



Rules on Funding SAI Activities (CC/09/08) No. 12 Rev: 0 – Yr 2010

SATHYA SAI BABA CENTRAL COUNCIL OF MALAYSIA ("COUNCIL")

Rules on Funding SAI Activities

" I must tell you that for such good causes as this you should not collect money in devious ways. Help should come from pious hearts, from well earned money, from persons who know and appreciate the purpose for which they give"

" Your duty is only to inform; do not try even to persuade; begging for the sake of work which is inherently good is an insult to human nature; the man who ask and the man who is asked are both demeaned"

- Sathya Sai Baba -

1. Objective

- 1.1. The main objective of this document is to provide clear procedures and rules to all Sathya Sai Baba Centres ("Centres"), Bhajan Units ("BUs") and devotees on how to fund SAI activities.
- 1.2. Primarily, it is the responsibility of all Sathya Sai Baba Office Bearers to ensure that both devotees and the general public have a clear understanding that the Sathya Sai Baba Organisation is not connected with any solicitation of donations.

2. Overview

2.1. Sathya Sai Baba Centres / Bhajan Units

- 2.1.1 The Centres/BUs concerned shall independently fund all SAI activities.
- 2.1.2 Should any Center/BU embark on a major project (project with a sizeable expenditure which is not a norm), they would need the written approval of the Council e.g. purchase of property, setting up of dialysis center or medical clinic etc. This requirement is to ensure the sustainability of the project concerned.

2.2. State Level Activities

- 2.2.1 All activities carried out at State Level shall be funded by the State concerned. All expenses for such activities shall be shared amongst the Centres/BUs of the State.
- 2.2.2 It is recommended that joint activities should be decided by the State Co-ordinator in consultation with the Centers/BUs before initiating the event.
- 2.2.3 To facilitate the accounting of such activities at State level, all funding records (receipts and payments) shall be parked at a particular Centre to be agreed upon at the State meeting.
- 2.2.4 A financial report of the State activities shall be presented and adopted at the State meeting.

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2.3. *National*

- 2.3.1 All National or Overseas SAI activities, which are carried out under the auspices of Council will require the prior approval of the EXCO before it is launched. A concept paper together with a detailed budget shall be tabled for approval with clear timeline by the coordinator concerned.
- 2.3.2 The main purpose of this requirement is to ensure that funds for the activities and expenditure are controlled and not over spent.
- 2.3.3 To facilitate the accounting of such activities, all the funding records (receipts and payments) shall be parked under an authorized account under the Council.
- 2.3.4 A financial report of the activities shall be presented by the coordinator concerned and adopted at the EXCO meeting.

3. **Methods to Fund SAI Activities**

- 3.1 All donations/contributions received should be from devotees or well wishers wanting to donate on their own accord without any persuasion, compulsion or solicitation i.e. all donations should strictly be on their own accord.
- 3.2 Encourage all devotees to save through *Ceiling on Desire programs* and such savings can be used to fund SAI activities.
- 3.3 Devotees and well wishers may voluntarily assign their savings, insurance policies or assets via a "WILL" or assignment to the Council/Centres/BUs, provided that it is done legally.
- 3.4 Where government grant, aid, landed property are available, Centres may apply for them with the endorsement of the State coordinator and shall be forwarded to the Council Secretariat for approval. The Centre official obtaining the grant, aid, landed property shall be responsible to maintain proper accounting records and have them audited before submitting the relevant documents and audited accounts to the relevant authority with a copy to Council within the prescribed timeline
- 3.5 Vegetarian food fairs can be organised with the aim of promoting vegetarianism for devotees and well wishers provided that the food is reasonably priced to cover cost. Profit should not be the motive.
- 3.6 SAI literature, spiritual religious literature, pictures of SAI and souvenir items can be sold to SAI devotees and individuals seeking to know SAI. However it should be reasonably priced to cover cost.
- 3.7 Centres/BUs are allowed to keep a donation box. However it should not be displayed prominently i.e. it should not be placed at the entrance of the prayer hall OR in front of the altar.
- 3.8 With the aim of promoting awareness of conservation, recycling programs can be organised by devotees at Centres/BUs.
- 3.9 The Centre Treasurer must acknowledge ALL donations by issuing official receipts to the donors. For collections from the donation box, the treasurer should issue receipt to the Chairman of the Center who should witness the counting of the collections in the donation box.

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4. Disapproved Methods to Fund SAI Activities.

- 4.1 No solicitation of donations or contributions in any way and/or by circular letters to the general public for donations by using the name of the Council/Centre/BU or Sathya SAI.
- 4.2 No organising or co-organising or participating in any form of public events under the name of Council/Centre/BU or Sathya SAI with the intention to raise funds.
- 4.3 There should be no persuasion or compulsion of any SAI devotee or well wisher to donate for any SAI activity.
- 4.4 No organising of dinners, dance shows or musical shows or any form of program in the name of Sathya SAI with the intention to raise funds.
- 4.5 No holding of fun fares and jumble sales under the name of Sathya SAI with the intention to raise funds from the general public.
- 4.6 Centres/BUs (in the name of the SAI Organization) must not be involved in any charity fund raising activities with other NGO's/Government ministries.

Please ensure that this message is read out to devotees at all Centers and Bhajan Units so that every one is aware of the Rules on Funding SAI Activities

Thank you.

Yours In Sai Service



Bro Anil Kumar
Chairman
Funding Committee



Bro Billy Fong
President
SSBCC of Malaysia