and refreshments supplied to Lodge Guests at the ordinary meetings and Installation meetings shall be debited to the Stewards Fund. All accounts for payment from this Fund should be authorized by the Secretary before they are presented to the Treasurer for payment.	9	<b>The entire bylaw stands deleted.</b>
5	14	<p>The Lodge is authorised to establish a fund called "Benevolent Fund", also known as Charity Fund of Lodge Ekram No. 45, and it derives its income as prescribed in Bye Law -8.</p> <p>a) One half of the initiation, joining and Rejoining Fees.</p> <p>b) Charity collection made in the meetings of the Lodge</p> <p>c) Voluntary donations</p> <p>d) Interest accrued from General Fund deposits.</p> <p>e) A maximum of 50% of the annual surplus of income over the expenditure</p> <p>f) Other contributions from General Fund as the Lodge may determine from time to time.</p>	14	<p><b>The Lodge is authorised to establish a fund called "Benevolent Fund " also known as 'Charity Fund of Lodge Ekram No.45', and it shall derive its income as prescribed in By-Law 8, and as listed below:</b></p> <p><b>a) One half of the initiation, joining and Rejoining Fees to be transferred on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> of June and 31<sup>st</sup> of Dec each year.</b></p> <p><b>b) Charity collection from all the lodge meetings</b></p> <p><b>c) Voluntary donations of members and others</b></p> <p><b>d) Interest accrued from General Fund deposits to be transferred annually on or before 31 December each year.</b></p> <p><b>e) A maximum of 50% of the annual surplus of income over the expenditure, to be transferred by 31 March each year</b></p> <p><b>f) Other contributions from General Fund as the Lodge may determine from time to time.</b></p>
6	17	All sums appropriated from the subscription of Resident members vide By- Law No.8 shall be credited as Stewards Fund and may be used for	17	<b>The entire bylaw stands deleted.</b>

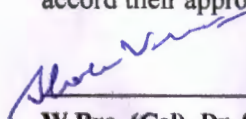
		meeting the banquet charges, refreshment charges etc., of the Lodge		
7	24	<p><b><u>Election &amp; Installation</u></b></p> <p>18. The Master, Treasurer and Tyler shall be elected at the Regular meeting of the Lodge in December and they shall be duly installed at the next Regular meeting of the Lodge in January, or at any subsequent meeting convened by dispensation.</p> <p>19.</p> <p>ii) The Master-Elect will be paid a lump sum grant as decided by the Lodge (from time to time) towards the expenses of his installation, including refreshments and Banquet.</p>	24	<p><b><u>Election &amp; Installation</u></b></p> <p>i. The Master, Treasurer and Tyler <u>shall be elected</u> at the Regular Election meeting of the Lodge, in December each year, and they shall be duly installed /invested at the next Regular meeting of the Lodge in January, or at any subsequent meeting convened by dispensation.</p> <p>ii. The Ruling Master, all Past Masters, Ruling Wardens and Past Wardens are eligible to seek election as the Worshipful Master.</p> <p>iii. However, as per the amended Rule 87 of the Book of Constitution of the GLI, every Master-Elect must also be a subscribing member of the Royal Arch Chapter under the Supreme Grand Chapter of India and also a subscribing member of a Mark Lodge under the Grand lodge of Mark Master Masons of India, as on the date of seeking election to the office of the WM, unless specially exempted from this qualification by a dispensation from the Grandmaster.</p> <p>iv) The Master-Elect will be paid a lump sum amount equivalent to the banquet charges for the month at Rs.350/- multiplied by the number of subscribing resident members as on 31 December of the preceding year, or an amount of Rs.12,000/-, whichever is higher, towards meeting the expenses of banquet on the day of his installation.</p>

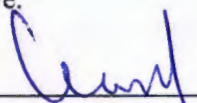
8	27	Shifting of bank accounts from Secunderabad / Hyderabad to be approved in the open Lodge as proposed by the General Committee.	27	<b>Shifting of bank accounts from one bank to any other bank in the twin cities, Telangana State, shall be approved prior, in open Lodge as recommended by the General Committee.</b>
9	29	a. The Tyler shall be paid a sum of Rs.300/-per meeting (attended by him) as his remuneration. He shall be responsible for the up keeping of the premises, inventory and Lodge furniture. b. If the Tyler elected is a subscribing member, he may be exempted from payment of his monthly subscription, if he so desires.	29	<b>a. The Tyler shall be paid such sum per meeting that he attends, as may be approved from time to time in an open Lodge meeting, on the recommendation of the General Committee, or on its own accord.</b>  <b>b. No change</b>
10	31	<b><u>General Committee</u></b> There shall be a committee styled the General Committee of the Lodge, which shall consist of the Worshipful Master, all Past Masters, the Senior and Junior Wardens, the Secretary, the Treasurer and two more co-opted members, any five shall constitute the quorum for the General Committee.	31	<b><u>General Committee</u></b> <b>There shall be a committee styled the 'General Committee of the Lodge,' which shall consist of the Worshipful Master, all Past Masters, the Senior and Junior Wardens, the Secretary and the Treasurer. The Senior and Junior Deacons maybe co-opted at the Installation meeting every year.</b> <b>Any five shall constitute the quorum for the General Committee of whom at least one from amongst the WM, IPM, or the two Wardens shall be required to be present.</b>


11	38	<b><u>Enquiry Committee</u></b> There shall be an Enquiry Committee consisting of the Worshipful Master, IPM, Wardens Secretary, Treasurer, and two other Brethren duly elected by the Lodge on the day of Installation, who will scrutinize into the character and status of every candidate for initiation and joining and shall submit a report in writing before the ballot of such candidates is taken up.	38	<b><u>Enquiry Committee</u></b> There shall be an Enquiry Committee consisting of the Worshipful Master, IPM, Wardens, Secretary, Treasurer, and two other Brethren duly elected by the Lodge on the day of Installation, who will make enquiries into the character, status and standing of every candidate for Initiation, joining and Re-joining, and shall submit a report in writing to the GC, or to the Lodge Secretary, before the next regular meeting and before the ballot of such candidates is taken up by the Lodge at its next regular meeting.
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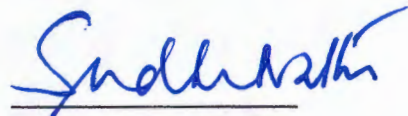
The above amendments were regularly Proposed and Seconded in open Lodge at the regular Meeting held on 04 JAN 2024, Passed at the regular meeting held on 01 FEB 2024 and Confirmed at the regular meeting held on 20 MAR 2024, and further changes approved in the open lodge meeting held on THU, 04 JUL 2024.

NOTE: These amendments to the bylaws, in their entirety, will be effective from 01 JAN 2024 *retrospectively*, AFTER the RGL SI and GLI accord their approval, as stated hereinabove.

  
**W. Bro. (Col). Dr. Shankar V Ramany**  
 Worshipful Master 2024  
 Secunderabad, 05 JUL 2024

  
**W. Bro. Janakiram Sarma Kandanur**  
 Senior Warden 2024

  
**Bro. Zacharia Leo Simon**  
 Junior Warden 2024

  
**W. Bro. Sudhir Nathan**  
 Secretary 2024

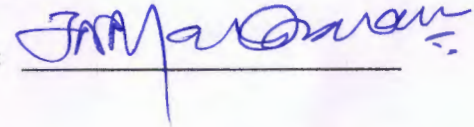
**1. APPROVED BY R.W. THE REGIONAL GRAND MASTER**

Chennai

Date: 1. 8. 2024.



Regional Grand Master:



**2. APPROVED BY M.W. THE GRAND MASTER**

New Delhi

Date:

Grand Secretary:

