

International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ICADR) was established at the initiative of some of the leading legal luminaries. It was registered as a Society in May 1995 under the Societies registration Act, 1860 for the promotion and development of ADR facilities and techniques to facilitate early resolution of disputes and to reduce the increasing burden of arrears in Courts. It is an autonomous organisation with its Headquarters at New Delhi and Regional Centres at Hyderabad and Bangalore. The ICADR was inaugurated by Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, the then Prime Minister of India on 6th October, 1995 at the plenary Hall of Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Hon'ble Justice A.M. Ahmadi, the then Chief Justice of India graced the occasion and delivered the Patron's address. Dr. H.R. Bhardwaj, Governor of Karnataka and Chairman, ICADR and more than forty delegates from the SAARC countries attended the inauguration of the Centre. Dr. P.C. Rao, the then Law Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice became its first Secretary-General. The objectives of ICADR, inter alia, are as follows:

3. The objects of the Society are :-

- (a) To promote studies in the field of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and allied matters;
- (b) To undertake teaching in ADR and related matters and to award diplomas, certificates and other academic or professional distinction;
- (c) To impart training in ADR and related matters and to arrange for fellowships, scholarships, stipends and prizes;
- (d) To promote research in the fields of ADR and allied matters of social research;
- (e) To offer facilities as also guidance for research scholars including students preparing for Master's or Doctoral degrees in ADR and allied fields;
- (f) To provide information on the courses or programmes available for the training of arbitrators, conciliators, mediators and other ADR professionals;

- (g) To compile information with regard to relevant legislations, rules and judicial or arbitral decisions in the field of ADR;
- (h) To provide information on the ADR centres or schemes available in India and abroad and the types of services which those centres or schemes could offer;
- (i) To provide information concerning the types of disputes which could be resolved through ADR and the modalities for their resolution and to provide such other related assistance as may be requested by users of ADR;
- (j) To promote reform in the system of settlement of disputes and its healthy development suitable to the social, economic and other needs of the community;
- (k) To encourage and conduct investigations in traditional and modern methods of dispute resolution;
- (l) To promote and provide for diffusion of knowledge of law and procedures on ADR and allied matters;
- (m) To promote the improvement of legal education in the field of ADR and allied subjects and to impart instruction in the said fields;
- (n) To publish books, periodicals, reports and other literature relating to ADR and allied matters;
- (o) To undertake documentation of important materials on ADR and allied matters;
- (p) To establish and maintain libraries on ADR;

- (q) To ¹[conduct, propagate], promote and popularize the settlement of domestic and international disputes by different modes of ADR;
- (r) To develop infrastructure for education, research and training in the field of ADR and for settlement of disputes through ADR;
- (s) To organize conferences, seminars and study groups on issues concerning ADR;
- (t) To provide facilities and administrative and other support services for holding conciliation, mediation, mini-trials and arbitration proceedings;
- (u) To compile lists of appropriate persons competent and qualified to serve as arbitrators, conciliators and mediators, or willing to serve in any other specialist capacity such as experts, surveyors and investigators;

¹ Subs. after approval by Governing Council/General Body of ICADR, w.e.f. 17.7.2016.

- (v) To study the problems and needs of an efficient system of ADR and for that purpose to seek information from and share experience with other organizations in India and abroad by correspondence or by deputing members or officers of the Society for the purpose;
- (w) To cooperate with other societies, institutions and organizations, national or international, in the pursuit of all or any of the above objects;
- (x) To constitute or cause to be constituted regional offices at convenient places in India and abroad to promote the activities of the Society;
- (y) To draw up and prescribe rules of the society for different modes of ADR;
- (z) To draw up standard clauses for conciliation, mediation, arbitration, etc.;
- (za) To appoint conciliators, mediators, arbitrators, etc., when so requested by the parties;
- ¹[(zaa) To provide facilities to International Institutions, including the PCA having similar objectives with a view to enable such international institutions to discharge their functions in collaboration, cooperation and support of the ICADR;
- (zab) To participate as Observer in the Meetings/Conferences organised by UNCITRAL or as member or delegate in other International Institutions with a view to keeping abreast of international developments in the field of ADR;].
- (zb) To do all such things and to perform all such acts as may be necessary or proper for the achievement of any or all of the above objects;

¹ Ins. after approval by Governing Council and General Body of ICADR on 27.12.2008 and 19.9.2009 respectively.

- (zc) Without prejudice to the generality of the above and for the effective carrying out of the above objects, the Society shall have the power to acquire, receive and hold property of any kind including securities and negotiable instruments, to construct and maintain buildings, including the right to alter or improve them and to equip them suitably, to manage, sell, transfer or otherwise dispose off or deal with property of any kind belonging to the Society, to enter into contracts for and in connection with any of the purposes of the Society, to raise money and funds in such manner as may be deemed fit for and on behalf of the Society, to establish a provident fund for the benefit of the employees of the Society if and when considered necessary, and to accept the management of any trust fund or endowment in which the Society may be interested.

