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FORMS OF BUSINESS ORGANISATION

Partnership Deed

A partnership is a voluntary association of people who come together for achieving common objectives. In order to enter into partnership, a clear agreement with respect to the terms, conditions and all aspects concerning the partners is essential so that there is no misunderstanding later among the partners. Such an agreement can be oral or written. Even though it is not essential to have a written agreement, it is advisable to have a written agreement as it constitutes an evidence of the conditions agreed upon. The written agreement which specifies the terms and conditions that govern the partnership is called the partnership deed. The partnership deed generally includes the following aspects:

- Name of firm
- Nature of business and location of business
- Duration of business
- Investment made by each partner
- Distribution of profits and losses
- Duties and obligations of the partners
- Salaries and withdrawals of the partners
- Terms governing admission, retirement and expulsion of a partner
- Interest on capital and interest on drawings
- Procedure for dissolution of the firm
- Preparation of accounts and their auditing
- Method of solving disputes

Registration

Registration of a partnership firm means the entering of the firm's name, along with the relevant prescribed particulars, in the Register of firms kept with the Registrar of Firms. It provides conclusive proof of the existence of a partnership firm. It is optional for a partnership firm to get registered. In case a firm does not get registered, it is deprived of many benefits. The consequences of non-registration of a firm are as follows:

- (a) A partner of an unregistered firm cannot file a suit against the firm or other partners,
- (b) The firm cannot file a suit against third parties, and
- (c) The firm cannot file a case against the partners.

In view of these consequences, it is therefore advisable to get the firm registered. According to the India Partnership Act 1932, the partners may get the firm registered with the Registrar of firms of the state in which the firm is situated. The registration can be at the time of formation or at any time during its existence. The procedure for getting a firm registered is as follows:

- 1. Submission of application in the prescribed form to the Registrar of firms. The application should contain the following particulars:
- Name of the firm
- Location of the firm
- Names of other places where the firm carries on business
- The date when each partner joined the firm
- Names and addresses of the partners
- Duration of partnership This application should be signed by all the partners.
- 2. Deposit of required fees with the Registrar of Firms.
- 3. The Registrar after approval will make an entry in the register of firms and will subsequently issue a certificate of registration.