

## **END USER AGREEMENT**

M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (“MSSRF”, the “Foundation”) is committed to providing privacy for our website visitors, as well as recipients of our email messages. Foundation promotes the tenets of opt-in email for its website visitors and privacy among our partners and employees. This End User Agreement (“Agreement”) outlines how we collect, use, disclose, and protect your information in compliance with applicable laws, including the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 ("DPDP Act").

Your use of the website indicates your acceptance of this End User Agreement. We continuously evaluate our internal procedures and technology to ensure privacy at all levels of our organization. MSSRF is committed to safeguarding your personal information.

### **Purpose**

The website is created by the Foundation to provide information about its programs, team, financial reports, and other organizational updates. The legal basis for collecting and processing your personal information is to support our legitimate interests in facilitating access to our initiatives, programs and resources. Personal information is collected to enable account creation, allowing members to enroll in and engage with the conferences and programs offered through our website.

### **Information we collect and track**

When you make a donation on the MSSRF website, we may collect the following information:

- Full name
- Address
- Email address
- Phone number
- Payment details (for donation processing)
- PAN Card (for tax and legal purposes)
- Country of residence
- Any other details necessary for your participation

MSSRF also uses cookies to authenticate and personalize your experience across our online systems. Cookies are small pieces of data that are sent to your browser from a web server and stored on your computer's hard drive. We use these cookies only to track anonymous data, such as IP addresses, to help us understand site traffic and improve user experience.

You do not need to register or create an account to browse our website, and in general, we do not collect personally identifiable information if you are only visiting our website. By submitting forms on our website, you consent to receiving email communications related to your interest in the Foundation. We are committed to your privacy and do not share Information with third parties without your consent, except as outlined in this End user agreement or as permitted by law. If you have any requests, comments, or questions, please contact us using the details provided below.

## **Use of Your Information**

We use the personal information you provide for the following purposes:

- To process and acknowledge your donations
- To send you receipts and thank you notes for your contributions
- To respond to inquiries and feedback related to MSSRF's activities
- To share updates about MSSRF's projects and initiatives
- To send invitations to events, campaigns, or activities that might interest you

MSSRF may also use aggregated data (such as the number of event participants, or average donation amounts) to improve the content and design of our site, and share such statistics with our sponsors or partners. These shared statistics will not contain any personally identifiable information.

We implement stringent security measures to protect your personal information from loss, misuse, or alteration. MSSRF will only use your data as outlined in this Agreement unless required to share it with law enforcement or as part of legal obligations.

## **Sharing Your Information**

We do not sell, exchange, or rent your personal information to any third party. We will only share your data with third parties when necessary to process and account for authorized donations or to fulfill obligations related to your engagement in our projects. We may share your information with trusted service providers who assist us with donation processing, email marketing, or other fundraising activities, but only to the extent necessary to perform those services. We will obtain your consent before sharing your information with any third party for any purpose. Our payment portal is run through HDFC Bank which processes all payments.

## **Security and Privacy**

We are committed to protecting your personal information and use industry-standard safeguards such as SSL (Secure Socket Layer) to ensure its security. While we employ robust administrative, technical, physical, electronic, and organizational measures to protect your data against loss, theft, unauthorized access, and disclosure, it is important to note that no data transmission over the Internet can be guaranteed to be 100% secure.

Your information is stored on secure servers, and we treat it as an asset that must be safeguarded. Our security measures include various techniques designed to prevent unauthorized access by both internal and external users. We may disclose personal information to third parties to facilitate your participation in our programs, to comply with our legal obligations, to enforce our terms of use, or to prevent, detect, mitigate, and investigate fraudulent or illegal activities related to our services or website. We do not disclose your personal information to third parties for their marketing and advertising purposes.

## **Privacy of Children**

This Website is available only to users who are above 18. By accessing the Website, you represent and warrant that you are an adult and take full responsibility for ensuring that any child authorized by you to use the Services does so in compliance with the End User Agreement and other applicable policies.

If user is under the age of 18 and continue to access the Website, it will be presumed that you have obtained authorization from your parent or legal guardian. Parent or legal guardian will be responsible for ensuring that your use of the Website complies with the End User Agreement. By allowing you to access the Website, they acknowledge and agree to these terms on your behalf.

For users below the age of 18, access and usage of the Website shall be deemed to be under parental or legal guardian consent and guidance at all times. The End User Agreement shall constitute a legally binding agreement between the Foundation and the parent or guardian acting on behalf of the minor. In such cases, all references to "User," "You," or "Your" shall be understood to include both the minor and their parent or legal guardian acting for their benefit.

## **Links to Third-Party Websites**

Our website may contain links to external websites. Please note that we are not responsible for the content or privacy practices of these third-party websites. If you are redirected to payment gateways or other third-party platforms, the privacy policies of those platforms will govern your transactions.

Users always have the option to opt out of receiving email notifications from Foundation. This can be done by selecting the "unsubscribe" or "opt-out" option included in any email communication sent by us.

## **Log Files**

The Website's web and ad servers log information about a user's IP address, browser type and the current URL the user is requesting. This information is always provided by a user's browser and automatically logged by most websites. These log files are stored in a secure location and used in our internal analysis of traffic patterns within our Website.

## **Access, correction, or objection about your Information:**

You have the right to access, correct, delete, or transfer your Personal Information that we hold, including your profile and preferences. You also have the right to object to certain processing and, where we have asked for your consent to process your Personal Information, to withdraw this consent. Where we process your Personal Information because we have a legitimate interest in doing so (as explained above), you also have a right to object to this. These rights may be limited in some situations – for example, where we can demonstrate that we have a legal requirement to process your Personal Information.

You can assert your rights in the corresponding sections where such Personal Information was provided or by contacting us at [contact@mssrf.res.in](mailto:contact@mssrf.res.in)

**Is Donation Tax-Deductible?**

Yes, all donations made to MSSRF are tax-deductible under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act. MSSRF is also certified under FCRA to receive foreign contributions. To claim tax exemptions, please retain the donation receipt sent to you via email.

**MSSRF Donate Portal – Refund Policy**

We deeply appreciate your support. However, please note that all donations made through the MSSRF Donate Portal are final and non-refundable. Once your donation is processed, it cannot be refunded as it directly supports ongoing research and initiatives.

Please ensure you review your donation details carefully before completing the transaction. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at [accounts@mssrf.res.in](mailto:accounts@mssrf.res.in)

**How Will I Know if the End user Agreement Is Changed?**

MSSRF reserves the right to modify this Privacy Policy at any time. If we make any material changes, we will notify you by email (sent to the e-mail address specified in your account) or by means of a notice on this Website prior to the change becoming effective. We encourage you to periodically review this page for the latest information on our privacy practices.

**Consent to this End User Agreement**

By using our website or providing any personal information to MSSRF, you consent to the collection and use of your information as described in this Agreement. You agree to be bound by the terms set forth in this Agreement.

If you have any questions, concerns, or wish to update your personal information, please contact us at [[contact@mssrf.res.in](mailto:contact@mssrf.res.in)].