



## THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF MUMBAI

Town Hall, Mumbai 400 001

**220<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**  
**Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2024, at 3.30 p.m.**

### **NOTICE**

1. As per the Resolution No. 15 passed in the 205<sup>th</sup> AGM (21<sup>st</sup> August, 2009), the Annual Report of the Society for the year 2023-2024 (containing the Audited Statement of Accounts) and the minutes of the previous AGM of 2023 (219<sup>th</sup> AGM held on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2023) and also the minutes of the Special General Body Meeting held on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2024) are being sent to the Members by e-mail.
2. The printed copy of the Annual Report (2023-2024) and the minutes of the previous AGM of 2023 (219<sup>th</sup> AGM held on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2023) and also the minutes of the Special General Body Meeting held on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2024, will also be available at the venue of the AGM on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
3. Members are requested to intimate to the office in writing, within 30 days after the AGM, their desire to have a hard copy of the draft minutes of the AGM, 2024.
4. According to Rule No.4 of the Rules and Regulations of the Society, the following categories of Members of the Society are entitled to attend the Society's AGM and vote – **Resident, Resident Life, Non-Resident, Non-Resident Life, Patron Life Member, Donor Life Member & the Head of the Member Institute (in case of Institutional Membership).**
5. Every member should bring his/her **ORIGINAL I-CARD** along with him/her at the time of the AGM (**NO PHOTOCOPY / DIGITAL COPY / SOFT COPY WILL BE ACCEPTED**). No member will be allowed in the meeting without an I-card (IN ORIGINAL).
6. Please note that members' who are defaulters will not be allowed to attend the AGM.
7. Please pay your subscription **before 28<sup>th</sup> September 2024**. (Kindly ignore if payment is already made.)

**Place: Town Hall, Mumbai**  
**Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2024**

**Prof. Mangala Sirdeshpande**  
**Hon. Secretary**

**P.T.O.....**  
**For AGM Agenda Item No. 7**

**Contd. p/2....**

## AGENDA

### Item No.7: To consider the resolutions

#### 7A. Proposed Resolution (From the Managing Committee):

The Managing Committee unanimously recommends the following resolution to the General Body for approval:

- 7A.1 The Managing Committee decided to place before the General Body at the forthcoming AGM the following Resolution for conferring the Honorary Fellowship of the Society on six distinguished persons, unanimously passed by the Managing Committee:

**“Resolution that the Managing Committee recommends that the AGM may elect as Honorary Fellows of the Society the following six distinguished persons:**

1. Dr. Amitav Ghosh
2. Dr. Arvind Jamkhedkar
3. Dr. Kumud Kanitkar
4. Anand Mahindra
5. Shashi Tharoor
6. Dr. Maneesha Tikekar

**Proposed by:** Prof. Mangala Sirdeshpande

**Seconded by:** Mrs. Meenal Kshirsagar

*A brief introduction of the distinguished persons will be circulated at the AGM.*

#### 7B. Proposed Resolution (From Members):

The following resolutions submitted by the members before the General Body Meeting for consideration. The comments of the Managing Committee on the resolutions are given at appropriate places below:

- 7B.1 In view of the current precarious financial condition of the Asiatic Society of Mumbai (ASM) as well as in view of the lack of suitable options, and also with a view to secure the future of (ASM) for future generations, the Managing Committee of ASM must approach the Government of India, through the Governor of Maharashtra, who is a Patron of ASM by virtue of the position, for securing the status of 'Institute of National Importance' for ASM, at the earliest.

#### ***Explanatory note:***

*It is a known fact that ASM is caught in a critical condition of dire financial difficulties for a few years, which is not showing any sign of ebbing. No actions for lifting ASM out of that state seem to have been taken by the people, who are supposed to have taken them by virtue of the positions of responsibility they have been holding for a good number of years. There is not even a single proposal of that kind on hand, as on date. Recently, on the occasion of a book-launch event on 23/08/24 at ASM, President Mrs. Balaporia confirmed it in front of a gathering of around hundred people, including both members and non-members, saying that ASM would have to be closed down in near future if it did not receive enough grants. Hence this resolution!*

**Proposed by:** Mr. Pulind Samant

**Seconded by:** Mr. Manoj V. Kulkarni

#### **Managing Committee's Comments:**

**This suggestion has been communicated to the Government authorities in the past. In spite of reminders, no response was received.**

7B.2 **Resolved that the members be given an option to borrow books through courier service on payment basis.**

**Explanatory note:**

*ASM has a good collection of books of Literary and Scholastic value. Most of its members are not in a position to visit ASM to obtain books in person as many stay in distant suburbs. Hence the average number of members visiting ASM Library is between 5 to 10 a day. Thus, if we look into the figures of those who regularly come and take books it is not more than 30 in number in a year. This low rate of usage of Library's lending facility is due to distant travel which consumes more time and money. In order to ease the difficulty of those members desirous of reading books, ASM should provide them an option to have these books through courier on payment basis.*

*This will be a great feat in serving the members of ASM. Initially this could be for members residing in Mumbai, Thane and Navi Mumbai. Later this could be spread to more areas. Only those books which could be lent are only to be considered as reference books which shall not go out of Library under any circumstances. Other modalities can be worked out by the Library Committee.*

**Proposed by:** A V Gopalakrishnan

**Seconded by:** Chirag Dighe

**Managing Committee's Comments:**

**This is a good suggestion. However, care should be taken to use a well established and reliable courier service.**

\* \* \* \*