MANOTSAVA: NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH FESTIVAL 2026

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

These event terms and conditions (the "**Terms**") apply to every person who registers for or attends ("**Attendee**") the Manotsava: National Mental Health Festival 2026, to be held at Jayamahal Palace Hotel, Bengaluru, on 5 and 6 December 2026 ("**Festival**"). By registering, the Attendee (or, in the case of a person below the age of eighteen years ("**Child**"), the parent or lawful guardian registering the Child) confirms that they have read and accept these Terms.

The Festival is organised by Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies Foundation; the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences, Bengaluru; and, the National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru (collectively, "**Organisers**").

1. REGISTRATION

1.1 Registration for the Festival is voluntary. Each Attendee confirms that the information provided at registration is accurate.

2. CHILDREN AT THE FESTIVAL

2.1 A Child may be registered only by a parent or lawful guardian. The person registering a Child accepts these Terms on the Child's behalf and on their own behalf.

2.2 Every Child must be accompanied by a parent or lawful guardian of a Child, or an adult authorised by the parent or guardian who is named at registration as responsible for that Child (each, a "**Responsible Adult**") at all times at the Festival, including in the area of the Festival designated for children's sessions, workshops and activities ("**Bachpan Manao Zone**").

2.3 The Responsible Adult remains responsible for the supervision, wellbeing and conduct of the Child throughout the Festival. Children will not be accepted into the care of the employees, volunteers, facilitators, security staff and other personnel engaged by or on behalf of the Organisers for the Festival ("**Festival Team**") for any session.

2.4 The Organisers may limit numbers in, or restrict entry to, the Bachpan Manao Zone or any session, including by age, in the interests of safety. Adults who are not accompanying a Child may not enter the Bachpan Manao Zone.

2.5 No Child shall be required to take part in any session, activity, photograph, recording or interaction against the Child's will.

3. CHILD SAFEGUARDING

3.1 No Attendee may:

(a) other than a Child's own Responsible Adult, take a Child away from a session, area or group, or be alone with a Child out of the sight of others;

(b) engage in any inappropriate physical contact with a Child, or any conduct, language or gesture of a sexual, abusive, threatening or humiliating nature towards a Child;

(c) other than a Child's own Responsible Adult or a member of the Festival Team acting in the course of their duties, photograph, film or record a Child, or share any image or recording of a Child; or

(d) seek or exchange contact details or social media connections with a Child, or offer a Child gifts, money or transport.

3.2 Any person who has a concern about the safety or wellbeing of a Child, or who witnesses conduct in breach of Clause 3.1, should report it immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Officer at natasha@rohininilekaniphilanthropies.org, at the help desk, or to any member of the Festival Team.

3.3 Attendees should be aware that the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 ("**POCSO Act**") requires any person who knows or apprehends that an offence under the POCSO Act has been or is likely to be committed to report it to the Special Juvenile Police Unit or the local police. Failure to provide such information is an offence under Section 21 of the POCSO Act, and a person who provides it in good faith incurs no civil or criminal liability for doing so under Section 19 of the POCSO Act. Attendees should not delay a report in order to make their own enquiries, and should not confront the person concerned. The Organisers will report any such matter to the authorities as required by law, will cooperate with any investigation, and will protect the identity of any Child concerned.

3.4 If a Child is lost or separated from their Responsible Adult, the Responsible Adult should inform the help desk or any member of the Festival Team immediately. A Child found unaccompanied will be taken to the help desk and will be handed over only to the Responsible Adult named at registration, on verification of their identity. Until the Child is handed over, the Child will be kept under the supervision of at least two (2) members of the Festival Team and will not be left alone with any one person.

3.5 Where a Child discloses, or the Festival Team observes or is informed of, any conduct that may constitute an offence under the POCSO Act, the Festival Team will:

(a) ensure the immediate safety and wellbeing of the Child and, where the person concerned is the Child's Responsible Adult, not leave the Child alone with that person pending the arrival of the police or the Child Welfare Committee;

(b) not question the Child beyond what is necessary to ensure the Child's safety, and not require the Child to repeat the account;

(c) record the report in writing and inform the Special Juvenile Police Unit or the local police; and

(d) where the Child appears to be a child in need of care and protection, also inform the Child Welfare Committee, the District Child Protection Unit or Childline (1098), in accordance with the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

4. PREVENTION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

4.1 The Organisers have zero tolerance for sexual harassment of any person, of any gender, at the Festival. Sexual harassment includes unwelcome physical contact or advances, a demand or request for sexual favours, sexually coloured remarks, showing pornography, and any other unwelcome physical, verbal or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature, whether in person or online in connection with the Festival.

4.2 Any person who experiences or witnesses sexual harassment may report it to natasha@rohininilekaniphilanthropies.org or to any member of the Festival Team. Reports will be handled promptly, sensitively and, so far as possible, confidentially.

4.3 A complaint by a woman against a member of the Festival Team may be referred to the Internal Committee of the relevant Organiser constituted under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. Where the person complained against is not a member of the Festival Team, the Organisers will, if the complainant so wishes, assist the complainant in making a complaint to the police. A complaint should be made within three months of the incident (or the last of a series of incidents), which period may be extended by up to a further three months where the Internal Committee is satisfied that circumstances prevented a complaint within the first period.

4.4 Where they consider it necessary for the safety of others, the Organisers may remove from the Festival any person against whom a complaint has been made, pending enquiry.

5. CODE OF CONDUCT

5.1 The Festival is a space for open conversation about mental health. Every Attendee agrees to:

(a) treat others with respect and courtesy, and not discriminate against, harass, intimidate or ridicule any person on any ground, including disability, mental health, gender, caste, religion, race, sexual orientation or age;

(b) respect the privacy of others, and keep confidential any personal experience shared by another person during a session;

(c) not record, film, photograph or live-stream any session or any other person (including an Attendee) without consent and not do so at all in areas marked as no-photography zones, not post or share any image or recording of another person on social media or otherwise without that person's consent, and not photograph, film or record any Child contrary to the provisions of these Terms on child safeguarding;

(d) not bring, consume or be under the influence of alcohol, narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances (other than medication lawfully prescribed and used as directed), not smoke or use tobacco products at the venue, and not use vaping devices or electronic cigarettes;

(e) not bring any weapon or dangerous article to the venue, and submit to reasonable security checks;

(f) not offer diagnosis, treatment or unsolicited clinical advice to other Attendees, and not promote, sell or solicit for any product, service or cause without the prior written consent of the Organisers;

(g) not disrupt any session, and respect any ground rules set by the facilitator of a session;

(h) follow the directions of the Festival Team, including in an emergency;

(i) comply with the rules of the venue, and be responsible for any damage caused by the Attendee to the venue or its property; and

(j) where the Attendee is a Responsible Adult, ensure that the Child for whom the Attendee is responsible complies with these Terms.

5.2 The Organisers may refuse entry to, or remove from the Festival, any person who breaches these Terms or whose conduct, in the reasonable opinion of the Organisers, endangers or seriously disturbs others, and may decline future registrations from that person.

6. WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

6.1 Festival sessions are educational and experiential. They do not constitute medical or psychological diagnosis, treatment or advice, and are not a substitute for professional care.

6.2 Anyone in immediate danger should approach the Festival Team or call the national emergency number, 112.

7. ACCESSIBILITY, INCLUSION AND REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

7.1 The Organisers are committed to making the Festival accessible to and inclusive of persons with disabilities, and have partnered with v-shesh Learning Services Private Limited for this purpose.

7.2 Attendees may request reasonable accommodation at registration, by writing to natasha@rohininilekaniphilanthropies.org, or at the accessibility desk at the venue. The Organisers will make reasonable efforts to provide the accommodation requested and, where they are unable to do so, will inform the Attendee and discuss alternatives.

7.3 Information provided in connection with a request for accommodation is voluntary and will be limited to what is needed to provide the accommodation. By providing it, the Attendee consents to its collection and to its use and disclosure by the Festival Team and by the accessibility partner, acting on behalf of the Organisers, solely for that purpose. It will be deleted after the Festival, unless required for legal compliance purposes.

8. RISK, LIABILITY AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

8.1 To the extent permitted by law, the Organisers shall not be liable for any loss of or damage to personal belongings, or for any indirect or consequential loss, arising from attendance at the Festival.

8.2 The Attendee (or, in the case of a Child, the Responsible Adult on behalf of the Child) confirms that the Attendee or Responsible Adult is in reasonably good health and fit to attend a public event of this nature. An Attendee or Responsible Adult who has any health condition requiring particular care or precautions at the Festival is responsible for taking those precautions, and may request reasonable accommodation in accordance with Clause 7.

8.3 Attendance at, and participation in, the Festival and any session or activity at the Festival is at the Attendee's own risk. The Attendee (or, in the case of a Child, the Responsible Adult, for themselves and on behalf of the Child) accepts full responsibility for all personal risks, including any personal emergency, arising during the Festival. To the extent permitted by law, the Organisers shall not be liable to pay any compensation for, or otherwise be responsible for, any injury, death or other loss of any kind suffered by an Attendee or a Responsible Adult in connection with the Festival.

8.4 First aid will be available at the venue. In an emergency, the Festival Team may arrange first aid and transfer to a hospital, and will make every reasonable effort to contact the Attendee's emergency contact or, in the case of a Child, the Responsible Adult. The cost of any hospital treatment and ambulance services shall be borne by the Attendee.

9. PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY

9.1 The Festival is a public event. Photographers and videographers designated by the Organisers will photograph, film and record the Festival, including Attendees. By registering, the Attendee consents to being photographed, filmed and recorded at the Festival, and to the use of those photographs, videos and recordings by the Organisers in accordance with this clause. The Responsible Adult of a

Child, on behalf of the Child, agrees that the Child may be photographed, filmed and recorded at the Festival, and to the use of those photographs, videos and recordings by the Organisers in accordance with this clause.

9.2 Photographs, videos and recordings of the Festival will be used only for non-commercial purposes, including documenting and reporting on the Festival and promoting future editions of the Festival, in print, online and on social media.

9.3 Given the nature of the Festival, the designated photographers and videographers have been briefed to document it sensitively and respectfully. Certain areas and sessions are designated as no-photography zones and will not be photographed or filmed. An Attendee who does not wish to be photographed or filmed may inform the Festival Team or the photographer at any time.

9.4 An Attendee may request the removal of a published photograph, video or recording in which they appear by writing to the Grievance Officer (details provided below), and the Organisers will make reasonable efforts to remove it from the channels they control.

10. PERSONAL INFORMATION

10.1 The Organisers will collect and use the information provided at registration, including names, contact details, emergency contact details and the ages of Children, for the purposes of administering registration and attendance, safety and safeguarding, providing reasonable accommodation, and communicating with Attendees about the Festival.

10.2 Information may be shared with service providers and partners acting on behalf of the Organisers for these purposes, who are required to maintain the same level of data protection, and with relevant authorities where required by law.

10.3 Attendees may review and correct their information, or withdraw consent, by writing to the Grievance Officer, Natasha Joshi at natasha@rohininilekaniphilanthropies.org, who will attempt to address grievances within one month of receipt.

11. GENERAL

11.1 The Organisers may change the programme, speakers, timings or layout of the Festival, close any area including the Bachpan Manao Zone, or postpone, interrupt, cancel or evacuate the Festival, where they consider this necessary for safety, on the direction of any public authority, or due to adverse weather conditions or any other causes or circumstances beyond their reasonable control. Attendees agree to follow the instructions of the Festival Team in any such event.

11.2 Decisions of the Organisers on the operation of the Festival at the venue, including entry, access to areas and removal, are final for the purposes of the Festival, without prejudice to the rights of any person under applicable law.

11.3 Queries and grievances, including on accessibility, safeguarding and personal information, may be addressed to natasha@rohininilekaniphilanthropies.org.

11.4 These Terms are governed by the laws of India, and the courts at Bengaluru shall have exclusive jurisdiction.