

The Human Trafficking Prevention Fund Rules 2017

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 46, read with section 42, of the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act 2012 (Act No. 3 of 2012), the Government is pleased to make the following rules, namely:—

1. Short Title.— These rules may be called the Human Trafficking Prevention Fund Rules, 2017.

2. Definitions.— (1) In these Rules, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context, —

(a) “Act” means the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act 2012 (Act No. 3 of 2012);

(b) “Fund” means the Human Trafficking Prevention Fund constituted under rule 3; and

(c) “Authority” means the National Anti-Human-Trafficking Authority established in fulfillment of the purpose of section 43 of the Act.

(2) The words and expressions that have not been defined in these Rules shall have the same meaning as have been ascribed to them by the Act.

3. Constitution of the Human Trafficking Prevention Fund.— (1) For the purpose of preventing and suppressing human trafficking and fulfilling other purposes of the Act, there shall be constituted a fund to be called ‘the Human Trafficking Prevention Fund’, which shall consist of moneys received from sources enumerated in sub-section (2) of section 42 of the Act.

4. Operation and management of the Fund.— The operation and management of the Fund shall vest in the National Anti-Human-Trafficking Authority.

5. Defrayal of expenditure of the Authority, etc.— (1) For the purpose of fulfilling the objectives of the Act and these Rules, all essential and ancillary expenses of the Authority may be defrayed out of the Fund.

(2) While defraying the expenses of the Authority, rules, principles and instructions of the Government, issued from time to time, concerning public spending and procurement, whatever may be applicable, shall have to be followed.

(3) The Authority shall keep a registrar of its expenditure.

6. Defrayal of expenditure of the central monitoring cell.— For the purposes of fulfilling the objectives of the Act and ensuring efficient functioning of the Authority, expenses of the Central Monitoring Cell may be defrayed out of the Fund.

Explanation.— “Central Monitoring Cell” means the ‘central monitoring cell’ formed under sub-section (6) of section 19 of the Act.

7. Bank-account of the Fund.— The Authority shall open a bank-account in the name of the Fund in any scheduled bank, and the transactions of the said account shall be transacted with the joint signatures of the Chairman of the Authority and one of its members to be nominated by the Authority.

Explanation.— In these Rules, “scheduled bank” means a ‘Scheduled Bank’ as defined in Article 2(j) of the Bangladesh Bank Order, 1972 (P.O. No. 127 of 1972).

8. Budget, accounts, and audit. .—(1) The Authority shall prepare, in each year, an estimation of the amount of money that may be spent from the Fund, and shall send the Government a report on the amount of financial grant that might be needed therefrom for this purpose.

(2) The Authority shall maintain the accounts of the Fund duly and shall prepare an annual statement of accounts.

(3) The Comptroller and Auditor-General shall in each year audit the accounts of the Authority and shall send a copy of the audit-report each to the Government and the Authority.

9. Financial assistance out of the Fund, etc.— Without prejudice to the provisions of rule 5, the Government may, in fulfillment of the objectives of Chapter V of the Act, especially sections 33 and 40, provide financial assistance to victims of human-trafficking and other concerned persons by drawing moneys, through the Authority, from the Fund.