1. The name of the society will be “Special Area Rural Connectivity Authority (SARCA)” hereinafter referred to as “the Authority”.

2. Registered Office of the Authority shall be in the Orissa State Secretariat, At/PO- Bhubaneswar. The Government may, however, notify any other place as its functional office from time to time.

3. Area of operation of the Authority shall extend to whole of Orissa. However, the authority shall primarily focus its activities in the KBK Districts.

4. Background

4.1 The Government of Orissa as well as Government of India have accorded very high priority to the development of infrastructure in general, and rural connectivity in particular, in the KBK districts and other backward districts which may be covered under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY). In consultation with Government of India, the State Government has conceptualised a Special Connectivity Programme, (hereinafter referred as “the Programme”) for the KBK districts. The programme is proposed to be implemented in two phases. In the first phase, all habitations with populations of 1000+ and all un-connected Gram Panchayat headquarters are required to be connected through all-weather roads. In the second phase, all habitations with population of 250+ have to be provided with all-weather connectivity. The programme envisages convergence of funds from various sources including PMGSY, RLTAP and special assistance from Government of India from time to time.

5. Aims, Objectives and Functions of the Authority

5.1 With a view to ensuring formulation, effective implementation, supervision and monitoring of the Special Connectivity Programme as well as achieving convergence of funds from various sources including PMGSY, RLTAP and special assistance from Government of India from time to time, it has been considered expedient to constitute a High Power Authority, called "Special Area Rural Connectivity Authority (SARCA)" under the administrative control of the Government of Orissa in P & C. Department. The Authority will be a registered society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 for ensuring necessary operational flexibility keeping in view the guidelines of Government of India and directions received from the State Government from time to time.

5.2 The Authority shall have the following powers and functions:

(i) Receive and manage funds from different sources including RLTAP, special assistance and grants from Government of India and other sources for implementation of the Special Connectivity Programme in KBK and other backward districts.

(ii) Approve all Special Connectivity Proposals for KBK districts.

(iii) Select implementing Agencies and award contracts to the approved Agencies, Organisations and / or Registered Firms.
(iv) Superintend, control and command the implementing agencies working at the field level including field functionaries of Rural Development Department and Works Department in the KBK districts.

(v) Monitor and review the implementation of the Special Connectivity Programme.

(vi) Operate a Funds Account in a Public Sector Bank or Institutional Based Bank for maintaining an account of the funds received from various sources for the aforesaid purpose.

(vii) Exercise such other functions and powers as may be assigned to the Authority by State Government.

6. We, the several persons, whose names and addresses are given below having associated ourselves with the aims and objectives described in the Memorandum of Association, do hereby subscribe our names to this Memorandum of Association of the Authority and set out several and respective hands hereunto and form ourselves into a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860; on this day, the of 2004.

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<tr>
<th>Sl No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designation / Address</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Signature</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sri Naveen Patnaik</td>
<td>Chief Minister &amp; Minister I/C P &amp; C</td>
<td>Social Service</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Sri P.K.Mohanty</td>
<td>Chief Secretary, Orissa</td>
<td>Govt. Service</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sri Srinibas Rath</td>
<td>Development Commissioner</td>
<td>Govt. Service</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sri Srinibas Rath</td>
<td>Chief Administrator, KBK</td>
<td>Govt. Service</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sri U. Saratchandran</td>
<td>Secretary, Finance</td>
<td>Govt. Service</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Sri A. Behera</td>
<td>Secretary, Rural Development</td>
<td>Govt. Service</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Sri A. Behera</td>
<td>Secretary, Works</td>
<td>Govt. Service</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Sri L. N. Purohit</td>
<td>Chief Engineer, Rural Works</td>
<td>Govt. Service</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Sri Ratnakar Das</td>
<td>Chief Engineer, (Roads), Works</td>
<td>Govt. Service</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Dr. G. C. Mitra</td>
<td>Retd. Secretary, Works</td>
<td>Social Service</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Dr. R. V. Singh</td>
<td>Special Secretary, P &amp; C</td>
<td>Govt. Service</td>
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WITNESSES
1. Sri S. N. Dey, Deputy Secretary, Planning & Co-ordination Department

2. Sri C. R. Satapathy Deputy Director Planning & Co-ordination Department

Rules and Regulations of the Special Area Rural Connectivity Authority
1. **Short Title and Commencement**

   (A) These Rules and Regulations be called the Rules of “the Special Area Rural Connectivity Authority”

   (B) These Rules shall come into force from the date on which the Special Area Rural Connectivity Authority, (hereinafter referred to as “the Authority”) is registered as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

2. The registered office of the Authority shall be at the Orissa State Secretariat building, At/PO- Bhubaneswar. The Government may, however, notify any other place as its functional office from time to time.

3. **Governing Body**

   The Governing Body of the Special Area Rural Connectivity Authority shall be constituted as follows:

   (i) Minister, in-charge of P & C. - President
   (ii) Chief Secretary, Orissa - Vice-President
   (iii) Development Commissioner / Additional Development Commissioner - Member
   (iv) Chief Administrator, KBK - Member
   (v) Secretary, Finance - Member
   (vi) Secretary, Rural Development - Member
   (vii) Secretary, Works - Member
   (viii) Chief Engineer, Rural Works - Member
   (ix) Engineer in Chief / CE (Roads), Works - Member
   (x) Dr. G. C. Mitra, Retd. Secretary, Works - Member
   (xi) Special Secretary, RLTAP - Member Secretary

4. **Executive Committee**

   The Governing Body may by resolution constitute an Executive Committee to discharge the powers and functions as specified in these Rules.

5. **Membership**

   (i) The members shall hold office as ex-officio members.
   (ii) The Governing body can co-opt any officer / person to be the Member of the Governing Body or of the Executive Committee of the Authority.

6. **Termination of Membership**
The membership of a member of the Authority shall stand terminated when he/she ceases to hold the office or appointment.

7. **Powers and Functions of the Authority**

(A) **Governing Body**

(i) Overall policy guidance and coordination of the programme implementation at the field level.

(ii) Ensure coordination with various Departments, agencies connected with implementation of Special Connectivity Programme.

(iii) Approve and sanction the Annual Plan and the Budget.

(iv) Make, alter and revise Rules and regulations of the Authority.

(v) Co-opt any person to be the Member of the Governing Body and / or the Executive Committee.

(vi) Receive and manage funds from different sources including SCA under RLTAP, special grant from Government of India and other sources for implementation of the Special Connectivity Programme in KBK districts.

(vii) Superintend, control and command the implementing agencies working at the field level including field functionaries of Rural Development Department and Works Department in the KBK districts.

(viii) Monitor and review the implementation of the Special Connectivity Programme.

(ix) Operate a Funds Account in a Public Sector Bank or Institutional Based Bank for maintaining an account of funds received from various sources for the aforesaid purpose.

(x) Select implementing Agencies and award contracts to the approved Agencies, Organisations and / or Registered Firms.

(xi) Exercise other functions and powers as may be assigned to the Authority by the State Government.

(xii) Devise rules of business and procedures for expeditious and effective implementation of the infrastructure projects.

(B) **Executive Committee**

(i) Implement the policy and decision of the Governing Body.

(ii) Monitor the progress and flow of funds for effective implementation of the Special Connectivity Programme.

(iii) Issue directions to the implementing Authority for accelerating the progress and ensure quality.

(iv) Authorise opening of a separate Bank Account at the State level and release of funds to the Project Implementation Units at the district level in conformity with the guidelines issued by the State Government / Government of India.
(v) Review and monitor construction / maintenance of roads constructed under Special Connectivity Programme and raise / receive funds for this purpose with the approval of the Governing Body and the State Government.

(vi) Any other function that may be specifically delegated by the Governing Body.

8. Meeting of the Authority

(i) The Governing Body / Executive Committee of the Authority shall meet as often as may be considered necessary for the transaction of the business of the Authority, provided that the Governing Body shall meet at least once in 6(six) months and Executive Committee shall meet at least once in 3 (three) months.

(ii) The meeting of the Authority shall be held at such date and time as may be fixed by the Member Secretary in consultation with the President / Vice-President.

(iii) At least one week notice shall be given for convening a meeting. An extraordinary meeting may, however, be called at a shorter notice.

(iv) The President and in his absence the Vice-President for the Governing Body or the senior-most Member of the Authority will preside over every meeting of the Authority.

(v) All decisions will be taken by majority vote of members present and voting.

9. Quorum

The minimum quorum for a meeting will be 5 (five) members provided that at least one between President / Vice President and Member-Secretary shall be present in the meeting.

10. Power and Functions of the Office Bearers

(A) President and Vice President

(i) The President will preside over the meeting of the Governing body and Executive Committee and in his/her absence the Vice-President will preside.

(ii) They will exercise such other power as may be entrusted by the Governing Body.

(B) Member Secretary

All executive and financial powers of the Authority shall vest in the Member Secretary who shall act as Chief Executive of the Authority. He shall:

(i) Ensure formulation of district-wise / project-wise annual plans under Phase-I and Phase-II of the Special Connectivity Programme for approval by the Authority.

(ii) Monitor the progress and flow of funds for effective implementation of the Programme.
(iii) Seek administrative approval of the competent authority for the projects as per the delegation of powers from time to time.

(iv) Issue directions to the implementing agencies for accelerating the progress and ensuring quality.

(v) Monitor and review implementation of the Programme at the district level.

(vi) Be responsible for maintenance of accounts in respect of the funds allocated for Special Connectivity Programme, seek Utilisation Certificates from the Implementing Units / other agencies and ensure submission thereof to the relevant quarters.

(vii) Arrange to furnish Quarterly Progress Report to Government in P & C Department as well as Planning Commission, Government of India.

(viii) Implement policy decisions of the Government, the Authority and Government of India.

11. **Emergency Power of the President / Vice President and Chief Executive**

Nothing in these Rules and Regulations shall prevent the President / Vice President and Chief Executive from exercising all powers of the Authority in case of emergencies for furtherance of the objectives of the Authority and action taken shall be reported to the Authority in the next Governing Body and / or Executive Body meeting.

12. **Proceedings of the Meeting**

(i) All business of the Authority as far as possible will be recorded as proceeding of the Authority

(ii) All disputed questions shall be determined by majority votes. Each member shall have one vote and in case of equality of votes the President shall have a second casting vote.

(iii) The proceedings of the meeting of the Authority shall be circulated to all members

13. **Funds of the Authority and Accounts**

The Fund of the Authority shall consist of following:

(i) Assistance and grants received from State Government / Government of India.

(ii) All money received by way of grants, transfer or in any other manner from any other source.

14. **Management of Funds**

(i) All money received from the State Government / Government of India shall be credited to the Account of the Authority opened for the purpose in a Nationalised Bank or Institutional Based Bank.
(ii) Release of funds to the Project Implementation Units at the District level will be regulated as per the guidelines formulated for this purpose.

(iii) Funds will be drawn by cheques which will be signed by the Member Secretary as and when required.

15. Accounts and Audit

(i) The accounts of the Authority will be maintained as per the direction issued by State Government / Government of India.

(ii) The Accounts of the Authority shall be audited by a Chartered Accountant or other qualified persons who shall be appointed by the State Government in P & C Department.

(iii) Monthly accounts showing the allotment and expenditure shall be prepared and submitted to State Government / Government of India in the manner prescribed by the Government.

(iv) Utilisation Certificates in respect of funds / grants received from Government of India and / or any other sources shall be sent to Government of India and / or other sources along with the audited statements of accounts.

16. Assets

A statement showing the inventory of fixed assets held by the Authority at the end of each financial year shall be sent to Government of India and Government of Orissa along with the annual statement of accounts. No expenditure shall be charged and the value of the assets will be shown at the original cost with accounts.

17. Authentication

All orders and decision of the Authority shall be authenticated by the signature of the President / Vice President and all other papers / documents shall be authenticated by the signature of the Chief Executive.

18. Directions of Central / State Government

The Authority shall carry out such directions as may be issued to it from time to time by the Government of India or State Government. It shall furnish to the Government of India and / or the State Government such reports, returns and other information as may be required by them from time to time.

19. General / Legal Action

(i) The Authority may sue or may be sued in the name of the Member Secretary

(ii) The income and property of the Authority derived, shall be utilised towards the promotion of the objectives thereof, subject, nevertheless,
to financial discipline in respect of the expenditure of the grants imposed by the State Government / Government of India from time to time.

(iii) No portion of the income and property of the Authority shall be paid or transferred directly and indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise to any person or organisation who at any time was or has been Member of the Authority

(iv) In the event of winding up or dissolution of the Authority and after satisfactory setting of its liabilities, all remaining assets shall not be paid to or distributed among with the Members or any of them but shall be disposed in such manner as the State Government may determine.

20. Amendment to the Rules & Regulations

The rules and regulation of the Authority shall be amended by the Governing Body with prior approval of the Government.

21. Certificate

(i) Certified that there is no other organisation existing in the similar name and style “Special Area Rural Connectivity Authority (SARCA)” in the State of Orissa

(ii) Certified that this is the true and correct copy of Memorandum of Association and Rules and Regulation of the Authority

(iii) Certified that all matters shall be guided under the provision of the Societies Registration Act, 1860 with amendments thereon.