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GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

T. O. & C. L. Section

NOTIFICATION

Dhaka, the 24th April, 1985

No. S.R.O. 195-L/85.—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 23 of the Trade Organisations Ordinance, 1961 (XLV of 1961), and in supersession of all other rules made in this behalf, the Government is pleased to make the following rules, namely :—

THE TRADE ORGANISATIONS RULES, 1985.

1. Short title.—These rules may be called The Trade Organisations Rules, 1985.

2. Definitions.—In these rules, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

- (a) "Association" means an Association of trade or industry or of both, organised on all-Bangladesh basis, to represent specific trades or industries or both, and licenced under the Ordinance and registered under the Act;
- (b) "Chamber" means—(i) a Chamber of Industry organised on all-Bangladesh basis to represent Industries, or (ii) a Chamber of Commerce and Industry organised to represent trades and industries of specific areas and licenced under the Ordinance and registered under the Act;

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- (c) "Federation" means the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry organised on all-Bangladesh basis to represent Chambers and Associations and licenced under the Ordinance and registered under the Act ;
- (d) "Group" means a group organised to represent specific trades or industries, or both, of specific areas and licenced under the Ordinance and registered under the Act ;
- (e) "Ordinance" means the Trade Organisations Ordinance, 1961 (XLV of 1961); and
- (f) "Town Association" means an association organised to represent trades and industries at a place where there is no Chamber of Commerce and Industry and are licenced under the Ordinance and registered under the Act.

**3. Classification of Chambers and Associations.—**(1) The Chambers shall be classified as follows :—

- (a) the Chambers having four classes of members and minimum rates of admission fee and annual subscription as fixed in rule 4(1) shall be classified as "A" class Chambers :

Provided that a Chamber which is affiliated with the Federation as "A" class Chamber before the commencement of these rules shall continue as "A" class Chamber subject to the minimum rates of admission fee and annual subscription fixed in rule 4(1) remaining the same; and

- (b) the Chambers having four classes of members or less and the minimum rates of admission fee and annual subscription as fixed in rule 4(2) shall be classified as "B" class Chambers.
- (2) The Associations shall be classified as follows :—
- (a) the Associations having the minimum rates of admission fee and annual subscription as fixed in rules 4(3) shall be classified as "A" class Associations; and
  - (b) the Associations having the minimum rates of admission fee and annual subscription as fixed in rule 4(4) shall be classified as "B" class Associations.

**4. Class of members and rates of minimum admission fee and annual subscription.—**(1) Rates of minimum admission fee and annual subscription for an "A" class Chamber shall be as follows:—

| Class of members.           | Minimum admission fee. | Minimum annual subscription. |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
|                             | Taka.                  | Taka.                        |
| (a) Ordinary member ... ..  | 1,000.00               | 1,000.00                     |
| (b) Associate member ... .. | 500.00                 | 500.00                       |
| (c) Town Association ... .. | 2,000.00               | 2,000.00                     |
| (d) Group ... ..            | 2,000.00               | 2,000.00                     |

(2) Rates of minimum admission fee and annual subscription for a "B" class Chamber shall be as follows :—

| Class of members.    |        | Minimum admission fee. | Minimum annual subscription. |
|----------------------|--------|------------------------|------------------------------|
|                      |        | Taka.                  | Taka.                        |
| (a) Ordinary member  | ... .. | 500.00                 | 500.00                       |
| (b) Associate member | ... .. | 250.00                 | 250.00                       |
| (c) Town Association | ... .. | 1,000.00               | 1,000.00                     |
| (d) Group            | ... .. | 1,000.00               | 1,000.00                     |

(3) Rates of minimum admission fee and annual subscription for an "A" class Association shall be as follows :—

| Class of members.    |        | Minimum admission fee: | Minimum annual subscription. |
|----------------------|--------|------------------------|------------------------------|
|                      |        | Taka.                  | Taka.                        |
| (a) Ordinary member  | ... .. | 1,000.00               | 1,000.00                     |
| (b) Associate member | ... .. | 500.00                 | 500.00                       |
| (c) Group            | ... .. | 2,000.00               | 2,000.00                     |

(4) Rates of minimum admission fee and annual subscription for a "B" class Association shall be as follows :—

| Class of members.    |        | Minimum admission fee. | Minimum annual subscription. |
|----------------------|--------|------------------------|------------------------------|
|                      |        | Taka.                  | Taka.                        |
| (a) Ordinary member  | ... .. | 500.00                 | 500.00                       |
| (b) Associate member | ... .. | 250.00                 | 250.00                       |
| (c) Group            | ... .. | 1,000.00               | 1,000.00                     |

(5) Rates of minimum admission fee and annual subscription for the Federation shall be as follows :—

| Class of members.     |        | Minimum admission fee. | Minimum annual subscription. |
|-----------------------|--------|------------------------|------------------------------|
|                       |        | Taka.                  | Taka.                        |
| "A" class Chamber     | ... .. | 5,000.00               | 17,500.00                    |
| "B" class Chamber     | ... .. | 3,000.00               | 12,500.00                    |
| "A" class Association | ... .. | 2,000.00               | 10,000.00                    |
| "B" class Association | ... .. | 1,500.00               | 5,000.00                     |

(6) Rates of minimum admission fee and annual subscription for Town Association and Groups shall be as follows

| Class of members.            | Minimum admission fee. | Minimum annual subscription. |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
|                              | Taka.                  | Taka.                        |
| (a) Ordinary member ... ..   | 250·00                 | 250·00                       |
| (b) Associate member, ... .. | 125·00                 | 125·00                       |

5. **Affiliation with the Federation.**—(1) All Chambers and Associations shall become affiliated to the Federation in accordance with its Memorandum and Articles of Association within sixty days from the date of issue of licence or such further date as may be granted by the Government.

(2) If any Chamber or Association fails to affiliate itself to the Federation or having affiliated, fails to pay the annual subscription of the Federation, the Government may on its own motion or on receipt of a report from the Federation, cancel the licence of such Chamber or Association under section 4 of the Ordinance.

6. **Affiliation of Town Association and Group with Chamber.**—(1) All Town Associations and Groups shall be affiliated to the Chamber set up in the area in which their head offices are located or, if there is no such Chamber, with the nearest Chamber within sixty days from the date of issue of licence or such further date as may be granted by the Government.

(2) If any Town Association or Group fails to affiliate itself with the Chamber or having affiliated, fails to pay the annual subscription to the Chamber, the Government may, on its own motion or on receipt of a report from the concerned Chamber, cancel the licence of such Town Association or Group under section 4 of the Ordinance.

7. **Privileges of the registered trade organisation.**—The registered trade organisations shall be entitled to the privileges enumerated below:—

- (a) *Proper consideration of their views.*—The views and suggestions of the registered trade organisations on various problems and issues concerning trade, commerce and industry of the country will receive due consideration of the Government.
- (b) *Consultation.*—The Government may consult the registered trade organisations on matters affecting trade, commerce and industry;
- (c) *Free supply of certain publications.*—The registered trade organisations will regularly be supplied free of cost with one copy each of all notifications, press communiques and circulars of commercial interest by the Government;
- (d) *Certifications of origin, measurement, weight, etc.*—Registered Chambers and Associations of trade and industry will be designated to issue certificates of origin, measurement and weight in accordance with the requirements of trade and commerce in general or of specific commodities or products in particular; and

- (e) *Affiliation with or participation in conference on bodies abroad.*—The Federation may seek affiliation with any organisation abroad or send representatives or observers to meetings or conference of similar bodies held in foreign countries with prior approval of the Government.

#### Compulsory Membership

8. Any person, partnership firm, company or concern engaged in the export, import or any other trade or owning a factory who pays or is liable to pay income-tax shall compulsorily become a member of any of the following trade organisations:—

- (i) Any person, partnership firm, company or concern engaged in a particular trade or industry, irrespective of where his or its place of business is located, shall become a member of an Association representing that trade or industry and if such person, firm, company or concern is engaged in more than one trade or industry he or it may become a member of more than one Association.
- (ii) The person, firm, company or concern shall be free to become a member of the Chamber of the area in which his or its head office is located and if the firm, company or concern has a branch office in an area other than that in which its head office is located, it may also become member of the Chamber of the area in which its branch office is located;
- (iii) If there is no Association representing the trade or industry in which a person, firm, company or concern is engaged, he or it shall become member of the Chamber of the area where such person, firm, company or concern is engaged in the trade or industry.

By order of the President

ABU SAYED CHOUDHURY,

*Joint Secretary.*