THE BANGLADESH RED CRESCENT SOCIETY ORDER, 1973

(PRESIDENT'S ORDER NO. 26 OF 1973)

AND

THE BANGLADESH RED CRESCENT SOCIETY (ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT) RULES, 1973

(Modified up to the 28th February 1989)

Including Act No. 14 of 1989
THE BANGLADESH RED CRESCENT SOCIETY ORDER, 1973

(PRESIDENT'S ORDER NO. 26 OF 1973)

(Modified upto the 28th February 1989)
Including Act No. 14 of 1989
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
MINISTRY OF LAW AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(Law Division)

President’s Order No. 26 of 1973

THE BANGLADESH RED CRESCENT SOCIETY ORDER, 1973
[31st March, 1973]

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the administration of various monies and gifts received from the public for the purpose of medical and other aid to the sick and wounded and other purposes of a like nature, and for the administration of the monies and properties which may be allotted to Bangladesh out of the share of the Pakistan Red Cross Society in the assets of the Indian Red Cross Society and the monies and properties in the share of the former East Pakistan Provincial Branch of the Pakistan Red Cross Society out of the assets of the Pakistan Red Cross Society;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to constitute a [Bangladesh Red Crescent Society] to provide for aid to the sick and wounded and to the victims of natural calamities and civil disturbances and other purposes of a like nature;

NOW, THEREFORE, in pursuance of paragraph 3 of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, and in exercise of all powers enabling him in that behalf, the President is pleased to make the following Order:

1. (1) This Order may be called the [Bangladesh Red Crescent Society] Order, 1973.

(2) It extends to the whole of Bangladesh.

(3) It shall come into force at once and shall be deemed to have taken effect on the 16th day of December, 1971.

2. In this Order, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,---

1[(a) "Elective office" means the office of Vice-Chairman, Secretary or elected member of an Executive Committee or Vice-Chairman or elected member of the Managing Board;

(aa) "Executive Committee" means an Executive Committee of a Unit;

(aaa) "General Body" means the General body of the Society constituted under Article 8;]

(b) "Managing Board" means the Managing Board of the Society constituted under Article 9;]

1 Substituted by Act XXV of 1988, for "Bangladesh Red Cross Society" (w.e.f. 4-4-88).
2 Substituted by Ordinance No. IX of 1985 (w.e.f 22-11-1984), for the original Paragraph (a).
3. (1) There shall be constituted a Society to be called the [Bangladesh Red Crescent Society], the first members of which shall be such persons as were the life members or members of any other grade of the Pakistan Red Cross Society immediately before the commencement of this Order and are resident in Bangladesh.

(2) The first members of the Society and all persons who may become members thereof, so long as they continue to be such members are hereby constituted a body corporate under the name of the [Bangladesh Red Crescent Society], and the said body shall have perpetual succession and a common seal with power to acquire, hold and dispose of property, both moveable and immovable, and shall by the said name sue and be sued.

4. (1) The Society shall in all its activities observe neutrality, impartiality, independence, universality, humanity and all other basic principles and shall adhere to the statutes of the [International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement] and the Geneva Conventions.

(2) The Society shall, as an auxiliary to public authorities maintain autonomy and act at all times in accordance with the fundamental principles of the [International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement].

(3) The Society shall use as its emblem the heraldic sign of the [Red Crescent] on a white ground in accordance with the Geneva Conventions and the law in force relating to preservation of the sanctity of such emblem.

5. The Society shall have the objects set forth in the First Schedule and shall apply its funds to the same.

6. The President of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh shall be the President of the Society.

7. There shall be constituted a Unit of the Society in each District and in each City.
(2) The Secretary-General of the Society appointed under Article 12 shall be ex-officio Secretary to the Managing Board.

(3) Subject to control of the General Body, the administration and management of the affairs and business of the Society shall vest in the Managing Board which may exercise all powers and do all acts which may be exercised or done by the Society.

(4) The Managing Board constituted under clause (1) shall meet as often as may be necessary, but not less than once in every quarter of a year.

**19A.** (1) The term of an Executive Committee or Managing Board shall be three years commencing from the first day of January of the year following the year in which general election to the elective offices of the Executive Committee or Managing Board, as the case may be, is held.

(2) A casual vacancy in the office of Vice-Chairman, Secretary or member of an Executive Committee or Vice-Chairman "Treasurer or Member of the Managing Board" shall be filled by election or nomination, as the case may be, in accordance with the provisions of this Order and rules made thereunder, and a person so elected or nominated shall hold office for the residue of the term of the Executive Committee or Managing Board, as the case may be.

**9B(1)** If, for any reason, the general election to the elective offices of an Executive Committee or Managing Board cannot be held before the expiry of its term, the Chairman of the Society, in the case of an Executive Committee, or the President, in the case of the Managing Board, shall appoint an ad hoc Executive Committee or Managing Board, as the case may be, to exercise the powers and perform the functions of such Committee or Board for a period of three months.

(2) An ad hoc Executive Committee or Managing Board shall consist of such office-bearers and other members as are specified in Article 7 or Article 9, as the case may be.

(3) An ad hoc Executive Committee or Managing Board shall continue to function till the general election to the elective offices of the Executive Committee or Managing Board, as the case may be, held and such general elections shall be held within three months from the date of appointment of the ad hoc Committee or Board.

(4) Notwithstanding anything contained in clause (1) of Article 9A, the term of the Executive Committee or Managing Board constituted after the general election mentioned in clause (3) shall be counted from the first day of January of the year in which such election is held.
3. (1) There shall be constituted a Society to be called the [Bangladesh Red Crescent Society], the first members of which shall be such persons as were the life members or members of any other grade of the Pakistan Red Cross Society immediately before the commencement of this Order and are resident in Bangladesh.

(2) The first members of the Society and all persons who may become members thereof, so long as they continue to be such members are hereby constituted a body corporate under the name of the [Bangladesh Red Crescent Society], and the said body shall have perpetual succession and a common seal with power to acquire, hold and dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and shall by the said name sue and be sued.

4. (1) The Society shall in all its activities observe neutrality, impartiality, independence, universality, humanity and all other basic principles and shall adhere to the statutes of the [International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement] and the Geneva Conventions.

(2) The Society shall, as an auxiliary to public authorities maintain autonomy and act at all times in accordance with the fundamental principles of the [International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement].

(3) The Society shall use as its emblem the heraldic sign of the [Red Crescent] on a white ground in accordance with the Geneva Conventions and the law in force relating to preservation of the sanctity of such emblem.

5. The Society shall have the objects set forth in the First Schedule and shall apply its funds to the same.

6. The President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh shall be the President of the Society.

7. There shall be constituted a Unit of the Society in each District and in each City.

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1 Substituted by Act XXV of 1988, for "Bangladesh Red Cross Society" (W.e.f. 4.4.88).
2 Substituted ibid, for "International Red Cross".
3 Substituted by ibid, for "Red Cross".
4 Substituted by ibid, for "Red Cross".
5 Substituted by Ordinance No.XLIX of 1975, for the original Article 7.
6 Substituted by Ordinance No. IX of 1985 (w.e.f. 22-11-1984), for clause (1), which was further substituted by Act No. 14 of 1989.
9C. (1) If the Chairman of the Society, in the case of an Executive Committee, or the President, in the case of the Managing Board, is of opinion that the Executive Committee or the Managing Board, as the case may be, is not discharging its functions properly or is acting in a manner prejudicial to the interest of the society, he may, by order in writing, declare the Executive Committee or Managing Board, as the case may be, to be superseded for such period as may be specified in the order.

(2) On the making of an order under clause (1),-

(a) all persons holding any office in the Executive Committee or Managing Board, as the case may be, shall cease to hold such office;

(b) all powers and functions of the Executive Committee or Managing Board, as the case may be, shall, during the period of supersession, be exercised and performed by an ad hoc Executive Committee or Managing Board, as the case may be, appointed in such manner as is specified in Article 9B.

(3) On the expiry of the period of supersession, the Executive Committee or Managing Board, as the case may be, shall be reconstituted in accordance with the provisions of this Order and the rules made thereunder.

(4) Notwithstanding anything contained in clause (1) of Article 9A; the term of the Executive Committee or Managing Board, as the case may be, reconstituted under clause (3), shall be counted from the first day of January of the year in which the general election to the elective offices of the reconstituted Executive Committee or Managing Board, as the case may be, is held.

9D. Notwithstanding anything contained in Articles 9A and 9B, no election to fill a casual vacancy in an Executive Committee or Managing Board shall be held, if the residue of the term of such Committee or Board is less than one year.

9E. No act or proceeding of an Executive Committee "or General Body or Managing Board" shall be invalid merely on the ground of existence of any vacancy, or any defect in the constitution of, the Executive Committee or "General Body", or "Managing Board" as the case may be.

10. (1) The President shall appoint the Chairman of the Society for a term of three years but "he shall hold office at the pleasure of the President:

Provided that no person shall be appointed the Chairman for more than two consecutive terms:

Provided further that any person so appointed, who is not a life member of the Society, shall, within thirty days of such appointment, become a life member of the Society.

(2) The General Body shall, in its Annual General Meeting, elect the "Vice-Chairman "and the Treasurer of the Society in accordance with the provisions of this Order and rules made thereunder"

1. Substituted by Act XXI of 1988 (w.e.f. 23.2.1985) for "Article 78".
2. Inserted by Act No. 14 of 1989
3. Omitted by Act No. 14 of 1989 (the words "and the Treasurer" and "for the Treasurer" appeared in the original text).
4. Substituted by Act No. 14 of 1989
11. (1) The Chairman shall be the Chief Executive of the Society, and in
the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall perform the
functions of the Chairman.

(2) The Treasurer shall control the funds and finances of the
Society and shall ensure maintenance of proper accounts for
purposes of audit.

(3) The accounts of the Society shall be audited annually by an
auditor being a Chartered Accountant within the meaning of the
Bangladesh Chartered Accountants Order, 1973 (P.O. No. 2 of 1973)
appointed by the Managing Board for the purpose, and shall be
maintained, and presented for audit, in such form and manner as
may be prescribed.

12. (1) The Managing Board shall appoint a Secretary-General and a
Deputy Secretary-General of the Society on such terms and
conditions as may be determined by the Managing Board;

Provided that any person so appointed, who is not a life
member of the Society, shall, within thirty days of his
appointment, become a life member of the Society.

(2) There shall be a Secretariat of the Society and the Secretary-
General shall be the head of the Secretariat, and in the
absence of the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-
General shall act as such head and perform all the functions
of the Secretary-General.

(3) The Chairman of the Society may, subject to confirmation by
the Managing Board, make provisional appointment of the
Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General.

13. The General Body shall meet at least once in every Gregorian
calendar year and one such meeting shall be the Annual General
Meeting of the Society.

14. (1) The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall transact the
following business:

(a) adopt the Annual Report of the affairs of the Society to be
presented by the Secretary-General;

(b) pass the Audit Report of the preceding year to be presented
by the Treasurer;

(c) approve of the Annual Budget prepared by the Managing
Board;

(d) when necessary, elect the Vice-Chairman and the Treasurer of
the Society and the members of the Managing Board;"

(e) consider any other matter specially placed before it by any
delegate or the Managing Board in the prescribed manner for
consideration in such meeting.

Substituted by Ordinance No. XLIX of 1975, for sub-clause (d), which was again substituted
by Act No. 14 of 1989 for the words "when necessary elect the Vice-Chairman of the Society
and the elected members of the Managing Board".
15. The General Body shall, in the First Annual General Meeting elect, from amongst the delegates present in the meeting, the Vice-Chairman of the Society and twelve members of the Managing Board for a term of three years; Provided that such elected persons shall hold office as long as they continue to be members of the Society;

16. (1) Until such time as the General Body is constituted the Ad hoc Committee of the Bangladesh Red Cross Society constituted by the Government by order dated the 4th January, 1972, issued by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Welfare, shall be deemed to be the Ad hoc General Body of the Society and shall perform the functions and discharge the duties of the Managing Board till such time as the Managing Board is constituted.

(2) It shall be the duty of the Ad hoc General Body;
(a) to frame Rules under this Order and publish the same in the official Gazette before the 31st day of May, 1973;
(b) to constitute the Unions of the Society before the 30th day of November, 1973; and
(c) to hold the Annual General Meeting of the Society before the 31st day of December, 1973.

(3) If the Ad hoc General Body fails to make the Rules or to constitute the Unions or to hold the Annual General Meeting of the Society within the times specified in clause (2), the President shall dissolve the Ad hoc General Body and shall appoint a new Ad hoc General Body, consisting of not more than fifteen persons who are members of the Society, to discharge the duties under this Article.

(4) The new Ad hoc General Body, if any, appointed under clause (3) shall, function for such period, not exceeding six months, as the President may determine.

17. (1) On the commencement of this Order:
(a) all assets of the Pakistan Red Cross Society in Bangladesh and of the former East Pakistan Provincial Branch and other branches thereof shall stand transferred to and vested in the Society.

Explanation. The expression "assets" includes rights, privileges, authorities, powers and properties, both movable and immovable, including buildings, vehicles, vessels, cash balance, bank deposits, reserve funds, investments, stocks and shares and all interests arising out of such rights, privileges, authorities, powers and properties, and all books of account, registers, records and all other documents;

(b) all debts and liabilities incurred, all obligations undertaken, all contracts entered into and all agreements made by or with the Pakistan Red Cross Society or the former East Pakistan Provincial Branch thereof.

1 The proviso was omitted by Ordinance No. XLIX of 1975
2 Clause 14A was inserted by Act No. 14 of 1976
(2) A copy of the Proceedings of the Annual General Meeting along with the copies of the Annual Report and the Audit Report, as adopted in the meeting, shall be sent to the Government.

2 "14A. Notwithstanding anything contained in this order or rules made thereunder, an election to fill a casual vacancy in the office of Vice-Chairman or Treasurer of the Society or of a member of the Managing Board as mentioned in clause (2) of Article 9A or a general election to the elective officers of the Managing Board as mentioned in clause (3) of Article 9B or as mentioned in clause (4) of Article 9C may, if necessary, be held in any meeting of the General Body."

15. The General Body shall, in the First Annual General Meeting elect, from amongst the delegates present in the meeting, the Vice-Chairman of the Society and twelve members of the Managing Board for a term of three years:

Provided that such elected persons shall hold office as long as they continue to be members of the Society;

16. (1) Until such time as the General Body is constituted the Ad hoc Committee of the Bangladesh Red Cross Society constituted by the Government by order dated the 4th January, 1972, issued by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Welfare, shall be deemed to be the Ad hoc General Body of the Society and shall perform the functions and discharge the duties of the Managing Board till such time as the Managing Board is constituted.

(2) It shall be the duty of the Ad hoc General Body:

(a) to frame Rules under this Order and publish the same in the official Gazette before the 31st day of May, 1973;

(b) to constitute the Units of the Society before the 30th day of November, 1973; and

(c) to hold the Annual General Meeting of the Society before the 31st day of December, 1973.

(3) If the Ad hoc General Body fails to make the Rules or to constitute the Units or to hold the Annual General Meeting of the Society within the times specified in clause (2), the President shall dissolve the Ad hoc General Body and shall appoint a new Ad hoc General Body, consisting of not more than fifteen persons who are members of the Society, to discharge the duties under this Article.

(4) The new Ad hoc General Body, if any, appointed under clause (3) shall, function for such period, not exceeding six months, as the President may determine.

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(a) all assets of the Pakistan Red Cross Society in Bangladesh and of the former East Pakistan Provincial Branch and other branches thereof shall stand transferred to and vested in the Society.

Explanation. - The expression "assets" includes rights, privileges, authorities, powers and properties, both movable and immovable, including buildings, vehicles, vessels, cash balance, bank deposits, reserve funds, investments, stocks and shares and all interests arising out of such rights, privileges, authorities, powers and properties, and all books of account, registers, records and all other documents;

(b) all debts and liabilities incurred, all obligations undertaken, all contracts entered into and all agreements made by or with the Pakistan Red Cross Society or the former East Pakistan Provincial Branch thereof.
(2) The Society may regulate, control and supervise the activities of the affiliated societies or bodies in such manner and for such purposes as may be prescribed.

(3) All societies or bodies in Bangladesh which were affiliated in the Pakistan Red Cross Society or the former East Pakistan Provincial Branch thereof on the 16th day of December, 1971, shall be deemed to have been affiliated to the Society under this Order.

20. The Managing Board may receive and hold gifts of whatsoever description either for the general purposes of the Society or for any particular purpose and on receipt of such gifts may, subject to any rule made under Article 23, apply the same to such purposes, either directly or through the units or the Societies or bodies affiliated under Article 19 or any agency established, by agreement, for any such purpose.

21. The Society may appoint such officers and other employees as it considers necessary for the efficient management of its affairs and business on such terms and conditions as it may determine from time to time.

1[21A. Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force or in any contract or judgment, award or decision of any court or tribunal—

(a) the Society and the institutions, organisations and establishments owned, maintained or managed by it, either singly or jointly with "any Red Cross Organisation or any other Red Crescent Organisation, shall be deemed to be non-profit earning and the service of any person in or under the Society or any such institution, organisation or establishment shall be deemed to be service for the cause of humanity and any remuneration paid for such service shall be deemed to be honourarium;

(b) the Society or any institution, organisation or establishment specified in clause (a) or any office thereof shall not be deemed to be "factory", "shop", "establishment", "commercial establishment", "Industrial establishment" or "industry" within the meaning of the Factories Act, 1965 (E.P. Act IV of 1965), the Shops and Establishments Act, 1965 (E.P. Act VII of 1965), the Employment of Labour (Standing Orders) Act, 1965 (E.P. Act VIII of 1965), or the Industrial Relations Ordinance, 1969 (Ord. XXIII of 1969);

(c) any union or association of the officers or employees of the Society or of any institution, organisation or establishment specified in clause (a) registered or deemed to be registered under the Industrial Relations Ordinance, 1969 (Ord., XXIII of 1969), shall cease to be so registered for the purpose of that Ordinance.]

22. The Society may become a member of any International Organisation having all or any of the objects and purposes set forth in the First Schedule as its objects and purposes.

3[23. (1) The Managing Board may, with the previous approval of the President, make rules, not inconsistent with this Order, to provide for all matters for which provision is necessary or expedient for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of this Order.

1Article 21A was inserted by Act V of 1974
2Substituted by Act XXV of 1988, for "any other Red Cross Organisation" (w.e.f. 4-4-88).
3Substituted by Ordinance No. XLIX of 1975; for Article 23.
(2) All rules made under this Article shall be published in the official Gazette and shall come into force on such publication.

24. The Society shall not be dissolved except by law made for the purpose.

25. The Red Cross Society Act (XV of 1920) is hereby repealed.

FIRST SCHEDULE
(Article 5)

1. Aid to the sick and wounded members of the Armed Forces of Bangladesh in accordance with the terms and spirit of the Geneva Conventions and discharge of other obligations devolving upon the Society under the Conventions as the recognized auxiliary of the Armed Forces Medical Services.

2. Prevention and alleviation of human suffering with complete impartiality, making no discrimination as to nationality, race, sex, religion, belief, class or political opinions.

3. The establishment and maintenance of peace among all nations in accordance with the decisions of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

4. Provision of relief for the mitigation of suffering and distress caused by cyclones, earthquakes, floods, famines, epidemics, civil disturbances and other disasters, whether in Bangladesh or outside.

5. Improvement of health, prevention of disease and mitigation of suffering caused by disease.

6. Providing training in nursing and first-aid

7. Establishing and maintaining maternity and child-welfare institutions.

8. Organising the youth of the country as an effective limb of the Society.


10. Organising work-parties to provide comforts and garments for hospitals and health institutions.

11. Representation of the Society on or at committees or bodies constituted by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement for furthering the objects similar to those of the Society.

12. Other cognate matters as may be approved by the Society from time to time.

1Substituted by Act XXV of 1988, for "International Red Cross Organisation" (w.e.f. 4-4-88)
2Substituted ibid., for "International Red Cross".
## SECOND SCHEDULE

### Article 17(2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name of the Fund</th>
<th>Share of Pakistan Red Cross Society as on 30th June, 1948</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Indian Red Cross Society</td>
<td>Rs. 41,74,208.6-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Indian Forces Medical After care Fund</td>
<td>Rs. 4,81,232.14-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lady Chelmsford All-Indian Maternity and Child-Welfare Bureau – Army Child-Welfare Fund</td>
<td>Rs. 91,225.0-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Victoria Memorial Scholarship Fund</td>
<td>Rs. 1,83,669.4-0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The under-mentioned provision was made by Act No. 14 of 1989:

1. The mentioned Executive Committee and General Body was.
   - (a) The Executive Committee of the mentioned General Body.
   - (b) The Executive Committee of the mentioned General Body.
   - (c) The Executive Committee of the mentioned General Body.

2. The Executive Committee of the mentioned General Body.
   - (a) The Executive Committee of the mentioned General Body.
   - (b) The Executive Committee of the mentioned General Body.
   - (c) The Executive Committee of the mentioned General Body.

3. The Executive Committee of the mentioned General Body.
   - (a) The Executive Committee of the mentioned General Body.
   - (b) The Executive Committee of the mentioned General Body.
   - (c) The Executive Committee of the mentioned General Body.
THE BANGLADESH RED CRESCENT
SOCIETY (ORGANISATION AND
MANAGEMENT) RULES, 1973

1. General

1. These Rules may be called the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (Organisation and Management) Rules, 1973.

2. It shall come into force on the day on which these are published in the Official Gazette.

3. (1) In these Rules the words "General Body", "Managing Board", "President", "Society" and "Unit" shall have the same meaning as in President's Order No. 26 of 1973.

(2) "National Headquarter" means the headquarter of the Society.

4. Any reference to "Order" and "Article" in these Rules, shall mean the President's Order No. 26 of 1973 and Article thereof.

5. Words and terms used in these Rules shall have the same meaning as in the order.

II. Organisation and Management of Unit

6. A unit shall be called by the names of the District in which it is constituted; and a Unit constituted in a City shall be called by the name of that City.

7. * * * * * * * * * *
A Unit shall be a limb of the Society within the local area for which the Unit concerned is constituted and shall, subject to the supervision and control of the National Headquarter, act independently for the attainment of the objects of the Society within its local area.

Subject to the provisions of the Order and Rules framed thereunder, a Unit may admit persons to membership of the Society, raise fund for the objects and purposes of the Society, acquire, hold and transfer movable property] initiate and manage projects and programmes of its own, supervise and manage according to directions given by the National Headquarter, such of the projects and programmes of the National Headquarters within its local area as the National Headquarters may from time to time require and shall do and perform all such other acts and things as may be conducive to the attainment of the objects of the Society for carrying out the purpose for which the Society exists.

(1) First members of the Society and members admitted up to the date of promulgation of the Order shall be given opportunity to opt for enrolling themselves with a Unit of their own choice, within a time to be fixed by the Society and any such member who shall not exercise the option shall be deemed to be enrolled with the Dhaka Urban Unit.

2[Provided that any life-member may apply to the Chairman of the Society to permit him to be enrolled with a Unit other than the one with which he may be enrolled for the present and when such application is allowed, the life-member will be deemed to have been enrolled with the new Unit from the date of the Order and the records of the Society and the concerned Units shall be corrected accordingly.]

(2) All members enrolled under sub-rule (1) and all members admitted hereafter by a Unit shall, so long as they continue to be such members, constitute the Unit concerned.

1. Substituted for the words "property both movable and immovable" vide amendment dated 26 November 1981.

1. **10A.** (1) Members of the Society admitted to the Chittagong District Unit, Khulna District Unit or Rajshahi District Unit before the commencement of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (Amendment) Act, 1989 (১৯৮৯ সালের ১৫ নং আইন) shall be given opportunity to exercise their option in writing, within such time as may be fixed by the Society, as to whether they will admit themselves as members of the Chittagong City Unit, Khulna City Unit or Rajshahi City Unit, as the case may be.

(2) If any such member exercises his option under sub-rule (1), he shall be admitted as member of the City Unit concerned mentioned in the said sub-rule.

(3) If any such member does not exercise his option within the time specified in sub-rule (1) he shall continue to be a member of the District Unit concerned.

2. **11.** (1) Members of the Society admitted by a Unit shall elect from amongst themselves a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary and five of the eight other members of the Executive Committee of the Unit in the Annual General Meeting of the Unit to be held by the 7th December of the year in which such election is necessary;

3. **(3)** Chairman of the Executive Committee of a Unit shall transmit, an authenticated copy of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting or the General Meeting as the case may be, together with the names of the persons elected to the elective offices so as to reach the National Headquarter within seven days of such action.

4. **(5)** When the Executive Committee of the Unit is reconstituted under Article 7(3) it shall follow the same procedure as provided for in this rule.

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1. **Rule 10A** was inserted vide amendment dated 19.4.1990
2. **Rule 11(1)(2)(3)(4)(5)** substituted for rule 11 and its proviso vide amendment dated 25 October 1975. Vide amendment dated 26 November 1981. **Rule 11 (1)** was further substituted and sub-rule (2) and (4) were deleted and the figure and bracket "17A (3)" was substituted for "17(3)" in sub-rule (5). **Rule 11 (1)** was again substituted as it appears now vide amendment dated 19.4.1990.
3. **Substituted vide amendment gazette dated 19.4.1990.**
11(6) Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules,—

(a) a casual vacancy in the elective offices of an Executive Committee mentioned in clause (2) of Article 9A may be filled in any General Meeting of the Unit;

(b) a general election to the elective offices of an Executive Committee mentioned in Clause (3) of Article 9B or a general election to reconstitute an Executive Committee under clause (3) of Article 9C or a general election to reconstitute an Executive Committee of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society under (Amendment) Act, 1989 (পরিবর্তনীয় আইন ১৯৮৯) may be held in any General Meeting of the Unit.

211A. The Executive Committee shall nominate two delegates from amongst themselves to the General Body.

Provided that any vacancy caused in the office of a delegate shall be filled by fresh nomination by the respective Executive Committee.

Provided further that the delegates shall hold office as long as they remain members of the Executive Committee;

Provided further that delegates nominated in the Annual General Meeting for the year 1980 shall hold office till 31st December, 1983.

4. New Sub-rule 11(6) was inserted vide amendment dated 19.4.1990.
6. The words "for a term of 3 years" were deleted vide amendment dated 19.4.1990.
7. Rule 11(6) was inserted as follows vide amendment dated 26 November 1981 but deleted vide amendment dated 19.4.1990:
   "Any vacancy in the Executive Committee shall be filled for a term of three years in the same manner in which they became members of the Executive Committee."
14(2) The National Headquarter may exercise all such powers of supervision and control in the administration and management of the affairs and business of the Units, as may be deemed necessary in the interests of the Society.

(3) Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Unit shall be the Chief Executive of the Unit and in the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall perform the functions of the Chairman.

(4) Secretary of the Unit shall perform the Secretarial functions being in charge of the office of the Unit and shall be responsible for safe custody of all books, documents, and records of the Unit and the maintenance and upkeep of its assets and properties.

(5) Bank account of the Unit shall be operated jointly by the Chairman of the Executive Committee and the Secretary of the Executive Committee and in the absence of the Secretary, by any other member of the Executive Committee duly authorised in that behalf by a resolution of the Executive Committee.

15. (1) General Meeting of the Unit may be held as often as the Executive Committee may deem necessary for proper administration and management of the affairs and business of the Unit and such meetings shall be called Ordinary General Meeting.

(2) One of the General Meetings shall be the Annual General Meeting of the Unit for transacting the business enumerated in Article 14 in relation to the Unit. Annual General Meetings shall be held [within the first week of December] each year.

(3) One-fourth of the members enrolled with a Unit having right of vote, may requisition in writing duly signed by them and addressed to the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Unit, a General Meeting of the Unit to consider any agenda specified in such requisition and the Chairman shall convene the meeting accordingly within 'thirty days' of receipt of the requisition. Such meeting shall be called an Extraordinary General Meeting. In case of failure of the Chairman to convene the meeting, the requisitionists may refer the matter to the National Headquarter and thereupon Chairman of the Society may take such steps as may be necessary in that matter.

(4) One-thirds of the total number of members enrolled with the Unit having right to vote, shall form the quorum of a General Meeting:

1. Rule 14 (1) was deleted vide amendment dated 26 November 1981
Provided that if a General Meeting cannot be held for want of quorum after thirty minutes of the time fixed, the meeting shall be deemed to be adjourned till the next day and such adjourned meeting may be held without a quorum.

16. Notice of all General Meetings shall be issued at least (seven days) before the date of the meeting in such manner as service thereof, sufficiently ahead of the date of meeting is ensured.

17. (1) Executive Committee of the Unit shall meet as often as may be necessary but not less than once in every quarter of a year. Such meeting shall be called Ordinary Meeting.

(2) The Chairman of the Unit may convene an Emergent Meeting of the Managing Committee by issuing a day’s notice on any emergent issue.

(3) Five members of the Executive Committee may requisition in writing, duly signed by them and addressed to the Chairman of the Unit, an Extraordinary Meeting of the Executive Committee to consider any agenda specified in such requisition and on such requisition the provision of sub-rule (3) of rule 15 shall mutatis mutandis apply to such requisition.

(4) The provisions of rule 16 as to notice shall apply in the matter of convening Ordinary and Extraordinary Meetings of the Executive Committee.

(5) *Five* members shall form the quorum of a meeting of the Executive Committee:

Provided that if a meeting of the Executive Committee cannot be held for want of quorum after thirty minutes of the time-fixed; the meeting shall be deemed to be adjourned till the next day and such adjourned meeting may be held without a quorum.

18. (1) All matters of policy and planning and all actions involving expenditure out of the funds of or at the disposal of the Unit, must have the approval of the Executive Committee and any expenditure made which is not covered by any general or special authorisation of the Executive Committee shall be a personal liability of the office-bearer or office-bearers responsible for incurring the unauthorised expenditure.

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1. Submitted for the words "fifteen days" vide amendment dated 25 October 1975
2. The words "Four members" were substituted for "Five members" vide amendment dated 25 Oct, 75 which was further substituted by "Five members" vide amendment dated 26 Nov, 1981.
(2) Minutes of the General Meeting and meetings of the executive Committee, duly signed by the Chairman of such meeting, shall be maintained as permanent record of the Unit and authenticated copy of such minutes shall be transmitted by registered post to all members of the Executive Committee and the National Headquarter within a month of the meeting.

19. The Executive Committee of the Unit may appoint such officers and other employees as may be considered necessary for the efficient management of its affairs and business, on such terms and conditions as it may determine from time to time and remuneration of such officers and employees shall be paid out of the funds of the Unit.

III. Membership of Society

20. Any adult citizen of Bangladesh who subscribes to the principles of Red Cross and desires to serve, may apply to the Unit within the local limits of which he is ordinarily residing or carrying on business, for membership of the Society.

21. There shall be the following grades of members of the Society:

   (i) Life Member
   (ii) Annual Member
   (iii) Institutional Member
   (iv) Honorary Member
   (v) Associate Member

22. Application for membership of the first three grades shall be made in form approved by the Managing Board. No formal application is necessary for being admitted as an Associate Member.

23. All such applications for membership shall be allowed within fifteen days of receipt thereof unless the applicant is-

   (i) Insane, or
   (ii) adjudged insolvent, or
   (iii) a person who has been convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude, or
   (iv) a person who is a member of any other organisation, society or body, the basic principles of which are at variance with those of the Society.

24. An adverse decision of the Unit on an application for membership shall be communicated to the applicant at once by registered post:
Provided that any applicant whose application has been refused, may prefer an appeal to the Managing Board within fifteen days after receipt of communication of such refusal and the decision of the Managing Board on such appeal shall be final;

Provided further that the Managing Board shall dispose of such appeal within thirty days after receipt of the petition of appeal and shall communicate decision to the appellant and the Unit concerned at once by registered post.

25. (1) The General Body may, on the recommendation of the Managing Board, confer Honorary Membership of the Society to any person for life for distinguished service to the Society or to the cause for which it exists.

(2) Certificate of such membership shall be presented ceremonially by the President.

(3) Honorary Member shall be entitled to attend the meetings of the General Body and participate in its deliberations without right to move a motion or to vote therein.

26. Life Member shall pay a membership fee of Taka Five Hundred to the Society at a time of admission and shall not be liable to pay anything more by way of membership fee thereafter. Membership of a Life Member shall continue till death and such member shall be entitled to attend the General Meetings of the Unit concerned and to vote therein.

27. (1) Annual Member shall pay a membership fee of Taka Twenty to the Society at a time, at the time of admission and shall not be liable to pay anything more by way of fee in the year for which membership is granted. Such member shall be entitled to attend the General Meetings of the Unit concerned and to vote therein.

(2) Any commercial or industrial establishment within the local area of the Unit may apply for membership of the Society as an Institution. Such application shall be made under the signature of the head of the establishment in the form specified for the purpose. Membership fee of Taka five hundred shall be paid by the Institution at a time, at the time of admission and such institutional Member shall not be liable to pay anything.
more by way of fee in the year for which Membership is granted. The head of the establishment or other person of the establishment duly authorised in writing by the head of the establishment shall be entitled to attend the General Meetings of the Unit concerned and to vote therein.

28. Membership of an Annual and Institutional Member shall cease if not renewed on payment of the respective fee within the first quarter of every year.

29. Associate Member shall pay an annual subscription of Taka five to the Society. Such member shall be entitled to participate in the activities of the Unit concerned but shall not be entitled to attend the General Meeting of the Unit.

30. Every Unit shall make a membership drive in the first quarter of each Calendar year and shall send a complete list of members admitted up to the end of March, to the National Headquarter by the 30th April.

31. No member shall be eligible to be a candidate for any elective office of an Executive Committee or to vote in an election to such elective office unless a period of sixty days, in the case the election is to be held in an Annual General Meeting, or a period of seven days, in the case the election is to be held in a General Meeting, has elapsed from the date of his admission as member."

32. Certificates of membership for members of grades 2(i) ... shall be issued by the National Headquarter and the Unit shall distribute the same to members concerned. No certificate shall be issued in respect of the 2 [members of other grades] and the receipt of payment of subscription shall be proof of such Membership.


2. The words and figures to (iii) after the word and figure grades (i) were omitted.

3. The words "members of other grades" were substituted for the words "Associate Member" vide amendment dated 25 Oct 1975.
IV. General Meetings of Society

33. A meeting of the General Body is the General Meeting of the Society, which may be of three kinds:

(a) Ordinary General Meeting
(b) Annual General Meeting
(c) Extraordinary General Meeting

34. A meeting of the General Body held on requisition, either of the President or of the members of the General Body under Rule 43, shall be Extraordinary General Meeting and all other meetings of the General Body, other than the one convened for transacting business specified in Article 14, shall be Ordinary General Meeting.

35. Annual General Meeting shall be held at [Dhaka] and other General Meetings may be held at Dhaka or at such other place as the Managing Board may decide.

36. Notice of all General Meetings shall be issued by registered post to the postal addresses of the members as on record, clear fifteen days before the date of the meeting. Such notice shall also be published in at least four leading dailies not less than seven days before the date of the meeting.

37. Notice of meeting shall specify the date, time and place of the meeting and shall contain the agenda of business to be transacted.

38. No business other than what are specified in the agenda shall be transacted in any meeting.

39. Chairman and in his absence the Vice-Chairman shall preside over a General Meeting which may not be presided over by the President. If both are absent from the meeting members present may elect any one from amongst themselves to preside over the meeting.

40. (a) One-thirds of the total number of members of the General Body shall form the quorum for General Meeting. In calculating one-thirds fraction shall be ignored.
   (b) If a meeting cannot be held for want of quorum thirty minutes after the time fixed for the meeting, it shall be deemed to have been adjourned till the next day and such adjourned meeting may be held without a quorum.

41. All questions on which unanimity cannot be reached, shall be decided by vote of the members present, taken by show of hand or by ballot as the Chairman of the meeting may decide in the interest of the Society. Chairman of the meeting may cast a second vote in case of equality of votes on any question.

1 The word "Dhaka" was substituted for the words "Dacca" vide amendment gazette dated 19.4.1990.
A true account of the proceedings of General Meetings shall be kept by the Secretary-General and minutes of such meeting duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting, shall be maintained as permanent record of the Society and copies of such minutes shall be transmitted by registered post to the President and all members of the General Body within a month.

Upon requisition in writing, duly signed by one-fourths of the members of the General Body addressed to the Chairman, to convene a General Meeting for the consideration of agenda specified in such requisition, the Chairman shall convene an Extraordinary General Meeting within a month from the receipt of the requisition.

(a) Managing Board may by a resolution decide to include any matter in the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting before the notice of the Annual General Meeting is issued and such matter shall be included in the agenda of the Annual General Meeting.

(b) Any Delegate or other member of the General Body may send a notice in writing to the Chairman of the Society requesting for the inclusion of any matter in the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting. Such notice must reach the Chairman [before the 15th December] of the year in question. Such matter shall, if approved by the Managing Board, be included in the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting of the year.

V. Managing Board of Society

Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer of the Society shall be deemed to be members of the Managing Board so long they hold their respective offices.

Meetings of the Managing Board, held on requisition of the members, shall be called Extraordinary Meeting and those held at the instance of the Chairman, after due notice to all members, shall be called Ordinary Meetings.

In case of any emergency, the Chairman of the Society may convene an Emergent Meeting of the Managing Board by issuing one day's notice to the members of the Managing Board.

Unless otherwise decided by the Managing Board, all meetings thereof shall be held in the National Headquarter of the Society.

(1) Notice of Ordinary and Extraordinary meeting of the Managing Board shall be issued by registered post to the postal addresses of all members or be served otherwise, ten days before the date of meeting.

(2) Notice shall specify the date, time and place of the meeting and shall contain the agenda of business to be transacted therein.

(3) No business other than what are specified in the agenda shall be transacted in any meeting.

Chairman and in his absence the Vice-Chairman, and in the absence of both the Treasurer shall preside over a meeting of the Managing Board. When none of the three are present, members present may elect any one from amongst themselves to preside over the meeting.

(a) One-thirds of the members shall form quorum of meetings of the Managing Board. (b) If a meeting cannot be held for want of quorum, thirty minutes after the time fixed, it shall be deemed to have been adjourned till the next day and such adjourned meeting may be held without a quorum.

All questions on which unanimity cannot be reached, shall be decided by vote taken by show of hand. Chairman of the meeting may cast a second vote in case of equality of votes on any question.

A true account of the proceedings of the meetings of the Managing Board shall be kept by the Secretary-General and minutes of such meeting, duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting, shall be maintained as permanent record of the Society and copies of such minutes shall be transmitted by registered post or other method for ensuring proper service to the President and all members of the Managing Board within fifteen days.

Upon requisition in writing, duly signed by one-thirds of the members of the Managing Board addressed to the Chairman, to convene a meeting of the Managing Board for consideration of agenda specified in such requisition, the Chairman shall convene an Extraordinary Meeting within a month from the receipt of the requisition.

All matters of policy and planning and all actions involving expenditure out of the funds of the Society must have the approval of the Managing Board and any expenditure made which is not covered by any general or special authorisation of the Managing Board shall be a personal liability of the office bearer responsible for incurring the unauthorised expenditure.
(1) Notice of Ordinary and Extraordinary meeting of the Managing Board shall be issued by registered post to the postal addresses of all members or be served otherwise, ten days before the date of meeting.

(2) Notice shall specify the date, time and place of the meeting and shall contain the agenda of business to be transacted therein.

(3) No business other than what are specified in the agenda shall be transacted in any meeting.

Chairman and in his absence the Vice-Chairman, and in the absence of both the Treasurer shall preside over a meeting of the Managing Board. When none of the three are present, members present may elect any one from amongst themselves to preside over the meeting.

(a) One-thirds of the members shall form quorum of meetings of the Managing Board. (b) If a meeting cannot be held for want of quorum, thirty minutes after the time fixed, it shall be deemed to have been adjourned till the next day and such adjourned meeting may be held without a quorum.

All questions on which unanimity cannot be reached, shall be decided by vote taken by show of hand. Chairman of the meeting may cast a second vote in case of equality of votes on any question.

A true account of the proceedings of the meetings of the Managing Board shall be kept by the Secretary-General and minutes of such meeting, duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting, shall be maintained as permanent record of the Society and copies of such minutes shall be transmitted by registered post or other method for ensuring proper service to the President and all members of the Managing Board within fifteen days.

Upon requisition in writing, duly signed by one-thirds of the members of the Managing Board addressed to the Chairman, to convene a meeting of the Managing Board for consideration of agenda specified in such requisition, the Chairman shall convene an Extraordinary Meeting within a month from the receipt of the requisition.

All matters of policy and planning and all actions involving expenditure out of the funds of the Society must have the approval of the Managing Board and any expenditure made which is not covered by any general or special authorisation of the Managing Board shall be a personal liability of the office bearer responsible for incurring the unauthorised expenditure.
VI. Accounts and Audit

56. Financial year of the Society shall be from 1st January to 31st December.

57. (1) Proper accounts of all financial transactions of the Society shall be maintained according to modern mercantile system of accounting.

(2) All books of account and all documents, vouchers and papers in connection therewith shall be preserved for the purpose of audit of such accounts and such books, documents, vouchers and papers shall not be destroyed after audit has been completed, except on the approval of the Managing Board.

58. [Except in case of exigency arising due to circumstances beyond the control of the Society, auditing of the accounts of a financial year shall be completed in all respects by the 30th September of the next financial year]

59. (1) Rules under this chapter shall apply to accounts of the Units and audit thereof.

(2) Costs of audit of the account of Units shall be borne out of the funds of respective Unit.

VII. Gifts, Donations and Membership Fee

60. (1) Gifts and donations received or collected by a Unit for any specific programme or project of such Unit shall be appropriated by the Unit concerned.

(2) All other monetary gifts and donations received or collected by a Unit at its own instance, shall be shared between the Unit concerned and the National Headquarters in the proportion of eighty and twenty percent respectively, but gifts and donations collected by a Unit during a Fund Raising Campaign undertaken by the National Headquarters, shall be shared between the Unit concerned and the National Headquarters in the proportion of twenty and eighty per cent respectively.

61. All fees and subscriptions for membership of the Society, realised by a Unit, shall be shared between the Unit concerned and the National Headquarters in the proportion of eighty and twenty per cent respectively.

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2. Substituted ibid for sub-rule (2).
3. Substituted ibid for the words "twenty and eighty."
VIII. Assets and Funds of Former Branches

62. (1) Until such time the Managing Board may decide as to the purpose and the manner of disposal of the assets of the former district and other branches, vested under Article 17.

Such assets shall remain as it is, the assets of the National Headquarters.

(2) Managing Board may, after constitution of the Units, take such decision on hearing the Units concerned in respect of any such assets, as may be deemed fit in the interest of the Society.

IX. Affiliation of other Organisations

63. (1) Any other organisation or body having and pursuing all or any of the objects and purposes as enumerated in Article 5, may apply for being affiliated with the Society and such application shall be made in form approved by the Managing Board.

(2) Such application shall be scrutinised thoroughly, before being considered by the Managing Board and may be allowed if two-thirds of the members of the Managing Board so decide.

64. Allocation to and distribution of funds and materials, through or with the assistance of affiliated organisations and bodies, shall be done according to general or special instructions issued from time to time by the National Headquarters to such organisations and bodies under the authority of the Managing Board.

65. All funds and materials so allocated and distributed through affiliated organisations and bodies shall be subject to all rules of accounting and audit of the Society.

X. Miscellaneous

66. (1) Common Seal of the Society shall be of such form, size and design as may be decided in the first Annual General Meeting of the Society.

(2) The Treasurer and in his absence the Secretary-General shall be the custodian of the Common Seal.

(3) Common Seal shall not be affixed to a document or instrument except under the authority of a resolution of the Managing Board and shall be affixed only in the presence of one member of the Managing Board and the Secretary-General or other Officer of the Society duly authorised in this behalf.
67. Subject to the provision of clause (2) of Article 23, rules may be framed and amendment of these Rules may be made by the Managing Board with the approval of two-thirds of the total number of members thereof.

68. All disputes arising out of or in connection with or relating to any matter of organisation, election, management, etc. of the Society shall be resolved by the Managing Board and when the Managing Board itself is involved in the dispute, by the President, and member or members of any Unit shall not take any such matter to the Court of law for decision.

69. In any matter of organisation and management the decision of the Managing Board on questions not provided for in these Rules, shall be final.

70. Managing Board may make Standing Orders for proper understanding and execution of rules made in exercise of powers under Article 23 and such Standing Orders shall have effect as the Managing Board may decide.