



RULES OF PROCEDURE
AND
CONDUCT OF BUSINESS
IN
THE PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA
(PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY)

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA SECRETARIAT
CHANDIGARH
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PREFACE

The Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly were, under Article 208(2) of the Constitution of India, modified and adopted by the Speaker and published under Notification No. 2, dated the 2nd May, 1952, in the Punjab Government Gazette. These were amended/modified from time to time and a brief history of the amendments/modifications so made is given in the Annexure.

The following pages contain the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in their final shape.

This is the 2021 edition.

Chandigarh :
The 9th December, 2021

SURINDER PAL
Secretary

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OF BUSINESS IN THE PUNJAB VIDHAN
SABHA (PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY)**

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CHAPTER-I

Short Title and Definitions

1. These rules may be called “the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).” Short title.

2. (1) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires,— Definitions.

“Advocate-General” means the person appointed Advocate-General of the Punjab by the Governor under Article 165 of the Constitution and shall have the same functions as given in Article 177 of the Constitution.

“Assembly” means the Vidhan Sabha (Legislative Assembly) of the State.

“Clear days” means the period of notice excluding the day on which it is received in the Sabha Secretariat and the day on which it is entered on the List of Business.

“Committee” means a Committee of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) appointed or elected by the House or nominated by the Speaker and works under the directions

of the Speaker and presents its Reports to the House or to the Speaker, and the Secretariat for which is provided by the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) Secretariat.

“Constitution” means the Constitution of India.

“Finance Minister” includes any Minister.

“Gazette” means the Punjab Government Gazette.

“Government” means the Government of the State of Punjab.

“Governor” means the Governor of the State.

“House” means the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly).

“Leader of the House” means the Chief Minister and includes any Minister to whom the Chief Minister delegates the functions assigned to the Leader of the House under the Rules.

“Lobby” means the room adjoining the Chamber and used for the purposes of recording votes in case of a Division.

“Member” means a member of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) :

Provided that a Minister who is not a member and the Advocate-General shall be deemed to be members

for the purpose of speaking in, moving motions and otherwise taking part in the proceedings of the House, but shall not be deemed to be members for the purposes of quorum or voting.

“Member-in-charge of the Bill” means in the case of a Government Bill, any Minister, and in the case of any other Bill, the member who has given notice of a motion for leave to introduce the Bill or who has introduced the Bill or a member authorised by him in writing to assume charge of the Bill.

“Minister” means a member of the Council of Ministers, a Minister of State, a Deputy Minister.

“Motion” means the statement of a matter or proposal brought forward by a member for consideration of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) and includes resolution and an amendment.

“Precincts of the House” means and includes the entire Punjab Vidhan Bhawan Complex, entire area within outer Speaker Gate and Outer Staff Gate and such other places as the Speaker may from time to time specify.

“Private Member” means a member other than a Minister.

“Prorogue” and its derivative “prorogation”

means the ending of a Session by an Order of the Governor under sub-clause (a) of Clause (2) of Article 174 of the Constitution.

“Resolution” means a motion for the purpose of discussing a matter of general public interest.

“Rules” means the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).

“Secretary” means the Secretary to the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) and includes any person for the time being performing the duties of the Secretary.

“Secretariat/Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) Secretariat” means and includes the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly) Secretariat at Chandigarh and any Camp Office set up outside Chandigarh for the time being by, or under the authority of the Speaker.

“Session” means the period of time between the first sitting of the House and its prorogation.

“Speaker” means the person holding the office

of the Speaker under Article 178 of the Constitution or any other person elected to such office under the Constitution.

“Speaker Pro-tem” means a Member appointed by the Governor under Article 188 of the Constitution, before whom every Member shall, before taking his seat, make and subscribe an oath or affirmation.

“Substantive motion” means a self-contained proposal submitted for the approval of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) and drafted in such a way as to be capable of expressing a decision of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly).

“State” means the State of the Punjab.

“Table” means the Table of the House.

(2) Words and expression used in the Constitution and not defined in these Rules shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Constitution.

CHAPTER-II

Summons to Members, Seating, Roll of Members, Attendance Register and Prorogation

Summons to Members.

3. (1) When a Session of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) is summoned under Article 174 of the Constitution, the Secretary shall issue a notification in respect thereof in the Gazette.

(2) The Secretary shall issue a summons to each Member specifying the date and place for the Session :

Provided that when a Session is called at short notice or emergently, summons may not be issued to each Member separately but an announcement of the date and place of the Session shall be published in the Gazette and made in the Press and Members may be informed by telegram or wireless message or e-mail or fax.

Seating of Members.

4. The Members shall sit in such order as the Speaker, after consultation with the Leader of the House and Leaders of parties, may determine.

Oath or Affirmation by a Member who has not already done so.

4-A. A member who has not already made and subscribed an oath or affirmation, in pursuance of Article 188 of the Constitution, may do so at the commencement of a sitting of the House, or at any other time, as the Speaker may direct, on any day after giving previous notice in writing to the Secretary.

4-B. (1) No person other than a Member shall sit on the seats meant exclusively for the Members in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha Hall.

Contravention of the provisions of Article 193.

(2) Any person violating the provisions of Article 193 of the Constitution when so determined by the Speaker, shall be liable to the penalty provided therefor. The decision of the Speaker in this behalf shall be final.

5. There shall be a Roll of Members of the House which shall be signed in the presence of the Secretary by every Member before taking his seat.

Roll of Members.

6. There shall be an Attendance Register for the members which shall be signed by every Member on each day of his attendance in the presence of an official deputed by the Secretary for the purpose :

Attendance Register for Members.

Provided that this rule shall not apply to Speaker, Deputy Speaker or a Minister.

7. When a Session of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) is prorogued, the Secretary shall issue a notification in respect thereof in the Gazette and inform the Members.

Prorogation.

7-A. On the prorogation of the House, all pending notices, other than notices of intention to move for leave to introduce a Bill, shall lapse :

Lapse of pending notices on prorogation of House.

Provided that the questions which were entered in various lists of questions for a Session for oral answer but were postponed and remained pending

for answers at the close of Session shall be answered as Unstarred Questions (converted as such from being Starred Questions) for that Session :

Provided further that a fresh notice shall be necessary of intention to move for leave to introduce any Bill in respect of which sanction or recommendation has been granted under the Constitution if the sanction or recommendation, as the case may be, has ceased to be operative.

CHAPTER-III

Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Panel of Chairmen

8. (1) As soon as may be after a general election, the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) shall elect a Speaker after such members as are present have been sworn in.

Election of Speaker.

(2) Any member may propose another member then present in the House and move that such member do take the Chair of the House as Speaker.

(3) If the motion is seconded and no other member is proposed, the person presiding shall without putting the question declare that member elected and call him to take the Chair.

(4) If the names of other members be proposed and seconded, the question shall be put one by one in the order in which the motions have been moved, and determined, if necessary, by Division. If any motion is carried, the person presiding shall, without putting later motions, declare elected the member proposed in the motion which has been carried and call that member to take the Chair :

Provided that a member shall not propose his own name or second a motion proposing his own name, or propose or second more than one motion.

9. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of the Speaker, the Governor shall fix a date not later than seven days from the date of the first sitting of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) after the occurrence of the vacancy

Vacancy in the office of Speaker.

and the Secretary shall intimate to each Member the date so fixed. The election shall be held in accordance with the procedure set out in the foregoing rule.

Election of
Deputy
Speaker.

10. (1) The election of the Deputy Speaker shall be held on such date as the Speaker may fix and the Secretary shall intimate to each Member the date so fixed.

(2) The procedure for the election shall be the same as that in respect of the election of the Speaker except that the Speaker or in his absence such person as may be determined by these Rules, or, if no such person is present, such other person as may be determined by the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) shall preside when the election is held.

Notice of
resolution for
removal of
Speaker or
Deputy
Speaker.

11. (1) A member wishing to give notice of a resolution under clause (c) of Article 179 of the Constitution, for the removal of the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker shall do so in writing to the Secretary.

(2) A resolution for the removal of the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker must specify the charges against him.

(3) On receipt of a notice under sub-rule (1) a motion for leave to move the resolution shall be entered in the list of business in the name of the member concerned, on a day fixed by the Speaker, provided that the day so fixed shall be any day after fourteen days from the date of the receipt of notice of the resolution.

11-A. (1) Subject to the provisions of Article 181 of the Constitution, the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker or such other person as is referred to in clause (2) of Article 180 of the Constitution shall preside when a motion under sub-rule (3) of rule 11 is taken up for consideration.

Leave of House to take up resolution.

(2) The member in whose name the motion stands on the list of business shall, except when he wishes to withdraw it, move the motion when called upon to do so, but no speech shall be permitted at this stage.

(3) The Speaker or the Deputy Speaker or the person presiding, as the case may be, shall thereupon place the motion before the House and shall request those members who are in favour of leave being granted to rise in their places. If not less than one-fourth of the total number of members of the House rise accordingly, the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker or the person presiding, as the case may be, shall declare that leave has been granted and that the resolution will be taken up on such day not being more than ten days from the date on which leave is asked for, as he may appoint. If less than the requisite number of members rise, the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker or the person presiding, as the case may be, shall inform the member that he has not the leave of the House.

11-B. On the appointed day the resolution shall be included in the list of business to be taken up after the questions and before any other business for the day is entered upon.

Inclusion of resolution in the list of business.

Time limit
for Speeches.

11-C. Except with the permission of the Speaker or the person presiding, a speech on the resolution shall not exceed fifteen minutes in duration :

Provided that the mover of the resolution, when moving the same, may speak for such longer time as the Speaker or the person presiding may permit :

Provided further that a Member, while speaking on the resolution, shall confine himself to the specific charges mentioned therein.

Delegation of
powers to
Deputy
Speaker.

12. The Speaker may, by order in writing, delegate to the Deputy Speaker all or any of his powers under these Rules and may revoke any such delegation from time to time.

Panel of
Chairmen.

13. (1) The Speaker shall, as soon as may be after the commencement of every Session, nominate from among the members a panel of not more than four Chairmen any one of whom may preside over the House in the absence of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker, when so requested by the Speaker, or in his absence, by the Deputy Speaker.

(2) A Chairman nominated under sub-rule (1) shall hold office until a new Panel of Chairmen is nominated.

(3) If, at the commencement of a sitting, the Speaker is unavoidably absent, the Secretary shall inform the House of the fact, before the Deputy Speaker, or if he is also absent, a member of Panel of Chairmen on being requested by the Secretary, takes the Chair.

13-A. The Deputy Speaker or any other member competent to preside over a sitting of the House under the Constitution or these Rules shall, when so presiding, have the same power as the Speaker when so presiding and all references to the Speaker in these Rules shall, in the circumstances, be deemed to be references to any such person so presiding.

Powers of
Deputy
Speaker or
other
Member
presiding
over sittings
of the House.

CHAPTER-IV

Sittings of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly)

When is sitting of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) duly constituted.

14. A sitting of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) is duly constituted when it is presided over by the Speaker or any other Member competent to preside over a sitting of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) under the Constitution or these Rules.

Number of sittings.

14-A. Subject to the provisions contained in Article 174 of the Constitution of India, there shall be 3 Sessions in a financial year, namely; Budget Session, Summer/Monsoon Session and Winter Session of the Assembly and the total number of sittings in all the Sessions put together shall not be less than 40:

Provided that in the absence of Government Business, the Assembly shall transact the other business as may be given notice of by the private Members and admitted by the Speaker:

Provided further that the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee shall prevail in the matter of Business to be transacted in the House.

Sittings of Vidhan Sabha (Assembly)

15. Unless the Speaker otherwise directs :

(1) The Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) shall meet whilst in Session on all days except Saturdays and Sundays :

Provided that if any day happens to be a

holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, there shall be no meeting on that day.

- (2) The Assembly shall meet on Mondays and also on days immediately following the off-days/holidays at 2.00 P.M. and adjourn at 6.30 P.M. On all other days, the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) shall meet at 10.00 A.M. and adjourn at 2.30 P.M.
- (3) At 6.30 P.M. on Mondays and on days immediately following the off-days/holidays and at 2.30 P.M. on other days or earlier if the business set down in the list of business for the day is completed, the Speaker shall adjourn the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) without question put and the proceedings on any business then under consideration shall be interrupted:

Provided that—

- (a) if at the time of interruption the closure is moved or proceedings under closure are in progress the proceedings under the closure and on any further motion as is specified in the rule as to closure shall be completed before the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) is adjourned;
- (b) if at the time of interruption, proceedings under division are in progress, these proceedings shall be completed before

the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) is adjourned; and

- (c) a motion may be made by a Minister at the commencement of the business for the day to be decided without amendment or debate ‘that the proceedings on any specified business be exempted at this sitting from the provisions of the rule “Sittings of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly)” either indefinitely or for a specified period after the hour of interruption’, and if such a motion is agreed to, the business so specified shall not be interrupted and if under discussion when a motion for adjournment under rule 59 is taken up, shall be resumed and proceeded with thereafter.

Quorum

15-A. If, when the House is sitting, notice is taken by a member that the number of members prescribed as quorum by *Article 189(3) of the Constitution is not present, the person presiding, unless he is satisfied that such number of members is present, shall direct the Division bells to be sounded and at the expiration of two minutes shall count the members present. If less than the required number be present he shall either suspend the sitting till such number is present or adjourn the House till the next date.

(*Ten Members or one-tenth of the total number of Members of the House, whichever is greater.)

16. Subject to the provisions of the Constitution and these Rules the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) may be adjourned from time to time by its own order :

Provided that a motion for adjournment of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) to a day or *sine die* shall not be made except in consultation with the Speaker :

Provided further that the Speaker may, if it is represented to him by the Minister that the public interest requires that the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) should meet at any earlier time during the adjournment and if he is satisfied that the public interest does so require, give notice that he is so satisfied, and call a meeting of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) before the day to which it has been adjourned or any time after it has been adjourned *sine die*.

CHAPTER IV-A

Secret Sitting of the House

Secret
Sitting.

16-A. (1) On a request made by the Leader of the House, the Speaker shall fix a day or part thereof for sitting of the House in secret.

(2) When the House sits in secret, no stranger shall be permitted to be present in the Chamber, Lobbies or Galleries :

Provided that persons authorised by the Speaker may be present in the Chamber, Lobbies or Galleries.

Report of
Proceedings.

16-B. The Speaker may cause a report of the proceedings of a secret sitting to be issued in such manner as he thinks fit, but no other person present shall keep a note or record of any proceedings or decisions of a secret sitting, whether in part or full, or issue any report of, or purport to describe, such proceedings.

Procedure in
other
respects.

16-C. The procedure in all other respects in connection with a secret sitting shall be in accordance with such directions as the Speaker may give.

Lifting ban of
secrecy.

16-D. (1) When it is considered that the necessity for maintaining secrecy in regard to the proceedings of a secret sitting has ceased to exist and subject to the consent of the Speaker, a motion may be moved by the Leader of the House or any other Member authorised by him that the proceedings in the House during a secret sitting be no longer treated as secret.

(2) On adoption by the House of the motion under sub-rule (1), the Secretary shall cause to be prepared a report of the proceedings of the secret sitting and shall as soon as practicable, publish it in such form and manner as the Speaker may direct.

16-E. Subject to the provisions of the foregoing rule disclosure of proceedings or decisions of a secret sitting by any person in any manner shall be treated as a gross breach of privilege of the House.

Disclosure of
proceedings
or decisions.

CHAPTER V

Governor's Address

Governor's
Address

17. At the commencement of the first session after each general election to the Legislative Assembly and at the commencement of the first session of each year, the Governor shall address the Legislative Assembly.

Governor's
Address and
Governor's
Special
Address.

17-A. No Member shall interrupt the Governor when he is addressing the House; or shall—

(i) display any placard; or

(ii) shout any slogan; or

(iii) make an protest; or

(iv) raise any point of order, debate or discussion; immediately preceding, during or immediately following the Governor's Address under Article 175(1) and the Governor's Special Address under Article 176(1) of the Constitution and the commission of any of the above lapses shall be treated as contempt of the House and dealt with as such under these Rules.

Laying a
copy of the
Address
before the
House.

18. After the Governor has delivered his Address under Article 175(1) or his Special Address under Article 176(1) of the Constitution, the Speaker shall report the fact to the House and lay a copy of each such Address before the House.

Allotment of
time for
discussion of
Special
Address.

19. The Speaker, in consultation with the Leader of the House, shall allot time for the discussion of matters referred to in the Governor's Special Address.

20. On such day or days or part of any day, the House shall discuss matters referred to in Governor's Special Address on a Motion of Thanks moved by a member which shall be seconded by another member.

Scope of Discussion.

21. Amendments may be moved to such Motion of Thanks in such form as may be considered appropriate by the Speaker.

Amendments.

22. (1) Notwithstanding that a day has been allotted for discussion on the Governor's Special Address, other business of a formal character may, with the permission of the Speaker, be transacted on such day before the House commences or continues discussion on the Address.

Other business that may be taken up.

(2) The discussion on the Address may be postponed in favour of a Government Bill or other Government business on a motion being made that the discussion on the Address be adjourned to a subsequent day to be appointed by the Speaker. The Speaker shall forthwith put the question, no amendment or debate being allowed.

23. The Chief Minister or any other Minister, whether he has previously taken part in the discussion or not, shall, on behalf of the Government, have a general right of explaining the position of the Government at the end of the discussion and the Speaker may enquire how much time will be required for the speech so that he may fix the hour by which the discussion shall conclude.

Government's right of reply.

Time limit
for speeches.

24. The Speaker may, if he thinks fit, prescribe a time limit for speeches after taking the sense of the House.

Governor's
Address under
Article
175(1).

25. The Speaker may allot time for the discussion of the matters referred to in the Address of the Governor under Article 175(1) of the Constitution.

CHAPTER VI

Communications between the Governor and the House

26. Where a message from the Governor for the House under Article 175(2) of the Constitution is received by the Speaker, he shall read the message to the House and give necessary directions in regard to the procedure that shall be followed for the consideration of matters referred to in the message in giving these directions, the Speaker shall be empowered to suspend or vary the Rules to such extent as it may be necessary to do so.

Message
by the
Governor.

27. Communications from the House to the Governor shall be made by formal address after motion made and carried in the House and submitted through the Speaker.

Communica-
tions from
House to
Governor.

CHAPTER VII

Arrangement of Business

Time for questions and order in which miscellaneous business to be taken up.

28. (1) Unless the Speaker otherwise directs the first hour of every sitting after the swearing in of Members, if any, and the making of obituary references, when occasion arises, shall be available for oral answers to questions :

Provided that on Tuesday or on such other day, as may be prescribed by the Speaker, postponed questions pertaining to the previous week shall be taken up before the regular list of questions for oral answers for that day is taken up.

(2) After the question hour, miscellaneous business, if any, for which no separate allotment of time has been made in these Rules, shall be taken up in the following order:—

- (a) Announcements by the Speaker/ Secretary, if any ;
- (b) Questions of Privilege, if any ;
- (c) Adjournment motions, if any, to move which consent has been given by the Speaker ;
- (d) Call Attention Notices and other motions, if any, admitted by the Speaker ; and
- (e) Statements by Ministers, etc.

29. On days allotted for the transaction of Government business such business shall have precedence and the Secretary shall arrange that business in such order and on such days as the Speaker, after consultation with the Leader of the House, may determine:

Arrange-
ment of
Government
business.

Provided that such order of business shall not be varied on the day that business is set down for disposal unless the Speaker is satisfied that there is sufficient ground for such variation.

30. (1) On Thursday business other than Government business shall have precedence. On all other days no business other than Government business shall be transacted except with the consent of the Leader of the House:

Arrangement
of Private
Members'
business.

Provided that on a motion made after a day's notice by a Minister, this rule may be suspended and the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) may transact Government business on a Thursday.

(2) On days when business other than Government business has precedence, such business shall be taken up in the following order :--

- (a) Messages relating to such business from the Governor ;
- (b) Bills in respect of which leave to introduce is to be asked for ;
- (c) Resolutions on matters of general public importance ; and

(d) Bills which have already been introduced:

Provided that the Speaker may direct that Bills and Resolutions may be taken on separate days. On days when Bills are so taken, the first half of the day or such period as the Speaker may determine, shall be allowed for Bills to be introduced, if any, and the rest of the day for Bills, if any, which have advanced beyond the stage of introduction.

(3) The relative precedence of Bills to be introduced and of resolutions to be moved shall be determined by separate ballots to be held in accordance with the procedure set out in Schedule I annexed to these Rules on such day as the Speaker may direct.

(4) Bills which have been introduced shall be arranged in such order as to give priority to Bills most advanced, i.e., in the following order :—

- (i) Bills in respect of which the next stage is that the Bill be passed;
- (ii) Bills in respect of which a motion has been carried that the Bill be taken into consideration;
- (iii) Bills in respect of which the report of a Select Committee has been presented ;
- (iv) Bills in respect of which the next stage is the presentation of the report of a Select Committee ;
- (v) Bills which have been circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion ;

- (vi) Bills which have been introduced, but which have not proceeded to any of the stages set out above ;

Provided that the relative precedence of Bills falling within the same category shall be determined according to the priority of their introduction in the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly).

31. All business appointed for any day and not disposed of on that day may be taken up on any day in the Session available for such class of business as the Speaker may, in consultation with the Leader of the House determine. Business other than Government business so standing over shall have no priority on the next available day for such class of business:

Business
outstanding
at the end of
day.

Provided that a Private Member's Resolution shall not be discussed in more than one sitting of the House.

32. (1) A list of business for the day shall be prepared by the Secretary, and a copy thereof shall be made available for the use of every member.

List of
business.

(2) Save as otherwise provided in these Rules, no business not included in the list of business for the day, shall be transacted at any meeting without the leave of the Speaker.

(3) Save as otherwise provided in these Rules, no business requiring notice shall be set down for a day earlier than the day after that on which the period of the notice necessary for that class of business expires, unless the Speaker waives this requirement.

(4) Unless the Speaker otherwise directs, not more than ten resolutions in addition to any resolution which is outstanding under rule 31, shall be set down in the list of business for any day allotted for the disposal of Private Members' Resolutions.

CHAPTER-VIII

Questions

33. A question may be asked for the purpose of obtaining information on a matter of public concern within the special cognizance of the Minister to whom it is addressed.

Subject-
matter of
questions.

34. Questions may be asked by giving fifteen clear days' notice :

Notice of
questions.

Provided that—

- (i) the Speaker may, with the consent of the Minister concerned, allow a question to be asked at shorter notice ; and
- (ii) in case the answer to a question is not ready before the sitting of Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) immediately following the expiry of the period of notice, the Speaker may, on such intimation by the Minister concerned, extend the time for answering the question, and if the question is on the list of questions, it shall not be called on that day.

35. (1) Notice of a question shall be given in writing to the Secretary and shall specify the official designation of the Minister to whom it is addressed.

Form of
notice of
questions.

(2) Where a notice is signed by more than one member, it shall be deemed to have been given by the first signatory only.

Questions for oral answers to be distinguished by asterisks/ indicated as Starred Questions.

36. A Member who desires an oral answer to his question may distinguish it by an asterisk or indicate it as Starred Question. If he does not so distinguish it, the question shall be printed on the list of questions for written answer. Questions distinguished by asterisks/ indicated as Starred Questions shall be printed separately from those not so distinguished.

Members entitled to oral answers to two questions on a day.

37. (1) Not more than two questions distinguished by asterisks or indicated as Starred Questions by the same Member and not more than twenty questions in all shall be placed on the list of questions for oral answer on any one day ;

(2) The Starred Questions left over during a Session because of the above provision shall be included in the supplementary list of Unstarred Questions (converted as such from being Starred Questions) for the last day of the Session :

Provided that such list will include only those questions of a Member which are left over because of the above limit of twenty questions ; and

(3) The order in which questions for oral answer are to be placed shall be indicated by the Member giving notice, and, if no such order is indicated, the question shall be placed on the list of questions for oral answer in the order in which notices are received in point of time.

Members entitled to written answers to four questions on a day.

37-A. (1) Not more than four questions not distinguished by asterisks or indicated as Starred Questions by the same Member shall be placed on the list of questions for written answer on any one day.

Questions in excess of these shall be spread over other days.

(2) The order in which question for written answer are to be placed shall be indicated by the Member giving notice and if no such order is indicated the questions shall be placed on the list of questions for written answer in the order in which notices are received in point of time.

37-B. Where the Speaker is of the opinion that a question has not been adequately answered, he may postpone it to a later day.

Postpone-
ment of
question by
Speaker.

38. If any question placed on the list of questions for oral answer on any day is not called for answer within the time available for answering questions on that day, unless the Speaker otherwise directs, the Minister to whom the question is addressed shall forthwith lay upon the Table a written reply to the question and no oral reply shall be required to such question and no supplementary questions shall be asked in respect thereof:

Written
answers to
questions not
replied orally.

Provided that if the question hour is dispensed with on any day, the questions fixed for that day shall be treated as Unstarred Questions and deemed to have been answered.

39. In order that a question may be admissible it shall satisfy the following conditions, namely :—

Admissibility
of questions.

- (1) it shall relate to the public affairs with which the Minister to whom it is addressed is

officially connected or to a matter of administration for which he is officially responsible ;

- (2) it shall ask for information and shall not ask for an expression of opinion ;
- (3) it shall be self-contained and intelligible ;
- (4) it shall not bring in any name or statement not strictly necessary to make the question intelligible ;
- (5) if it contains a statement, the member asking the question shall make himself responsible for the accuracy of that statement ;
- (6) it shall not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions or defamatory statements;
- (7) it shall not contain references to newspapers by name and shall not ask whether statements in the press or of private individuals or unofficial bodies are accurate ;
- (8) it shall not ask for an expression of a legal opinion nor the solution of an abstract legal question nor of a hypothetical proposition ;
- (9) it shall not ask as to the character or

conduct of any person except in his official or public capacity ;

- (10) it shall not ask for information on any matter which is under adjudication by a court of law having jurisdiction in any part of India ;
- (11) it shall not be of excessive length ;
- (12) it shall not require information contained in documents ordinarily accessible to the public or in ordinary works of reference ;
- (13) it shall not raise questions of policy too large to be dealt within the limits of an answer and matters for dealing with which the rules provide a more convenient method ;
- (14) it shall not amount in substance to a suggestion for any particular action but it may ask for a statement of the intentions of Government in respect of a matter on which a question may be asked ;
- (15) it shall not reflect on the character or conduct of any person whose conduct can only be challenged on a substantive motion ;
- (16) it shall not make or imply a charge of a personal character ;
- (17) it shall not repeat in substance questions already answered or to which an answer has been refused ;

- (18) it shall not ask for information on trivial matters ;
- (19) it shall not raise matters under the control of bodies or persons not primarily responsible to Government ;
- (20) it shall not ordinarily ask for information on matters which are under consideration before a Committee of the House ;
- (21) it shall not ask about proceedings in a Committee which have not yet been placed before the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) by a report from the Committee;
- (22) it shall not ordinarily ask about matters pending before any statutory tribunal or statutory authority, performing any judicial or quasi-judicial functions or any commission or court of enquiry appointed to enquire into or investigate any matter, but may refer to matters concerned with procedure or subject or stage of enquiry if it is not likely to prejudice the consideration of the matter by the tribunal or commission or court of enquiry ; and
- (23) it shall not ordinarily refer to debates or answers to questions orally answered in the current Session.

40. (1) The Speaker shall decide whether a question or a part thereof is or is not admissible under these Rules and may disallow any question or part thereof when, in his opinion, it is an abuse of the right of questioning or calculated to obstruct or prejudicially affect the procedure of the House or is in contravention of these Rules :

Speaker to decide admissibility of questions.

Provided that the Speaker may, in his discretion, amend the question in form or give the member concerned an opportunity of amending it.

(2) The Secretary shall give intimation to the Member concerned that his question has been admitted or admitted as amended or disallowed for any specific reasons, as the case may be.

(3) The Speaker may direct that copies of a question which he has disallowed be sent to the appropriate authority if, in his opinion, action on the part of Government in respect of the subject-matter of the question is called for.

41. If in the opinion of the Speaker any question put down for oral answer is of such a nature that a written reply would be more appropriate, the Speaker may direct that such question be placed on the list of questions for written answer.

Speaker to decide if a question is to be treated as starred or unstarred.

42. Questions which have not been disallowed shall be entered in the list of questions for a day not earlier than 15 clear days from the date on which notice was received by the Secretary.

List of questions.

Consolidation
of identical
questions.

42-A. Identical questions by more than one Member shall be consolidated and all the names shall be bracketed.

Order in
which
questions
shall be
called.

43. Questions for oral answers shall be called, if the time made available for questions permits, in the order in which they stand on the list before any other business is entered upon at the sitting :

Provided that a question not reached for oral answer may be answered after the end of the question hour with the permission of the Speaker if the Minister represents to the Speaker that the question is one of special public interest to which he desires to give a reply.

Withdrawal
or postpone-
ment of
questions.

44. A member may, by notice given at any time before the sitting for which his question has been placed on the list, withdraw his question, or postpone it to a later day to be specified in the notice and on such later day the question shall be placed on the list after all questions which have not been postponed :

Provided that a postponed question shall not be placed on the list until two clear days have expired from the time when the notice of postponement was received by the Secretary.

Mode of
asking
questions.

45. (1) When the time for asking questions arrives, the Speaker shall call successively each member in whose name a question appears on the list of questions.

(2) The member so called shall rise in his place and, unless he states that it is not his intention to ask the

question standing in his name, he shall ask the question by reference to its number on the list of questions.

(3) If on a question being called it is not put or the member in whose name it stands is absent and no one has been authorised by him in writing to put it and such authority has not been sent to the Speaker in advance, the Speaker may direct that the answer to it be given.

46. (1) No discussion shall be permitted during the time for questions under rule 28, in respect of any question or of any answer given to a question. Supplementary questions.

(2) Any member, when called by the Speaker, may put a supplementary question for the purpose of further elucidating any matter of fact regarding which an answer has been given :

Provided that not more than five supplementary questions may be allowed to be put unless the Speaker otherwise permits :

Provided further that the Speaker shall disallow any supplementary question, if in his opinion, it infringes the rules regarding questions.

47. (1) A question relating to a matter of public importance may be asked with shorter notice than fifteen clear days and if the Speaker is of opinion that the question is of an urgent character he may direct that an enquiry may be made from the Minister concerned if he is in a position to reply and, if so, on what date. Short notice questions.

(2) If the Minister concerned agrees to reply, such question shall be answered on a day to be indicated by him and shall be called immediately after the questions which have appeared on the list of questions for oral answer have been disposed of.

(3) If the Minister is unable to answer the question at short notice, it shall be treated as an ordinary starred question and shall be entered in the list of questions under rule 42.

(3-A) Where a notice of a short notice question is signed by more than one member, it shall be deemed to have been given by the first signatory only.

(4) Where a member desires an oral answer to a question at a shorter notice, he shall briefly state the reasons for asking the question with short notice. Where no reasons have been assigned in the notice of the question, the question shall be filed and the member informed accordingly.

(4-A) The Member who has given notice of the question shall be in his seat to ask the question by reference to its number on the list of questions, when called by the Speaker, and the Minister concerned shall give reply immediately.

(5) In other respects, the procedure for short notice questions shall be the same as for ordinary questions with such modifications as the Speaker may consider necessary or convenient.

48. Answers to questions which Ministers propose to give in the House shall not be released for publication until the answers have actually been given on the floor of the House or laid on the Table.

Publicity of answers to questions in advance.

49. Save as otherwise provided in these Rules no discussion shall be permitted in respect of any question or of any answer given to a question.

Prohibition of discussion on questions or answers.

CHAPTER IX

Half-an-Hour Discussion

Discussion on a matter of public importance arising out of answers to questions.

50. (1) The Speaker may allot half-an-hour for raising discussion on a matter of sufficient public importance which has been the subject of a recent question, oral or written, and the answer to which needs elucidation on a matter of fact. Such discussion shall take place after the hour of interruption or after the conclusion of the business of the day, whichever is earlier.

(2) A member wishing to raise such a matter shall give notice in writing to the Secretary one day in advance of the day on which the matter is desired to be raised, and shall shortly specify the point or points that he wishes to raise:

Provided that the notice shall be accompanied by an explanatory note stating the reasons for raising discussion on the matter in question :

Provided further that the notice shall be supported by the signatures of at least two other members :

Provided further that the Speaker may, with the consent of the Minister concerned, waive the requirement concerning the period of notice.

(3) The Speaker shall decide whether the matter is of sufficient public importance to be put down for discussion and may not admit a notice which, in his opinion, seeks to revise the policy of Government.

(4) If more than two notices have been received and admitted by the Speaker, the Secretary shall hold a ballot with a view to draw two notices. Such notices shall be put down for discussion in the order in which they were received in point of time :

Provided that if any matter put down for discussion on a particular day is not disposed of on that day, it shall not be set down for any other day, unless the member so desires, in which case it shall be included in the ballot for the next available day.

(5) There shall be no formal motion before the House for voting. The member who has given notice may make a short statement and the Minister concerned shall reply shortly. Any member, who has previously intimated to the Speaker may be permitted to put a question for the purpose of further elucidating any matter of fact :

Provided that if the member who has given notice is absent, any member who has supported the notice may, with the permission of the Speaker, initiate the discussion.

CHAPTER X

Resignation, Leave of Absence from meetings of Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) and Vacation of Seats in the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly)

Resignation
of seats in
Vidhan Sabha
(Assembly).

51. (1) A member who desires to resign his seat in the House shall intimate in writing under his hand addressed to the Speaker, his intention to resign his seat in the House in the following form and shall not give any reasons for his resignation :—

“To

The Speaker,
Punjab Vidhan Sabha,
Chandigarh.

Sir,

I hereby tender my resignation of my seat in the house with effect from_____.

Place : Yours faithfully,

Date : Member of the House”:

Provided that where any member gives any reason or introduces any extraneous matter, the Speaker may, in his discretion, omit such words, phrases or matter, and the same shall not be read out in the House.

(2) If a member hands over the letter of resignation to the Speaker personally and informs him that the resignation is voluntary and genuine, and the Speaker has no information or knowledge to the contrary, the

Speaker may accept the resignation immediately.

(3) If the Speaker receives the letter of resignation either by post or through someone else, the Speaker may make such inquiry as he thinks fit to satisfy himself that the resignation is voluntary and genuine. If the Speaker, after making a summary inquiry either himself or through the agency of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) Secretariat or through such other agency, as he may deem fit, is satisfied that the resignation is not voluntary or genuine, he shall not accept the resignation.

(4) A member may withdraw his letter of resignation at any time before it is accepted by the Speaker.

(5) The Speaker shall, as soon as may be after he has accepted the resignation of a member, inform the House that the member has resigned his seat in the House and he has accepted the resignation:

Provided that when the House is not in Session, the Speaker shall inform the House immediately after the House re-assembles.

(6) The Secretary shall, as soon as may be, after the Speaker has accepted the resignation of a member, cause the information to be published in the Gazette, and forward a copy of the notification to the Election Commission of India and the Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab, for taking steps to fill the vacancy thus caused:

Provided that where the resignation is to take

effect from a future date, the information shall be published in the Gazette not earlier than the date from which it is to take effect.

Motion for
Leave of
absence.

52. (1) If a member finds at any time that he would be unable to attend the sittings of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) for a period of sixty consecutive days as computed in the manner provided in Article 190(4) of the Constitution, he shall apply for permission of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly). He may either move a motion himself or authorise another member to do so on his behalf or may apply in writing to the Speaker, stating the reason for his absence and seeking the permission of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly).

(2) If an application is made, it shall as soon as may be, be read out by the Speaker to the House.

(3) After the motion is moved or the application read out, the Speaker shall put the question that the permission be granted, and the question shall be decided without debate or Division.

(4) The Secretary shall inform the member, as soon as possible, of the decision of the House in the matter.

Vacation of
seat of absent
Member.

53. (1) If a member is absent without permission from all sittings of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) for a period of sixty consecutive days computed in the manner provided in Article 190(4) of the Constitution, the Speaker shall bring the fact to the notice of the House.

(2) Any member may move that the seat of the

member who has been so absent be declared vacant and the motion shall be put by the Speaker.

(3) If the House declares the seat of the member vacant, the Secretary shall communicate such declaration to the member and shall also cause the information to be published in the Gazette, and forward a copy of the notification to the Election Commission of India and Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab, for taking steps to fill the vacancy thus caused.

54. Motions under rules 52 and 53 shall be moved immediately after questions and before the business of the day is entered upon. When motions to be made.

CHAPTER-XI

Statements and Personal Explanations

Statement by
member
resigning the
Ministry.

55. (1) A member who has resigned the office of Minister may, with the consent of the Speaker, make a personal statement in explanation of his resignation.

(2) A copy of the statement shall be forwarded to the Speaker and the Leader of the House one day in advance of the day on which it is proposed to be made:

Provided that in the absence of a written statement, the points or the gist of such statement shall be conveyed to the Speaker and the Leader of the House one day in advance of the day on which it is proposed to be made.

(3) Such statement shall ordinarily be made after questions and before the business on the list for the day is entered upon.

(4) On such statement no debate shall be allowed:

Provided that a Minister shall be entitled, after the member has made his statement, to make a statement pertinent thereto.

Personal
explanation.

56. Any member may, with the permission of the Speaker, make a personal explanation although there is no question before the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly):

Provided that such explanation, if permitted, shall be made at the earliest possible opportunity before the business for the day is entered upon, and shall be limited

to the circumstances which are the subject of the explanation and no speech or debate thereon shall be allowed by the Speaker.

57. A statement may be made by a Minister on a matter of public importance, with the permission of the Speaker, but no question shall be asked nor discussion take place thereon at the time the statement is made :

Statement
made by a
Minister.

Provided that a copy of the statement shall be forwarded to the Speaker one day in advance of the day on which it is proposed to be made. The Speaker may, at his discretion, reduce this period in exceptional circumstances.

CHAPTER-XII**No-Confidence Motion**

Motion of
No-
confidence in
the Council
of Ministers.

58. (1) A motion expressing want of confidence in the Council of Ministers may be made subject to the following restrictions, namely :—

- (a) leave to make the motion shall be asked for after questions and before the list of business for the day is entered upon;
- (b) the member asking for leave shall, before the commencement of the sitting for that day, give to the Secretary a written notice of the motion which he proposes to move.

(2) If the Speaker is of opinion that the motion is in order, he shall read the motion to the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) and shall request those members who are in favour of leave being granted, to rise in their places, and if not less than one-fifth of the then existing strength of the members of the House rise accordingly, the Speaker shall declare that leave is granted and that the motion will be taken on such day, not being more than ten days from the day on which the leave is asked, as he may appoint. If less than the requisite number of members rise, the Speaker shall inform the member that he has not the leave of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly).

Note :—The fraction, if it is one-half or more than one-half, shall be reckoned as one and if it is less than one-half it shall be ignored.

(3) If leave is granted under sub-rule (2), the Speaker may, after considering the state of business in the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly), allot a day or days or part of a day for the discussion of the motion.

(4) The Speaker shall, at the appointed hour on the allotted day or, as the case may be, the last of the allotted days, forthwith put every question necessary to determine the decision of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) on the motion.

(5) The Speaker may, if he thinks fit, prescribe a time limit for speeches.

CHAPTER XIII

Motion for Adjournment on a Matter of Public Importance

Speaker's
consent
necessary to
make
motion.

59. Subject to the provisions of these Rules, a motion for an adjournment of the business of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance may be made with the consent of the Speaker.

Method of
giving notice.

60. (1) Notice of an adjournment motion shall be given in writing not less than two hours before the commencement of the sitting on the day on which the motion is proposed to be made to the Secretary who in turn shall supply copies thereof to the Speaker, the Minister concerned and the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs or the Chief Parliamentary Secretary.

(2) Notice of an adjournment motion shall be accompanied by a brief explanatory memorandum explaining the motion. Such memorandum shall not be part of the motion.

Restrictions
on right to
make
motion.

61. The right to move the adjournment of the business of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance shall be subject to the following restrictions, namely :—

- (i) not more than one such motion shall be made at the same sitting;
- (ii) not more than one matter shall be discussed on the same motion;

- (iii) the motion shall be restricted to a specific matter of recent occurrence;
- (iv) the motion shall relate to a matter which falls within the responsibility of the Government;
- (v) the motion shall not raise a question of privilege;
- (vi) the motion shall not revive discussion on a matter which has been discussed in the same Session;
- (vii) the motion shall not deal with a matter for the discussion of which leave was refused in the same Session;
- (viii) the motion shall not anticipate a matter which has been previously appointed for consideration. In determining whether a discussion is out of order on the ground of anticipation, regard shall be had by the Speaker to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) within a reasonable time;
- (ix) the motion shall not deal with a matter on which a resolution could not be moved;
- (x) the motion shall not relate to the ordinary administration of law;

- (xi) the motion shall not deal with any matter which is under adjudication by a Court of law;
- (xii) the motion shall not involve a matter of legislation;
- (xiii) the motion shall not raise any question which, under the Constitution or these Rules, can only be raised on a distinct motion by a notice given in writing to the Secretary; and
- (xiv) the motion shall not ordinarily raise matters pending before any statutory tribunal or statutory authority performing any judicial or quasi-judicial functions or any commission or court of enquiry appointed to enquire into, or investigate any matter, but may refer to matters concerned with procedure or subject or stage of enquiry if it is not likely to prejudice the consideration of the matter by the tribunal or commission or court of enquiry.

Mode of asking for leave to move adjournment motion.

62. (1) The Speaker, if he gives consent under rule 59, and holds that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, shall, after the questions and before the list of business is entered upon, call the member concerned, who shall rise in his place and ask for leave to move the adjournment of the business of

the House:

Provided that where the Speaker has refused his consent under rule 59, or is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is not in order, he may, if he thinks it necessary, read the notice of the motion, and state the reasons for refusing consent or holding the motion as not in order. The member shall have no right to speak on the circumstances of his motion unless permitted to do so by the Speaker.

(2) If objection to leave being granted is taken, the Speaker shall request those members who are in favour of leave being granted, to rise in their places, and if not less than fifteen members rise accordingly, the Speaker shall intimate that leave is granted. If less than fifteen members rise, the Speaker shall inform the member that he has not the leave of the House.

63. If leave is granted, the motion shall be taken up on the same day at the normal hour of interruption of business, or if the business on the list for the day is concluded earlier; at the conclusion of such business or at any other time as the Speaker may decide.

Time for taking up motion.

64. On a motion to adjourn for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, the only question that may be put shall be "That the business of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) do now adjourn"; provided that if the debate is not concluded within two hours from the time at which it was commenced, it shall automatically terminate and no question shall be put.

Limitation of time for discussion.

Time limit
for speeches.

65. No speech during the debate shall exceed fifteen minutes in duration:

Provided that it shall be within the discretion of the Speaker to allow the mover and the Minister answering him to exceed the said limit of time.

CHAPTER XIV

Calling Attention to Matters of Urgent Public Importance

66. (1) A member may, with the previous permission of the Speaker, call the attention of a Minister to any matter of urgent public importance and the Minister may make a brief statement:

Calling
Attention to
matters of
urgent public
importance.

Provided that no member shall give more than two such notices for any one sitting:

Provided further that the Minister shall make the statement on the day for which the notice has been entered in the list of business.

(2) A notice shall be given in writing to the Secretary two clear days before the commencement of the sitting on the day on which it is proposed to be taken up.

(3) There shall be no debate on such statement at the time it is made but each member in whose name the notice stands in the list of business may, with the permission of the Speaker, ask a question:

Provided that names of not more than three members shall be shown in the list of business and only those members would be allowed to ask a question each.

(4) Not more than three matters shall be raised at the same sitting.

Explanation.—(1) Where a notice is signed by more than one member, it shall be deemed to have been given by the first signatory only.

(2) If more than three notices are admitted a ballot shall be held to determine the relative precedence of each of the three, and the remaining notices shall lapse.

(5) The proposed matter shall be raised after the questions and before the list of business is entered upon and at no other time during the sitting of the House.

(6) All the notices which have not been taken up at the sitting for which they have been given shall lapse at the end of the sitting, unless the Speaker has admitted any of them for a subsequent sitting.

(Note.—A call attention notice to be included in the List of Business should be brief, self-contained and precise).

CHAPTER XV

General Rules of Procedure

67. Every notice required by the Rules shall be given in writing addressed to the Secretary and shall be delivered at the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) Office. If it is delivered between 10.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on a day when the office is open it shall be treated as delivered on that day. If it is delivered at any later time or on any holiday, it shall be treated as delivered on the day on which the office next opens. A notice or communication which is not legibly written, may, and if it is not signed by the member sending it, shall be rejected :

Notice by
Members.

Provided that a notice received through Fax duly signed / E-Mail shall be deemed to have been duly received.

68. (1) The Secretary shall make every effort to circulate to each member a copy of notice or other paper required under the Rules to be made available for the use of members.

Circulation
of notices
and papers to
members.

(2) A notice or other paper shall be deemed to have been made available for the use of a member—

- (i) When the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) is in Session and for two days before the commencement of the Session, unless otherwise requested by the member, if it is delivered by hand at the local address given by the member (in this case it will be

necessary that receipt is acknowledged in the delivery book); or when the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) is actually sitting, if it is placed in the seat allotted to the member in the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) Chamber;

- (ii) on other days, if it is sent by post to the member's permanent address as registered in the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) office.

69. Deleted. (See Rule 15-A).

Language of
Vidhan Sabha
(Assembly).

70. Subject to the provisions of Article 210 of the Constitution, the proceedings in the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) shall be conducted in Hindi or in Punjabi or in English language.

Motions

Notice of
motion or
amendment.

71. Save as otherwise provided in these Rules, a member who wishes to move a motion, shall give, in the case of a substantive motion, at least seven clear days' and in the case of an amendment, at least two clear days' notice in writing of his intention to the Secretary :

Provided that the Speaker may in his discretion, allow a motion or amendment to be moved at shorter notice or without notice.

Who may
move
motion.

72. Except as otherwise provided in these Rules, a motion or amendment which requires notice may be moved only by the member giving notice. If a motion

or amendment is not moved, it shall be deemed to have been withdrawn.

73. A motion or amendment may not be moved in a form different from that in which it appears on the notice paper unless the Speaker in his discretion, permits it to be moved in an altered form.

Motion to be moved as appearing on the notice paper.

74. A motion or amendment shall not, except with the permission of the Speaker, raise a question substantially identical with one on which the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) has given a decision in the same Session :

Repetition of motions.

Provided that the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) shall not be deemed to have given a decision in respect of a Bill unless it has either passed the Bill or has rejected the Bill.

75. A motion or amendment must not anticipate a matter already appointed for consideration of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly), and in determining whether a motion is out of order on the ground of anticipation, the Speaker must have regard to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) within a reasonable time.

Rule against anticipation.

76. (1) A member who has made a motion may withdraw the same by leave of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly).

Withdrawal of motion.

(2) The leave shall be signified not upon question

but by the Speaker taking the pleasure of the House. The Speaker shall ask: "Is it your pleasure that the motion be withdrawn?" If no one dissents, the Speaker shall say: "The motion is by leave withdrawn". But if any dissentient voice be heard or a Member rises to continue the debate, the Speaker shall forthwith put the motion:

Provided that if an amendment has been proposed to a motion, the original motion shall not be withdrawn until the amendment has been disposed of.

(3) There shall be no discussion on a request for leave to withdraw a motion.

Motion that policy or situation or statement etc. be taken into consideration

77. A motion that the policy or situation or statement or any other matter be taken into consideration shall not be put to the vote of the House, but the House shall proceed to discuss such matter immediately after the mover has concluded his speech and no further question shall be put at the conclusion of the debate at the appointed hour unless a Member moves a substantive motion in appropriate terms to be approved by the Speaker and on such motion the vote of the House shall be taken.

Anticipating Discussion

Anticipating discussion.

78. No member shall anticipate the discussion of any subject of which notice has been given, provided that in determining whether a discussion is out of order on the ground of anticipation, regard shall be had by the

Speaker to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) within a reasonable time.

Amendments

79. An amendment may be moved to a question after it has been proposed from the Chair by the member who has given notice of the same. Moving of amendments.

80. (1) An amendment shall be relevant to and within the scope of the motion to which it is proposed. Scope of amendments.

(2) An amendment shall not raise a question which, by these Rules, can only be raised on a substantive motion.

(3) An amendment shall not be moved which has merely the effect of a negative vote.

(4) An amendment of a question shall not be inconsistent with a previous decision on the same question.

(5) After a decision has been given on an amendment to any part of a question, an earlier part of that question cannot be amended. It may, however, be amended when the proposed amendment is withdrawn.

(6) The Speaker may direct that an amendment which is grossly out of order or frivolous be not put on the notice paper.

(7) An amendment may be moved to an amendment after it has been proposed by the Speaker/Chair.

Selection of
amendments.

81. The Speaker shall have power, in respect of any motion, to select the amendments to be proposed, and may, if he thinks fit, call upon any member who has given notice of an amendment to give such explanation of the object of the amendment as may enable him to form a judgement upon it.

Closure

Closure.

82. (1) At any time after a question has been proposed, any member may move “That the question be now put”, and unless it appears to the Speaker that the motion is an abuse of these Rules or an infringement of the right of reasonable debate, the Speaker shall put the question :—

“That the question be now put.”.

(2) The motion : “That the question be now put” shall be decided without amendment or debate.

(3) Where the motion : “That the question be now put” has been carried, the question or questions consequent thereon shall be put forthwith without further debate:

Provided that the Speaker may allow any member any right of reply which he may have under these Rules.

(4) The motion : “That the question be now put” may, subject to these Rules, be moved to any motion before the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly).

83. (1) Whenever the debate on any motion in connection with a Bill or any other motion becomes, in the opinion of the Speaker, unduly protracted, the Speaker may, after taking the sense of the House, fix a time limit for the conclusion of discussion on any stage or all stages of the Bill or the motion, as the case may be.

Limitation of debate.

(2) At the appointed hour, in accordance with the time limit fixed for the completion of a particular stage of a Bill or a motion, the Speaker shall, unless the debate is sooner concluded, forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of all the outstanding matters in connection with that stage of the Bill or the motion.

Question for Decision

84. A matter requiring the decision of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) shall be decided by means of a question put by the Speaker on a motion made by a member.

Procedure for obtaining decision of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly).

85. When a motion has been made, the Speaker shall propose the question for the consideration and put it for the decision of the Assembly. If a motion embodies two or more separate propositions, these propositions may be proposed as separate questions by the Speaker.

Proposal and putting of questions.

86. A member shall not speak on a question after the Speaker has collected the voices both of the “Ayes” and of the “Noes” on the question.

No speech after voices collected.

Division

Division.

87. (1) On the conclusion of a debate, the Speaker shall put the question and invite those who are in favour of the motion to say “Aye” and those against the motion to say “No”.

(2) The Speaker shall then say “I think the Ayes (or the Noes, as the case may be) have it”. If the opinion of the Speaker as to the decision of a question is not challenged, he shall say twice: “The Ayes (or the Noes, as the case may be) have it” and the question before the House shall be determined accordingly.

(3) If the opinion of the Speaker as to the decision of a question is challenged, he may, if he thinks that the Division is unnecessarily claimed, ask the members who are for “Aye” and those for “No” respectively to rise in their places and, on a count being taken, he may declare the determination of the House. In such a case, the names of the voters shall not be recorded.

(4) (a) If the opinion of the Speaker as to the decision of a question is challenged and he does not adopt the course provided for in sub-rule (3), he shall order a “Division” to be held.

(b) After the lapse of two minutes, he shall put the question a second time and declare whether in his opinion the “Ayes” or the “Noes” have it.

(c) If the opinion so declared is again challenged, he shall direct the “Ayes” and the “Noes” into their Lobbies. In the “Ayes” and “Noes” Lobby, as the case may be, the votes of the members shall be recorded by the Division Clerks on the Division Lists.

(d) After voting in the Lobbies is completed, the Division Clerks shall hand over the Division Lists to the Secretary, who shall count the votes and present the totals of “Ayes” and “Noes” to the Speaker.

(e) The result of a Division shall be announced by the Speaker and shall not be challenged.

(f) A member who is unable to go to the Division lobby owing to sickness or infirmity may, with the permission of the Speaker, have his vote recorded either at his seat or in the Members’ Lobby.

(g) If a member finds that he has voted by mistake in the wrong Lobby, he may be allowed to correct his mistake provided he brings it to the notice of the Speaker before the result of the Division is announced.

(h) When the Division Clerks have brought the Division Lists to the Secretary’s table, a member who has not, up to that time, recorded his vote but who then wishes to have his vote recorded, may do so with the permission of the Speaker.

88. (1) A member may vote in a Division although he did not hear the question put. Voting of members.

(2) A member is not obliged to vote.

Disqualifica-
tion for
voting on
ground of
pecuniary
interest.

89. A member may not vote on any question in which he has a direct pecuniary interest. If he votes on such a question, the vote may, on a substantive motion carried by the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly), be disallowed. Such motion shall be made immediately after the Division is over and before the result is announced by the Speaker.

Explanation.—The interest contemplated in this rule should be direct, personal or pecuniary and separately belong to the person whose vote is questioned and not in common with the public in general or with any class or section thereof or on a matter of State policy.

Rules to be observed by Members

Rules to be
observed by
Members
while present
in the House.

90. Whilst the House is sitting, a member—

- (i) shall not read any book, newspaper, or letter except in connection with the business of the House ;
- (ii) shall not interrupt any Member while speaking by disorderly expression or noises or in any other disorderly manner ;
- (iii) shall bow to the Chair while entering or leaving the House, and also when taking or leaving his seat ;

- (iv) shall not pass between the Chair and any Member who is speaking, nor between the Chair and Table of the House ;
- (v) shall not leave the House when the Speaker is addressing it ;
- (vi) shall always address the Chair ;
- (vii) shall keep to his seat while addressing the House ;
- (viii) shall maintain silence when not speaking himself in the House ;
- (ix) shall not obstruct proceedings, hiss or interrupt and shall not make running commentaries when speeches are being made in the House ;
- (x) shall switch off the mobile phone or any other communication device on his person before entering the House.

91. When a member rises to speak, his name shall be called by the Speaker. If more members than one rise at the same time, the member whose name is called shall be entitled to speak.

Order of speeches.

92. (1) Except as otherwise provided in these Rules, a member may speak on any question before the House or raise a point of order.

Right of speech and mode of address.

(2) A member who desires to speak shall speak

from his place, shall rise when he speaks and shall address the Speaker. At any time if the Speaker rises, any member speaking shall resume his seat.

Rules to be
observed
while
speaking.

93. (1) The matter of every speech shall be strictly relevant to the matter before the House.

(2) A member while speaking, shall not—

- (i) reflect upon the conduct of persons in high authority unless the discussion is based on a substantive motion drawn in proper terms ;

Explanation.—The words “persons in high authority” mean persons whose conduct can only be discussed on a substantive motion drawn in proper terms under the Constitution, or such other persons whose conduct, in the opinion of the Speaker, should be discussed on a substantive motion drawn in terms to be approved by him.

- (ii) use the name of persons in high authority for the purpose of influencing the debate ;
- (iii) utter treasonable, seditious, defamatory or offensive words ;
- (iv) refer to a matter of fact on which a judicial decision is pending ;
- (v) speak against or reflect on any determination of the House except when he is moving to rescind the same ;

- (vi) make a personal charge against a member ;
- (vii) use his right of speech for the purpose of obstructing the business of the House ; and
- (viii) use offensive expression about the conduct or proceedings of Parliament or any State Legislature.

93-A. No allegation of a defamatory or incriminatory nature shall be made by a member against any person unless the member has given intimation at least one clear day in advance to the Speaker and also to the Minister concerned so that the Minister may be able to make an investigation into the matter for the purpose of a reply :

Procedure regarding allegations against a person.

Provided that the Speaker may at any time prohibit any member from making any such allegation if he is of opinion that such allegation is derogatory to the dignity of the House or that no public interest is served by making such allegation.

94. A member other than a Minister may not read his speech but may refresh his memory by reference to notes.

Rule against reading.

95. The Speaker may interrupt a member who is speaking and ask him to resume his seat, if in his opinion the member is taking too much time and thereby depriving other members of their legitimate right to

Speaker's right to interrupt member.

express their views.

Irrelevance
or repetition.

96. The Speaker, after having called the attention of the House to the conduct of a member who persists in irrelevance or in tedious repetition either of his own arguments or of the arguments used by other members in debate, may direct him to discontinue his speech.

Withdrawal of Members

Withdrawal
of a member.

97 (1) The Speaker shall preserve order and have all powers necessary for the purpose of enforcing his decisions on all points of order.

(2) He may direct any member whose conduct is, in his opinion, grossly disorderly, to withdraw immediately from the House, and any member so ordered to withdraw shall do so forthwith and shall absent himself during the remainder of the day's meeting. If any member is ordered to withdraw a second time in the Session, the Speaker may direct the member to absent himself from the meetings of the House for any period not longer than the remainder of the Session, and the member so directed shall absent himself accordingly. Such member shall be deemed to be absent from the meetings of the House for the purposes of section 3(2) (a) of the Punjab Legislative Assembly (Allowances of Members) Act, 1942, but shall not be deemed to be absent for the purposes of Article 190(4) of the Constitution.

Suspension of Sitting

98. In the case of grave disorder arising in the House, the Speaker may, if he thinks it necessary to do so, adjourn the House or suspend any sitting for a time to be named by him.

Power of Speaker to adjourn the House or suspend sitting.

Papers quoted to be laid on the Table

99. If a Minister quotes in the House a public or other State document which has not been presented to the House, he shall lay such document on the Table :

Papers quoted to be laid on the Table.

Provided that this rule shall not apply to any documents which are stated by the Minister to be of such a nature that their production would be inconsistent with public interest :

Provided further that where a Minister gives, in his own words, a summary or gist of such document, it shall not be necessary to lay the relevant papers on the Table.

100. (1) A paper or document laid on the Table shall be duly authenticated by the member presenting it.

Treatment of papers laid on the Table.

(2) All papers and documents or CD's/DVD's/ Pen drives laid on the Table shall be considered public.

Right of Reply

101. (1) Except in the exercise of a right of reply or as otherwise provided by the Rules, no member shall

Right of Reply.

speak more than once to any motion, except with the permission of the Speaker for the purpose of making a personal explanation.

(2) A member who has moved a motion may speak again by way of reply, and if the motion was moved by a private member, the Minister concerned may, with the permission of the Speaker, speak (whether he has previously spoken in the debate or not) after the mover has replied :

Provided that nothing in this sub-rule shall be deemed to give any right of reply to the mover of an amendment to a Bill or a resolution save with the permission of the Speaker.

Address by Speaker

Address by
Speaker.

102. (1) The Speaker may himself, on a point being raised or a request made by a member, address the House at any time on a matter under consideration in the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly), with a view to aid members in their deliberations, and such expression of views shall not be taken to be in the nature of a decision.

(2) The Speaker may in all cases address the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) on matters relating to procedure, before putting a question to the vote of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly).

Procedure
when Speaker
rises.

103. (1) Whenever the Speaker rises, he shall be heard in silence, and any member who is then speaking or offering to speak, shall immediately resume his seat.

(2) No member shall leave his seat while the Speaker is addressing the House.

Questions through Speaker

104. When for the purpose of explanation during discussion or for any other sufficient reason, any member has occasion to ask a question of another member or a Minister on any matter then under consideration of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly), he shall, if permitted by the Speaker, ask the question after the Member/Minister who is speaking concludes his speech.

Questions to be asked through Speaker.

Points of Order

105. (1) A point of order shall relate to the interpretation or enforcement of these Rules or such Articles of the Constitution as regulate the business of the House and shall raise a question which is within the cognizance of the Speaker.

Points of order and decisions thereon.

(2) A point of order may be raised in relation to the business before the House at the moment :

Provided that the Speaker may permit a member to raise a point of order during the interval between the termination of one item of business and the commencement of another, if it relates to the maintenance of order in, or arrangement of business before the House.

(3) Subject to conditions referred to in sub-rules

(1) and (2), a member may formulate a point of order, and the Speaker shall decide whether the point raised is a point of order and, if so, give his decision thereon, which shall be final.

(4) No debate shall be allowed on a point of order, but the Speaker may, if he thinks fit, hear members before giving his decision.

(5) A point of order is not a point of privilege.

(6) A Member shall not raise a point of order :—

(a) to ask for information ; or

(b) to explain his position ; or

(c) when a question on any motion is being put to the House ; or

(d) which may be hypothetical ; or

(e) that Division bells did not ring or were not heard.

(7) A member may raise a point of order during a Division, only on a matter arising out of the Division, and shall do so sitting.

Admission and Withdrawal of Strangers

Admission of
strangers.

106. The admission of strangers during the sittings of the House to those portions of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) Chamber which are not appropriated for

the exclusive use of members, shall be regulated in accordance with the orders made by the Speaker.

106-A. An Officer of the Secretariat authorized in this behalf by the Speaker shall remove from the precincts of the House or take into custody, any stranger whom he may see, or who may be reported to him to be, in any portion of the precincts of the House which is reserved for the exclusive use of Members, and also any stranger who, having been admitted into any portion of the precincts of the House, misconducts himself or willfully infringes the regulations made by the Speaker or does not withdraw when the strangers are directed to withdraw while the House is sitting.

Removal and taking into custody of Strangers.

107. The Speaker, whenever he thinks fit, may order the withdrawal of strangers, from any part of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) Chamber.

Withdrawal of strangers.

Report of Proceedings

108. The Secretary shall cause to be prepared a full report of the proceedings of the House at each of its sittings, and shall, as soon as practicable, have it published in such form and manner as the Speaker may, from time to time, direct.

Report of proceedings of the House.

109. (1) If the Speaker is of opinion that a word or words has or have been used in debate which is or are defamatory or indecent or un-parliamentary or un-dignified, he may, in his discretion, order that such

Expunging of words from debates.

word or words be expunged from the proceedings of the House.

(2) The portion of the proceedings of the House so expunged, shall be marked by asterisks, and an explanatory foot-note shall be inserted in the proceedings as follows :—

“Expunged as ordered by the Chair.”

Members not to speak or interrupt without permission.

109-A. If a member speaks or interrupts without the permission of the Speaker, those words which have been spoken without the permission, shall not form part of the proceedings.

Printing and publication of other documents, etc.

110. (1) The Speaker may authorise printing, publication, distribution or sale of any paper, document or report in connection with the business of the House, or any paper, document or report laid on the Table or presented to the House or a Committee thereof.

(2) A paper, document, or report, printed, published, distributed or sold in pursuance of sub-rule (1), shall be deemed to have been printed, published, distributed or sold under the authority of the House within the meaning of clause (2) of Article 194 of the Constitution.

Custody of Papers

Custody of papers.

111. The Secretary shall have custody of all records, documents and papers belonging to the Vidhan

Sabha (Assembly) or any of its Committees or the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) Secretariat, and he shall not permit any such records, documents or papers to be taken from the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) Chamber and its offices without the permission of the Speaker.

Interpretation of Rules

112. In case of doubt as to the interpretation of the Rules, the decision of the Speaker shall be final. Interpretation of Rules.

Residuary Powers

113. All matters not specifically provided in these Rules, and all questions relating to the detailed working of these Rules, shall be regulated in such manner as the Speaker may, from time to time, direct. Residuary powers.

Suspension of Rules

114. Any member may, with the consent of the Speaker, move that any rule/rules may be suspended in its application to a particular motion before the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly), and if the motion is carried, the rule/rules in question shall be suspended for the time being. Suspension of Rules.

Speaker's decision not to be questioned

114-A. No decision of the Speaker in respect of allowing or disallowing of any resolution or question or in respect of any other matter shall be questioned : Speaker's decision not to be questioned.

Provided that in case of rejection or disallowing of any resolution or question or in respect of any other matter, the Member shall be given an opportunity to be heard, if requested by the Member.

CHAPTER XVI

I Legislation

(a) Introduction and publication of Bills

115. Any member desiring to move for leave to introduce a Bill, shall give fifteen days' notice of his intention, and shall, together with his notice, submit a copy of the Bill and a full Statement of Objects and Reasons :

Notice of motion for leave to introduce Bills.

Provided that the Speaker may, for sufficient reasons, allow the motion for leave to introduce a Bill to be made at shorter notice.

116. (1) If the Bill or amendment given notice of by a private member is a Bill or amendment which, under the Constitution, cannot be introduced without the previous sanction of the President or recommendation of the Governor, the member shall annex to his notice, a copy of such sanction or recommendation, as the case may be, and the notice shall not be valid until this requirement is complied with.

Private Members' Bills requiring previous sanction or recommendation.

(2) The Speaker may disallow a notice of a Bill in case the Bill does not comply with the requirement of rule 118 or 119.

117. The orders of the President or the Governor sanctioning or recommending the introduction or consideration, as the case may be, of a Bill shall be communicated to the Secretary by the Minister concerned in writing.

Communication of sanction or recommendation of President or Governor.

Financial memorandum to Bills and money clauses in Bills.

118.(1) A Bill involving expenditure shall be accompanied by a financial memorandum which shall invite particular attention to the clauses involving expenditure and shall also give an estimate of the recurring and non-recurring expenditure involved in case the Bill is passed into law.

(2) Clauses or provisions in Bills involving expenditure from public funds shall be printed in thick type or in italics :

Provided that where a clause in a Bill involving expenditure is not printed in thick type or in italics, the Speaker may permit the member-in-charge of the Bill to bring such clauses to the notice of the House.

Explanatory Memorandum to Bill delegating Legislative Powers.

119. A Bill involving proposals for the delegation of legislative powers shall further be accompanied by a memorandum explaining such proposals, and drawing attention to their scope, and stating also whether they are of normal or exceptional character.

Motion for leave to introduce Bills.

120. (1) If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is carried, the Bill shall be introduced.

(2) If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is opposed, the Speaker, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who moves, and from the member who opposes the motion, may put the question without further debate :

Provided that where an important measure is

offered by a Minister or Member, and it is expected that the motion will be negatived, the Speaker may allow a full exposition of the character and objects of the Bill by the member who moves and the member who opposes the motion, but such exposition shall be confined to the principles underlying the Bill.

121. As soon as may be after a Bill has been introduced, the Bill, unless it has already been published, shall be published in the Gazette :

Previous
publication of
Bills.

Provided that the Speaker, on request being made to him, may order the publication of any Bill (together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the memorandum regarding delegation of legislative powers and the financial memorandum accompanying it) in the Gazette, although no motion has been made for leave to introduce the Bill. In that case, it shall not be necessary to move for leave to introduce the Bill, and, if the Bill is afterwards introduced, it shall not be necessary to publish it again.

(b) Motions after introduction of Bills

122. When a Bill is introduced, or on some subsequent occasion, the member-in-charge may make one of the following motions in regard to his Bill, namely :—

Motion after
introduction.

- (a) that it be taken into consideration by Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) either at once or at some future day to be then specified; or
- (b) that it be referred to a Select Committee; or

- (c) that it be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by a date to be specified in the motion :

Provided that no such motion shall be made until after copies of the Bill have been made available for the use of members, and that any member may object to any such motion being made unless copies of the Bill have been so made available for five clear days before the day on which the motion is made, and such objection shall prevail unless the Speaker allows the motion to be made.

Note.— If any Member is unacquainted with English, the Secretary, if requested by him, with the permission of the Speaker, shall cause the Bill to be translated into Hindi or Punjabi, as the case may be.

Member by whom motion in respect of Bills may be made.

123. A motion that a Bill be taken into consideration or that the Bill be passed, shall be made by the member-in-charge of the Bill. A motion that a Bill be referred to a Select Committee or be circulated or re-circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon, shall also be made by the member-in-charge except when such a motion is made by way of amendment to the motion made by the member-in-charge.

Discussion of principle of Bill.

124. (1) On the day on which any of the motions referred to in rule 122 is made or on any subsequent day to which the discussion thereof is postponed, the principle of the Bill and its general provisions may be

discussed but the details of the Bill shall not be discussed further than is necessary to explain its principle.

(2) At this stage, no amendments to the Bill may be moved, but—

- (a) if the member-in-charge moves that his Bill be taken into consideration, any member may move as an amendment that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee or be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by a date, to be specified in the motion;
- (b) if the member-in-charge moves that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, any member may move, as an amendment that it be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by a date to be specified in the motion :

Provided that if an amendment or a motion for appointment of a Select Committee has been moved under this sub-rule, any member may move that the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) give instructions to the Select Committee to which the Bill has been referred to make particular or additional provision in the Bill, and if necessary or convenient, to consider and report on amendments which may be proposed to the original Act which the Bill seeks to amend.

(3) Where a motion that a Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon is carried, and the Bill is circulated in accordance with that direction, and opinions are received thereon, the member-in-charge, if he wishes to proceed with his Bill thereafter, must move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee unless the Speaker, in the exercise of his power to suspend this rule, allows a motion to be made that the Bill be taken into consideration.

(c) Procedure after presentation of report of a Select Committee

Procedure
after
presentation
of Report.

125.(1) After the presentation of the final report of a Select Committee on a Bill, the member-in-charge may move—

- (a) that the Bill, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration :

Provided that any member of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) may object to its being so taken into consideration if a copy of the report has not been made available for the use of members for seven days, and such objection shall prevail unless the Speaker allows the report to be taken into consideration; or

- (b) that the Bill, as reported by the Select Committee, be recommitted to the same Select Committee, either—

- (i) without limitation; or
 - (ii) with respect to particular clauses or amendments only; or
 - (iii) with instructions to the Select Committee to make some particular or additional provision in the Bill; or
- (c) that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be circulated or re-circulated, as the case may be, for the purpose of eliciting opinion or further opinion thereon.

(2) If the member-in-charge moves that the Bill, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration, any member may move, as an amendment, that the Bill be recommitted or be circulated or re-circulated for the purpose of obtaining opinion or further opinion thereon.

126. The debate on a motion that the Bill, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration shall be confined to consideration of the report of the Select Committee and the matters referred to in that report or any alternative suggestions consistent with the principle of the Bill.

Scope of debate on report of Select Committee.

(d) Amendments to clause, etc., and consideration of Bills

127. (1) If notice of a proposed amendment has not been given two clear days before the day on which

Notice of Amendments.

the consideration of the clause to which the amendment is proposed is commenced, any member may object to the moving of the amendment, and such objection shall prevail unless the Speaker allows the amendment to be moved.

Explanation 1.—The Speaker may allow a verbal amendment being proposed at the time of the consideration of the Bill clause by clause, provided such amendment is, in his opinion, essential to carry out the objects of the Bill.

Explanation 2.—For allowing a reasonable time for the proper drafting of the proposed verbal amendment, the Speaker may postpone the consideration of the clause concerned and pass on to the next clauses and may revert to the clause so deferred at a later stage during the consideration of the Bill.

Explanation 3.— Nothing in this clause shall be construed as preventing any Minister or member-in-charge of a Bill from moving an amendment at any time during the consideration of the Bill clause by clause.

Explanation 4.—A member of a Select Committee, however, who signs its report without a Minute of Dissent, shall not move an amendment to the Bill when it is under consideration in the House.

(2) The Secretary shall, if time permits, cause every such notice to be printed, and a copy thereof to be made available for the use of every member.

Note.—If any member is unacquainted with English, the Secretary, if requested by him, with permission of the Speaker, shall cause notices of amendments to be translated into Hindi or Punjabi, as the case may be.

128. The following conditions shall govern the admissibility of amendments to clauses or schedules of a Bill—

Conditions of admissibility of amendments.

- (i) An amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject-matter of clause to which it relates.
- (ii) An amendment shall not be inconsistent with any previous decision of the Assembly on the same question.
- (iii) An amendment shall not be such as to make the clause which it proposes to amend unintelligible or ungrammatical.
- (iv) If an amendment refers to, or is not intelligible without a subsequent amendment or schedule, notice or the subsequent amendment or schedule shall be given before the first amendment is moved, so as to make the series of amendments intelligible as a whole.
- (v) The Speaker shall determine the place in which an amendment shall be moved.
- (vi) The Speaker may refuse to propose an amendment which is, in his opinion, frivolous or meaningless.
- (vii) An amendment may be moved to an amendment which has already been proposed by the Speaker.

Sanction or
recommenda-
tion of
President or
Governor to
be annexed to
amendment

129. If any member desires to move an amendment which under the Constitution cannot be moved without the previous sanction or recommendation of the President or Governor, as the case may be, he shall annex to the notice required by these Rules such sanction or recommendation, and the notice shall not be valid, until this requirement is complied with.

Order of
amendments.

130. (1) Amendments shall ordinarily be considered in the order of the clauses of the Bill to which they respectively relate; and in respect of any such clause a motion shall be deemed to have been made, "That this clause stand part of the Bill."

(2) Amendments may be considered in the following order :—

- (i) new clauses, priority being given to clause moved by the member-in-charge of the Bill;
- (ii) amendments to clauses in the order in which, if agreed to, they will stand in the amended Bill, provided that if a proposed amendment be withdrawn, a prior amendment may be moved; and provided further that it shall be in the discretion of the Speaker to allow an amendment to a clause although the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) has passed to the subsequent clauses of the Bill;
- (iii) new schedules, if any;
- (iv) original schedules;

- (v) amendment to the preamble, if any; and
- (vi) amendment to the title, if necessary.

(3) The Speaker may, if he thinks fit, put as one question similar amendments to a clause :

Provided that if a member requests that any amendment be put separately, the Speaker shall put that amendment separately.

131. When a motion that a Bill be taken into consideration has been carried, any member, when called upon by the Speaker, may move an amendment to the Bill of which he has previously given notice :

Mode of moving amendments.

Provided that in order to save time and repetition of arguments, a single discussion may be allowed to cover a series of interdependent amendments.

132. An amendment moved may, by leave of the House, but not otherwise, be withdrawn on the request of the member moving it. If an amendment has been proposed to an amendment, the original amendment shall not be withdrawn, until the amendment proposed to it has been disposed of.

Withdrawal of amendment.

133. A member proposing a new clause on the consideration of a Bill shall, in the first instance, ask for the leave to move the clause, and if leave is given, may move it. The question shall then be proposed from the Chair, "That the clause be considered". Members may

Procedure on new clauses.

speak in support of or opposing the clause. If the question be affirmed, amendments may be proposed to the clause. After the amendments have been disposed of, the Speaker shall put the question that the clause, or the clause as amended, as the case may be, be added to the Bill.

Submission of
a Bill clause
by clause.

134. (1) Notwithstanding anything in these Rules, the Speaker may, when a motion that a Bill be taken into consideration has been carried, submit the Bill, or any part of the Bill, to the House clause by clause. The Speaker may call each clause separately, and when the amendments relating to it have been dealt with, shall put the question: "That this clause (or, as the case may be, that this clause as amended) stand part of the Bill".

(2) The Speaker may, if he thinks fit, put as one question a group of clauses to which no amendments have been moved :

Provided that if a member requests that any clause be put separately, the Speaker shall put that clause separately.

Postponement
of clause.

135. The Speaker may, if he thinks fit, postpone the consideration of a clause.

Schedule.

136. The consideration of the schedule or schedules, if any, shall follow the consideration of clauses. Schedules shall be put from the Chair, and may be amended in the same manner as clauses, and the consideration of new schedules shall follow the

consideration of the original schedules. The question shall then be put : “That this schedule (or, as the case may be, that this schedule as amended) stand part of the Bill” :

Provided that the Speaker may allow the schedule or schedules, if any, being considered before the clauses are disposed of or alongwith a clause or otherwise as he may think fit.

137. Clause one, the enacting formula, the preamble, if any, and the title of a Bill shall stand postponed until the other clauses and schedules (including new clauses and new schedules) have been disposed of, and the Speaker shall then put the question : “That clause one or the enacting formula or the preamble or the title (or, as the case may be, that clause one, preamble or title as amended) do stand part of the Bill”.

Clause one, enacting formula, preamble and title of the Bill.

138. Where a Bill is passed by the House, the Speaker shall have power to correct patent errors and make such other changes in the Bill as are consequential on the amendments accepted by the House.

Power of Speaker to correct errors and make consequential changes in Bill as passed.

(e) Passing of Bills

139. (1) When a motion that a Bill be taken into consideration, has been carried and no amendment of the Bill is made, the member-in-charge may at once move that the Bill be passed.

Passing of a Bill.

(2) If any amendment of the Bill is made, any member may object to any motion being made on the same day that the Bill be passed, and such objection shall prevail unless the Speaker allows the motion to be made.

(3) Where the objection prevails, a motion that the Bill be passed, may be brought forward on any future day.

(4) To such a motion, no amendment may be moved which is not either formal, verbal or consequential upon an amendment made after the Bill was taken into consideration.

Scope of
debate

140. The discussion on a motion that the Bill be passed shall be confined to the submission of arguments either in support of the Bill or for rejection of the Bill. In making his speech, a member shall not refer to the details of the Bill further than is necessary for the purpose of his arguments which shall be of a general character.

Withdrawal
and rejection
of Bills.

141. (1) The member who has introduced a Bill, may at any stage of the Bill, move for leave to withdraw the Bill; and if such leave is granted, no further motion may be made with reference to the Bill.

(2) At any stage of a Bill, if a motion is made and rejected by the House, the Bill shall be deemed to have been rejected, and it shall not be re-introduced within a period of six months from such date.

(f) Submission of Bills for assent and reconsideration of Bills

142. When a Bill is passed by the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly), the Secretary shall send the Bill as passed, signed by the Speaker, for submission to the Governor for his assent.

Submission of Bills to Governor.

143. When a Bill which has been passed by the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly), is returned by the Governor for reconsideration, the point or points referred for reconsideration shall be put before the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) by the Speaker, and shall be discussed and voted upon in the same manner as amendments to a Bill, or in such other way as the Speaker may consider most convenient for their consideration by the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly).

Reconsideration by the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) of a Bill passed.

II. Governor's Ordinances

144. (1) As soon as possible, after the Governor has promulgated an Ordinance under Article 213(1) of the Constitution, copies of the Ordinance shall be made available to the members.

Governor's Ordinances and their discussion.

(2) A member desiring to move a resolution under sub-clause (a) of clause (2) of Article 213 of the Constitution disapproving an Ordinance promulgated under clause (1) of that Article shall give three days' notice of his resolution to the Secretary.

(3) The Speaker shall allot time for the discussion

of the resolution of which notice has been given under sub-rule (2) :

Provided that a period not exceeding two hours shall be allotted for the purpose if notice of a Bill on the subject-matter of the Ordinance has been received by the Secretary :

Provided further that such discussion shall be held before the discussion on the Bill.

CHAPTER XVII

Laying of regulation, rule, bye-law, etc., on the Table and amendments, thereto.

145. (1) Where a regulation, rule, sub-rule, bye-law, etc., framed in pursuance of the Constitution or any Act, is laid before the House, the period specified in the Constitution or the relevant Act, for which it is required to be laid, shall be completed before the House is adjourned *sine die* and later prorogued, unless otherwise provided in the Constitution or the relevant Act.

Laying of regulation, rule, etc. on the Table and computation of period thereof.

(2) Where the specified period is not so completed, the regulation, rule, sub-rule, bye-law, etc., shall be re-laid in the succeeding Session or Sessions until the said period is completed by computing together the period for which the same was laid in that Session and the succeeding Session or Sessions.

146. (1) A member desiring to move an amendment to the regulation, rule, sub-rule, bye-law, etc., laid on the Table under rule 145(1), shall give three days' notice of his/her amendment to the Secretary.

Allotment of time for discussion of amendment.

(2) The Speaker shall, in consultation with the Leader of the House, allot such time as he may consider appropriate for the consideration of the amendment of which notice has been given under sub-rule (1).

CHAPTER XVIII

Resolutions

Notice of resolution.

147. A member, other than a Minister, who wishes to move a resolution, shall give not less than fifteen clear days' notice of his intention, and shall submit, together with the notice, the text of the resolution which he wishes to move :

Provided that the Speaker, with the consent of the Minister to whose department the resolution relates, may allow it to be entered on the list of business with shorter notice than fifteen days.

Form of resolution.

148. A resolution may be in the form of a declaration of opinion by the House, or in the form of a specific recommendation addressed to the Government.

Subject-matter of resolution.

149. Subject to the provisions of the Constitution and these Rules, a Member or a Minister may move a resolution relating to a matter of general public interest.

Conditions of admissibility of resolutions.

150. In order that a resolution may be admissible, it shall satisfy the following conditions, namely—

- (a) it shall be clearly and precisely expressed, and shall raise substantially one definite issue;
- (b) it shall not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions or defamatory statements, nor shall it refer to the conduct or character of persons except in their official or public capacity;

- (c) it shall not relate to any matter which is not primarily the concern of the State Government; and
- (d) it shall not relate to any matter which is under adjudication by a Court of law having jurisdiction in any part of India.

151. The Speaker shall decide whether a resolution or a part thereof is or is not admissible, and disallow any resolution or part thereof, when, in his opinion, it is in contravention of the Rules, provided that he may, in his discretion, amend it in form, or give the member concerned an opportunity of amending it.

Speaker to decide admissibility of a resolution.

152. The Secretary shall intimate to the member from whom notice of a resolution has been received, whether his resolution has been admitted or admitted as amended or disallowed, and if disallowed, reason therefor.

Intimation to member regarding his resolution.

153. A member, in whose name a resolution stands on the list of business, shall, except when he wishes to withdraw it, when called on, move the resolution, in which case he shall commence his speech by a formal motion in the terms appearing on the list of business :

Moving of resolution.

Provided that the member may, with the permission of the Speaker, authorise in writing any other member to move it on his behalf, and the member so authorised may move it accordingly.

Duration of
speech.

154. No speech on a resolution, except with the permission of the Speaker, shall exceed fifteen minutes in duration :

Provided that the mover of a resolution, when moving the same, and the Minister concerned, when speaking for the first time, may speak for thirty minutes or for such longer time as the Speaker may permit.

Scope of
discussion.

155. The discussion of a resolution shall be strictly relevant to and within the scope of the resolution.

Amendment.

156. After a resolution has been moved, any member may, subject to the Rules relating to resolutions, move an amendment to the resolution.

Notice of
amendment.

157. (1) If notice of an amendment has not been given two clear days before the day on which the resolution is moved, any member may object to the moving of the amendment, and such objection shall prevail, unless the Speaker allows the amendment to be moved.

(2) The Secretary shall, if time permits, make available to members, from time to time, lists of amendments, of which notices have been given.

Withdrawal
of resolution
and
amendment.

158. (1) A member, in whose name a resolution stands on the list of business may, when called on, withdraw the resolution, in which case he shall confine himself to a mere statement to that effect.

(2) A member who has moved a resolution, or an amendment to a resolution, shall not withdraw the same

except by leave of the House.

(3) No discussion shall be permitted on a request for leave to withdraw except with the permission of the Speaker.

159. (1) When an amendment to any resolution is moved, or when two or more such amendments are moved, the Speaker shall, before taking the sense of the House thereon, state or read to the House the terms of the original motion and of the amendment or amendments proposed. Order of amendments.

(2) It shall be in the discretion of the Speaker to put first to the vote either the original motion or any amendment which may have been brought forward.

160. When any resolution or amendment thereto, involving several points, has been discussed, it shall be in the discretion of the Speaker to divide the resolution or the amendment, and put each or any point separately to the vote, as he may think fit. Splitting of resolution.

161. When a resolution has been moved, and has or has not been withdrawn, no resolution or amendment raising substantially the same question, shall be moved within six months thereof. Effect of withdrawal.

162. Save in so far as is otherwise provided by these Rules, or, in any case, in which a communication is to be made to the Governor under any provision of the Constitution or of these Rules, no discussion of a matter of general public interest shall take place otherwise than on a resolution moved in accordance with Discussion of matters of general public interest otherwise than on resolution.

the rules governing the moving of resolution, except with the consent of the Speaker.

Copy to
Government.

163. A copy of every resolution which has been passed by the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly), shall be forwarded to the Government.

CHAPTER XIX

Financial Business

164. The Annual Financial Statement or the Statement of the Estimated Receipts and Expenditure of the Government of the State in respect of every financial year (hereinafter referred to as “the Budget”) shall be presented to the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) on such day as the Governor may appoint.

Presentation
of Budget.

165. On the day fixed no business other than the presentation of the Budget and the asking of questions and the giving of replies thereto shall take place except with the consent of the Speaker.

Business on
day of
presentation.

166. The Budget shall be dealt with by the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) in two stages, namely,—

Discussion of
Budget.

- (i) a general discussion; and
- (ii) the voting of demands for grants.

167. (1) On a day or days, to be appointed by the Speaker, in consultation with the Leader of the House, subsequent to the day on which the Budget is presented, and for such time as the Speaker, in consultation with the Leader of the House, may allot for this purpose, the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) shall be at liberty to discuss the Budget as a whole, or any question of principle involved therein, but no motion shall be moved at this stage, nor shall the Budget be submitted to the vote of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly).

Allotment of
time for
discussion.

(2) The Finance Minister shall have a general right of reply at the end of discussion.

(3) The Speaker may, if he thinks fit, prescribe a time-limit for speeches.

Voting of
Demands.

168. (1) The voting of demands for grants shall take place on such days, not exceeding fifteen, as the Speaker, in consultation with the Leader of the House, may allot for the purpose.

(2) Of the days so allotted, not more than two days shall be taken up by the House for the discussion of any one demand. As soon as the maximum limit of time for discussion is reached, the Speaker shall forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of the demand under discussion.

(3) On a day allotted under sub-rule (1), for the voting of demands for grants, no other business shall be taken up before the normal hour of interruption of business, except with the consent of the Speaker :

Provided that nothing in this rule shall be deemed to prohibit the asking and answering of questions during the time allowed under these Rules.

(4) On the last day of the days so allotted, the Speaker shall, one-and-a-half hours before the normal hour of interruption of business, forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of the demand under consideration, and shall then forthwith put, one by one, all the outstanding demands for grants.

(5) On the last day fixed for the voting of demands for grants, the consideration thereof shall not be anticipated by a motion of adjournment, or be interrupted in any other manner whatsoever, nor shall any dilatory motion be moved in regard thereto.

169. The demands for grants shall be arranged in such order as the Leader of the House may intimate. Arrangement of Demands.

170. (1) Motions may be moved to omit or reduce any item, or to reduce any grant but not to increase or alter the destination of a grant. Notice of cut motions.

(2) Notice of such motions shall be given two clear days before the day on which such item or such grant comes up for discussion :

Provided that the Speaker may, in his discretion, allow a motion to be moved at shorter notice.

171. (1) When a token cut is proposed, the object of the cut should be specified clearly and precisely. Motion to relate to relevant items.

(2) Where a motion is intended to limit the debate to a subject-matter relating to an item, it should be given notice of as an amendment to that particular item and not to the total grant.

(3) Where a motion includes more than one item, it may be moved as a reduction of the whole grant.

172. Motions may be arranged in such order as the Speaker may, subject to the provisions contained in Order of motions.

these Rules, from time to time, direct :

Provided that where several motions are moved to the same figures, priority shall be given to the motion proposing the greatest reduction, and the other motions shall be arranged in the descending order of the amounts of reduction proposed.

Limits of discussion.

173. (1) When a motion is made to omit or reduce any item of a vote, and a question is proposed from the Chair for omitting or reducing, that item accordingly, members must speak to that question only, until it has been disposed of.

(2) After a question has been proposed from the Chair for omitting or reducing any item, no motion may be made, or debate allowed, upon any preceding item.

(3) When it has been proposed to omit or reduce items in a vote, the question is afterwards put upon the original vote, or upon the reduced vote as the case may be.

(4) After a question has been proposed from the Chair for a reduction of the whole vote, no motion may be made for omitting or reducing any item in it.

Questions of legislation not to be raised.

174. Debate on motions must be confined to the administrative matters for which the Government is responsible, and not deal with matters requiring legislation.

Vote on Account.

175. (1) A motion for Vote on Account shall state the total sum required, and the various amounts needed

for each Department, or item of expenditure which compose that sum shall be stated in a schedule appended to the motion.

(2) Amendments may be moved for the reduction of the whole grant or for the reduction or omission of the items, whereof the grant is composed.

(3) Discussion of a general character shall be allowed on the motion or any amendments moved thereto, but the details of the grant shall not be discussed further than is necessary to develop the general points.

(4) In other respects, a motion for Vote on Account shall be dealt with in the same way as if it were a demand for grant.

176. Supplementary, Additional Excess and Exceptional Grants and Votes of Credit shall be regulated by the same procedure as is applicable in the case of demands for grants, subject to such adaptations, whether by way of modification, addition or omission as the Speaker may deem to be necessary or expedient.

Supplementary, Additional, Excess and Exceptional Grants and Votes of Credit.

177. The debate on the supplementary grants shall be confined to the items constituting the same, and no discussion may be raised on the original grants nor policy underlying them save in so far as it may be necessary to explain or illustrate the particular items under discussion.

Scope of discussion on Supplementary Grants.

Token
Grant

178. When funds to meet proposed expenditure on a new service can be made available by re-appropriation, a demand for the grant of a token sum may be submitted to the vote of the House, and if the House assents to the demand, funds may be so made available.

Appropriation
Bill.

179. (1) Subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the procedure in regard to an Appropriation Bill shall be the same as for Bills generally, with such modifications as the Speaker may consider necessary.

(2) At any time after the introduction, in the House, of an Appropriation Bill, the Speaker may allot a day or days, jointly or severally, for the completion of all or any of the stages involved in the passage of the Bill by the House, and when such allotment has been made, the Speaker shall, half-an-hours before the normal hour of interruption of business on the allotted day or, as the case may be, the last of the allotted days, forth-with put every question necessary to dispose of all the outstanding matters in connection with the stage or stages for which the day or days have been allotted.

(3) The Speaker may, if he thinks fit, prescribe a time-limit for speeches at all or any of the stages for which a day or days have been allotted under the preceding sub-rule.

(4) The debate on an Appropriation Bill shall be restricted to matters of public importance or administrative policy implied in the grants covered by

the Bill, which have not already been raised while the relevant demands for grants were under consideration.

(5) The Speaker may, in order to avoid repetition of debate, require members desiring to take part in discussion on an Appropriation Bill, to give advance intimation of the specific points they intend to raise, and he may withhold permission for raising such of the points as, in his opinion, appear to be repetitions of the matters discussed on a demand for grant, or as may not be of sufficient public importance.

(6) If an Appropriation Bill is in pursuance of a Supplementary Grant in respect of an existing service, the discussion shall be confined to the items constituting the same, and no discussion shall be raised on the original grant nor the policy underlying it, save in so far as it may be necessary to explain or illustrate the particular item under discussion.

CHAPTER XX

Committees of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly)

I. General Rules

Appointment
of a
Committee
of the Vidhan
Sabha
(Assembly).

180. (1) The members of a Committee of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) shall be appointed by the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) on a motion made or nominated by the Speaker, as the case may be :

Provided that a Minister shall not be elected/nominated a member of a Committee, and that, if a member, after his election/nomination to a Committee, is appointed a Minister, he shall cease to be a member of the Committee from the date of such appointment :

Provided further that the above proviso shall not apply to the Business Advisory Committee, Rules Committee, Select Committee on Bills, and any other special Committee appointed by the House.

(2) No member shall be appointed to a Committee of the House if he is not willing to serve on the Committee. The mover shall ascertain whether such member, proposed to be named by him, is willing to serve on the Committee.

(3) Casual vacancies in a Committee shall be filled by election or nomination, as the case may be, and any member elected or nominated to fill such vacancy, shall hold office for the period for which the member, in whose place he is elected or nominated, would have normally held office.

181. A Committee nominated by the Speaker shall, unless otherwise specified in these Rules, hold office for a period of one year or until a new Committee is nominated.

Term of Office of Committees.

182. A member may resign his seat from a Committee by writing under his hand, addressed to the Speaker.

Resignation of members from Committee.

183. If a member is absent from three or more consecutive meetings of the Committee without the permission of the Chairman, the Chairman may recommend the removal of such member from the Committee, to the Speaker, who may, if he thinks fit, remove such member.

Removal of member absent from meetings of Committee.

Explanation.—For the purpose of this rule, the meetings of the Committee held on consecutive days shall be reckoned as one meeting.

184. (1) The Chairman of a Committee shall be appointed by the Speaker from amongst the members of the Committee :

Chairman of the Committee.

Provided that if the Deputy Speaker is a member of the Committee, he shall be appointed Chairman of the Committee.

(2) If the Chairman is, for any reason, unable to act, the Speaker may similarly appoint another Chairman in his place.

(3) If the Chairman is absent from any meeting, the Committee shall choose another member to act as Chairman for that meeting.

Quorum

185. (1) Unless otherwise provided under the Rules, the quorum to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be, as near as may be, one-third of the total number of members, the fraction, if any, being ignored.

(2) If at any time fixed for any meeting of the Committee, or if at any time during any such meeting, there is no quorum, the Chairman of the Committee shall either suspend the meeting until there is a quorum or adjourn the meeting to some future day.

(3) When the Committee has been adjourned in pursuance of sub-rule (2) on two successive dates fixed for meetings of the Committee, the Chairman shall report the fact to the House :

Provided that where a Committee has been appointed by the Speaker, the Chairman shall report the fact of such adjournment to the Speaker.

Voting in
Committee.

186. All questions at any sitting of a Committee shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting.

Casting Vote
of Chairman.

187. In the case of an equality of votes on any matter, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote :

Provided that in case of a Select Committee on a Bill, if the Minister to whose department the Bill relates, is the Chairman of the Committee while not being a member of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly), he shall decide the matter in the case of an equality of votes, by the drawing of lots.

188. (1) A Committee may appoint one or more sub-committees, each having the powers of the undivided Committee, to examine any matters that may be referred to them, and the reports of such sub-committees shall be deemed to be the reports of the whole Committee, if they are approved at a meeting of the whole Committee.

Power to appoint Sub-Committees.

(2) The order of reference to a sub-committee shall clearly state the point or points for investigation. The report of the sub-committee shall be considered by the whole Committee.

189. The sittings of a Committee shall be held on such days and at such hours as the Chairman of the Committee may fix :

Sittings of Committee.

Provided that if the Chairman of the Committee is not readily available, the Secretary may fix the date and time of a sitting :

Provided further that in the case of a Select Committee on a Bill, if the Chairman of the Committee is not readily available, the Secretary may, in consultation with the Minister concerned with the Bill, fix the date and time of a sitting.

190. A Committee may sit whilst the House is sitting, provided that on a Division being called in the House, the Chairman of the Committee shall suspend the proceedings in the Committee, for such time as will, in his opinion, enable the members to vote in a Division.

Committee may sit whilst the House is sitting.

191. The sittings of a Committee shall be held in private.

Sittings of committee in private.

Venue of sittings.

192. The sittings of a Committee shall be held within the precincts of the House, and if it becomes necessary to change the place of sittings outside the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) premises, the matter shall be referred to the Speaker whose decision shall be final.

All strangers to withdraw when the Committee is deliberating.

193. All persons, other than members of the Committee and Officers of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) and such other Officers/Officials of the Government who may be asked by the Committee to be present, shall withdraw whenever the Committee is deliberating.

Power to take evidence, or call for papers, records or documents

194. (1) A witness may be summoned by an order signed by the Secretary, and shall produce such documents as are required for the use of a Committee.

(2) It shall be in the discretion of the Committee to treat any evidence tendered before it, as secret or confidential.

(3) No document submitted to the Committee shall be withdrawn or altered without the knowledge and approval of the Committee.

Power of Committee of the House to send for persons, papers and records.

195. A Committee of the House shall have power to send for persons, papers and records :

Provided that if any question arises whether the evidence of a person, or the production of a document is relevant for the purposes of the Committee, the question shall be referred to the Speaker whose decision shall be final :

Provided further that Government may decline to

produce a document on the ground that its disclosure would be prejudicial to the safety or interest of the State.

196. A Committee of the House may, if it thinks fit, make a special report on any matter that arises or comes to light in the course of its work, which it may consider necessary to bring to the notice of the Speaker or the House, notwithstanding that such matter is not directly connected with, or does not fall within, or is not incidental to, its terms of reference.

Special Reports.

197. (1) A Committee may direct that the whole or a part of the evidence or a summary thereof may be laid on the Table.

Evidence, report and proceedings treated as confidential.

(2) No part of the evidence, oral or written, report, or proceedings of a Committee, which has not been laid on the Table of the House, shall be open to inspection by any one, except under the authority of the Speaker.

(3) The evidence given before a Committee of the House shall not be published by any member of the Committee or by any other person until it has been laid before the House :

Provided that the Speaker may, in his discretion, direct that such evidence be confidentially made available to members before it is formally laid before the House.

198. The examination of witnesses before a Committee shall be conducted as follows :—

Procedure for examining witnesses.

(1) The Committee shall, before a witness is called

for examination, decide the mode of procedure and the nature of questions that may be put to the witness.

- (2) The Chairman of the Committee may first put to the witness such question or questions as he may consider necessary with reference to the subject-matter under consideration or any connected subject thereto, according to the mode of procedure mentioned in clause (1) of this rule.
- (3) The Chairman may call other members of the Committee one by one to put any other questions.
- (4) A witness may be asked to place before the Committee any other relevant points that have not been covered, and which a witness thinks are essential to be placed before the Committee.

Record of Proceedings/
decisions of a
Committee.

199. A record of the proceedings/ decisions of a Committee shall be maintained and circulated to the Members of the Committee, under the direction of the Chairman.

Report of the
Committee.

200. (1) Except as otherwise provided, the report of a Committee shall be presented at the earliest possible opportunity, but not later than the first Session of the following year. Where the House has fixed time for the presentation of the Report, the Speaker may, on a request made by the Chairman, and when the House is not in Session, extend the time for making the report by the committee, and inform the House when it re-assembles.

(2) Reports may be either preliminary or final.

(3) The report of the Committee shall be signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee :

Provided that in case the Chairman is absent or is not readily available, the Committee shall choose another member to sign the report on behalf of the Committee.

201. A Committee may, if it thinks fit, make available to Government any completed part of its report before presentation to the House. Such reports shall be treated as confidential until presented to the House.

Availability of Reports to Government before presentation.

202. (1) The report of a Committee together with Minutes of Dissent, if any, shall be presented to the House by the Chairman, or in his absence, by any member of the Committee.

Presentation of reports.

(2) In presenting the report the Chairman or, in his absence, the member presenting report shall if he makes any remarks confine himself to a brief statement of fact, but there shall be no debate on that statement.

(3) While presenting Report to the House, the Chairman or in his absence, the Member presenting the Report will read the salient features of the said Report.

202. (A) (i) the recommendations/observations of the Committee shall be implemented by the Government within a period of 6 months from the date of presentation of the Report in the House or to the Speaker, as the case may be, and Action Taken Report submitted to the Committee.

(ii) in case the Action Taken Report is not submitted

by the Government within the stipulated period, the Administrative Secretary of the department concerned shall appear before the Committee and explain the reasons therefor :

Provided that if the Committee is not satisfied with the reply of the Administrative Secretary, it may call for the Minister concerned to elucidate and explain the reasons for not submitting the Action Taken Report.

Printing, publication or circulation of report prior to its presentation to the House.

203. The Speaker may, on a request being made to him, and when the House is not in Session, order the printing, publication or circulation of a report of a Committee, although it has not been presented to the House. In that case the report shall be presented to the House during its next Session at the first convenient opportunity.

Power to make suggestions on procedure.

204. A Committee of the House shall have power to pass resolutions on matters of procedure relating to that Committee, for the consideration of the Speaker, who may make such variations in procedure as he may consider necessary.

Power of Committee to make detailed rules.

204.-A. A Committee may, with the approval of the Speaker, make detailed rules of procedure to supplement the provisions contained in the rules in this Chapter.

Power of Speaker to give direction on a point of procedure or otherwise.

205. (1) The Speaker may, from time to time, issue such directions to the Chairman of a Committee as he may consider necessary for regulating its procedure and the organisation of its work.

(2) If any doubt arises on any point of procedure

or otherwise, the Chairman may, if he thinks fit, refer the point to the Speaker whose decision shall be final.

206. A Committee of the House which is unable to complete its work, may report to the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) that the Committee has not been able to complete its work. Any preliminary report, memorandum or note that the Committee may have prepared, or any evidence that the Committee may have taken, shall be made available to the new Committee.

Unfinished work of Committee of the House.

Provided that any matter referred to or pending before a Committee before the appointed day, shall stand referred to, or as the case may be, deemed to be pending before the corresponding Committee, after the appointed day.

207. Except for matters for which special provision is made in the Rules relating to any particular Committee, the general Rules in this part of the Chapter shall apply to all Committees ; and if and so far as any provision in the special Rules relating to a Committee is inconsistent with the general rule, the former Rules shall prevail.

Applicability of general rules to Committee.

II. Business Advisory Committee

208. (1) At the commencement of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly), or from time to time, as the case may be, the Speaker may nominate a Committee called "The Business Advisory Committee" consisting of the Speaker and not more than five other members. The Speaker shall be *ex officio* Chairman of the Committee.

Constitution of the Business Advisory Committee.

(2) If the Speaker is for any reason unable to preside over a sitting of the Committee, he shall nominate a Chairman for that sitting.

Quorum. **209.** The quorum to constitute a sitting of the Committee shall be three.

Functions of the Committee. **210.** (1) It shall be the function of the Committee to recommend the time that should be allocated for the discussion of the stage or stages of such Government Bills and other Government business as the Speaker, in consultation with the Leader of the House, may direct for being referred to the Committee.

(2). The Committee shall have the power to indicate in the proposed time-table the different hours at which the various stages of the Bill and other Government business shall be completed.

(3) The Committee shall have such other functions as may be assigned to it by the Speaker from time to time.

Report of the Committee. **211.** The time-table in regard to the Bill or group of Bills and other Government business as settled by the Committee, shall be reported by the Speaker to the House, and notified to the members.

Allocation of Time Order. **212.** As soon as may be after the report has been made to the House, a motion may be moved by a member of the Committee designated by the Speaker "That this House agrees with the allocation of time proposed by the Committee in regard to such and such Bill or bills or other Government business", and if such a motion is accepted by the House, it shall take effect as if it were an Order of the House :

Provided that an amendment may be moved that the report be referred back to the Committee either without

limitation or with reference to any particular matter :

Provided further that not more than half-an-hour shall be allotted for the discussion of the motion, and no member shall speak for more than five minutes on such a motion.

213. At the appointed hour, in accordance with the allocation of Time Order for the completion of a particular stage of a Bill, the Speaker shall forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of all the outstanding matters in connection with that stage of the Bill.

Disposal of outstanding matters at the appointed hour.

214. No variation in the allocation of Time Order shall be made except on the request of the Leader of the House who shall notify orally to the House that there is general agreement for such variation, and such variation shall be enforced by the Speaker after taking the sense of the House.

Variation in the allocation of Time Order.

III. Select Committees on Bills

215.(1) The members of a Select Committee on a Bill shall be appointed by the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) when a motion that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee is made :

Composition of Select Committee.

Provided that a Select Committee shall not consist of more than fifteen members except with the leave of the House, in which case it shall not consist of more than 25 members :

Provided further that the name of the Deputy Speaker or of a member of the Panel of Chairmen shall not be included in the motion except in consultation with the Speaker.

(2) The Minister to whose department a Bill relates, the member-in-charge of the Bill, the Advocate-General, and either the Deputy Speaker or a member of the Panel of Chairmen as may be nominated by the Speaker shall be members of every Select Committee, and it shall not be necessary to include their names in any motion for appointment of such a Committee.

Members other than Members of Committee may be present at a sitting.

216. Members, who are not members of a Select Committee, may be present during the deliberations of the Committee, but shall not address the Committee, nor sit in the body of the Committee :

Provided that a Minister may, with the permission of the Chairman, address the Committee of which he may not be a member.

Quorum.

217. In order to constitute a meeting of the Committee, the quorum unless the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) otherwise directs, shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Committee, the fraction, if any, being ignored.

Vacancy on Select Committee.

218. Any vacancy which has occurred on a Select Committee through death, resignation, absence from India, inability to attend to duty, or otherwise, shall be reported to the Speaker. If the House is in Session, the vacancy may be filled by the House. But if it be not in Session, and if the matter is, in the opinion of the Speaker, urgent, the Speaker may appoint a member to fill the vacancy.

Chairman of Select Committee.

219. A Select Committee shall, as soon as may be, choose its Chairman :

Provided that if the Deputy Speaker is a member of the Committee, he shall be the Chairman of the Committee.

220. A Select Committee may appoint a Sub-Committee to examine any special point or points connected with the Bill. The order of reference to such Sub-Committee shall clearly state the point or points for investigation. The report of the Sub-Committee shall be considered by the whole Committee.

Power to
appoint Sub-
Committee.

221. (1) The rules of procedure regarding debate and amendments in a Select Committee shall be the same as those of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) in these respects, except that a member may, with the consent of the Chairman, speak more than once on the same question, and except also that no dilatory motions shall be allowed.

Proceeding of
Select
Committee.

(2) When a Bill has been referred to a Select Committee, any notice given by a member of any amendment to a clause in the Bill shall stand referred to the Committee ; provided that where notice of amendment is received from a member who is not a member of the Select Committee, such amendment shall not be taken up by the Committee unless moved by a member of the Committee.

(3) A Select Committee may hear expert evidence, and the representatives of any special interest affected by the measure before it, it may, for this purpose, in accordance with these Rules, require any person to attend before it as witness, or to produce before it such papers and records as it may think necessary.

(4) The proceedings or report of the Select Committee shall not be disclosed by any member nor shall any reference to such proceedings or report be made in the House until the report of the Committee is presented to the House.

Amendments
in Select
Committee.

222. A Select Committee shall have power to make such amendments in the Bill as they think fit, provided that such amendments are relevant to the subject-matter of the Bill and are not beyond the scope of the Bill. If any amendment be not within the title of the Bill, the title may be amended and especially reported to the House.

Reports by
Select
Committee.

223. (1) As soon as may be, after a Bill has been referred to a Select Committee, the Select Committee shall meet from time to time to consider the Bill and shall make a report thereon within the time fixed by the House :

Provided that where the House has not fixed any time for the making of the report, the report shall be made not sooner than two months from the date of the first publication of the Bill in the Gazette :

Provided further that the House may, at any time on a motion being made, extend the time for the making of the report to a date to be specified in the motion :

Provided further that the time limit referred to in this sub-rule shall not apply in the case of Bills imposing taxation.

(2) The Committee shall in their report state whether the publication of the Bill directed by these Rules

has taken place, and the date on which the publication has taken place.

(3) The Select Committee to which a Bill has been referred, shall state in their report whether or not in their opinion the Bill has been so altered as to require republication.

(4) The report shall ordinarily be signed by all members of the Committee, but the signature on the report by the Chairman will be sufficient authentication thereof, and if any member is not able to sign the report, a note shall be added to the report giving reasons why such member could not sign it. If any member desires to record a Minute of Dissent on any point he must sign the report stating that he does so subject to his Minute of Dissent and must hand in his Minute within such time as may be fixed for the purpose by the Chairman.

(5) A Minute of Dissent shall be couched in temperate and decorous language and shall not refer to any discussion in the Select Committee nor cast aspersions on the Committee.

(6) If any such Minute of Dissent is open to objection under the foregoing provision, the Speaker shall cause it to be returned to the member concerned for the purpose of amendment, and if the member does not within such time as the Speaker may fix in this behalf, re-submit the Minute duly amended, the note shall be deemed to have been withdrawn.

224. The Secretary shall cause every report of a Select Committee, together with the Minutes of Dissent, if any, to be printed, and a copy thereof shall be made

Printing and
Publication
of Report.

available for the use of every member of the House. The report with the Minutes of Dissent, if any, and Bill as reported by the Select Committee, shall be published in the Gazette.

Note.—If any member is unacquainted with English the Secretary, if requested by him, with the permission of the Speaker, shall cause the report to be translated into Hindi or Punjabi, as the case may be.

IV. Committee on Public Accounts

Committee
on Public
Accounts.

225. (1) As soon as may be after the commencement of the first Session of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) a Committee on Public Accounts shall subject to the provisions of this rule be constituted.

(2) The function of the Committee shall be to examine the accounts showing the appropriation of the sums granted by the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) to meet the expenditure of the Government of Punjab and such other accounts laid before the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) as the Committee may think fit and shall present a report thereon in the House.

(3) The Committee on Public Accounts shall consist of thirteen members who shall be elected by the House from amongst its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

(4) The term of office of members of the Committee shall be one year.

(5) The Committee may hear officials or take evidence connected with the accounts under examination.

226. (1) In scrutinising the appropriation accounts of the Government of Punjab and the report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General thereon it shall be the duty of the Committee on Public Accounts to satisfy itself—

Functions of
Committee
on Public
Accounts.

- (a) that the moneys shown in the accounts as having been disbursed were legally available for and applicable to the service or purpose to which they have been applied or charged ;
- (b) that the expenditure conforms to the authority which govern it ; and
- (c) that every re-appropriation has been made in accordance with provisions made in this behalf under the rules framed by competent authority:

Provided that the provision made in clause (c) above shall not apply to any accounts prior to the year 1950-51.

(2) It shall also be a duty of the Committee—

- (a) to examine such trading, manufacturing and profit and loss accounts and balance sheets, as the Governor may have required to be prepared, and the Comptroller and Auditor-General's report thereon ; and
- (b) to consider the report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General in cases where the Governor may have required him to conduct an audit of any receipts or to examine the accounts of stores and stock :

Provided that the Committee shall not exercise its

functions in relation to such public undertakings as are allotted to the Committee on Public Undertakings by these Rules or by the Speaker.

V. Committee on Estimates

Committee
on Estimates.

227. (1) There shall be a Committee on Estimates for the examination of such of the estimates as may deem fit to the Committee or are specifically referred to it by the House. The functions of the Committee shall be—

- (a) to report what economies, improvement in organisations, efficiency or administrative reform, consistent with the policy underlying the estimates, may be effected ;
- (b) to suggest alternative policies in order to bring about efficiency and economy in administration ;
- (c) to examine whether the money is well laid out within the limits of the policy implied in the estimates ; and
- (d) to suggest the form in which the estimates shall be presented to the House :

Provided that the Committee shall not exercise its functions in relation to such public undertakings as are allotted to the Committee on Public Undertakings by these Rules or by the Speaker.

(2) The Committee shall consist of thirteen members who shall be elected by the House every year from amongst its members according to the principle of

proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

(3) The term of the office of the members of the Committee shall be one year.

(4) The Committee may hear officials, take other evidence, do physical verifications, make on-the-spot study of facts or call for any record connected with the estimates under examination.

VI. Committee on Public Undertakings

228. There shall be a Committee on Public Undertakings for the examination of the working of the public undertakings. The functions of the Committee shall be—

Functions of
Committee
on Public
Undertakings.

- (a) to examine the reports and accounts of the public undertakings specified in Schedule II and of such other public undertakings as may be referred to the Committee by the Speaker for examination ;
- (b) to examine the reports, if any, of the Comptroller and Auditor-General on the public undertakings;
- (c) to examine in the context of the autonomy and efficiency of public undertakings, whether the affairs of the public undertakings are being managed in accordance with sound business principles and prudent commercial practices; and
- (d) to exercise such other functions vested in the

Committee on Public Accounts and the Committee on Estimates in relation to the Public undertakings mentioned above as are not covered by clauses (a), (b) and (c) above and as may be allotted to the Committee by the Speaker from time to time :

Provided that the Committee shall not examine and investigate any of the following, namely :—

- (i) matters of major Government policy as distinct from business or commercial functions of the public undertakings ;
- (ii) matters of day-to-day administration ; and
- (iii) matters for the consideration of which machinery is established by any special statute under which a particular public undertaking is established :

Provided that the Committee shall not exercise its functions in relation to such Public Undertakings that comes under the Departments of Agriculture, Water Resources, Power and Co-operation.

Constitution
of
Committee.

229. (1) The Committee shall consist of thirteen members who shall be elected by the House every year from amongst its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

(2) The term of office of members of the Committee shall not exceed one year.

VII. Rules Committee

230. There shall be a Committee on Rules to consider matters of procedure and conduct of business in the House and to recommend any amendments or additions to these Rules that may be deemed necessary.

Functions of Rules Committee.

231. The Committee on Rules shall be nominated by the Speaker and shall consist of ten members including the Speaker who shall be its Chairman *ex-officio*.

Constitution of Committee.

232. (1) The recommendations of the Committee shall be laid on the Table and within a period of five days beginning with the day on which they are so laid, any member may give notice of any amendment to such recommendations.

Laying of Report on the Table.

(2) (a) Any notice given by a member of any amendment to any of the recommendations of the Committee in respect of any rule shall, stand referred, alongwith the amendment, to the Committee which shall consider the amendment and make such changes in that recommendation as it may deem fit. The final report of the Committee in respect of that recommendation shall be laid on the Table of the House. Thereafter, on the House agreeing to the Report on a motion made by a Member of the House, the amendment to the Rules contained in the final Report, as approved by the House, shall be notified under the orders of the Speaker in the Gazette.

(b) The remaining recommendations of the Committee to which no notice of any amendment has

been received shall be deemed to have been approved by the House and on the expiry of the period mentioned in sub-rule (1), the amendments to the Rules as recommended by the Committee shall be notified under orders of the Speaker in the Gazette.

(3) If notice of such amendment has not been given within five days, the recommendations of the Committee shall be deemed to have been approved by the House and on the expiry of the said period the amendments to the Rules as recommended by the Committee shall be notified under orders of the Speaker in the Gazette.

(4) The amendments to the Rules shall come into force on their publication in the Gazette unless otherwise specified.

VIII. Committee of Privileges

Constitution
of
Committee
of Privileges.

233. At the commencement of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) or from time to time, as the case may be, the Speaker shall nominate a Committee of Privileges consisting of not more than twelve members.

234. Deleted.

Examination
of the
question by
Committee.

235. (1) The Committee shall examine every question referred to it and determine with reference to the facts of each case whether a breach of privilege is involved and, if so, the nature of the breach, the circumstances leading to it and make such recommendations as it may deem fit.

(2) The report may also state the procedure to be followed by the House in giving effect to the recommendations made by the Committee.

236. (1) The Committee of Privileges shall meet as soon as may be after a question of privilege has been referred to it, and from time to time thereafter, till a report is made within the time fixed by the House :

Sittings of
Committee
of Privileges.

Provided that where the House has not fixed any time for the presentation of the report, the report shall be presented within one month of the date on which reference to the Committee was made :

Provided further that the House may at any time, on a motion being made, direct that the time for the presentation of the report by the Committee be extended to a date specified in the motion.

(2) If any member desires to record a Minute of Dissent on any matter he shall hand in his Minute to the Chairman.

IX. Committee on Government Assurances

237. There shall be a Committee on Government Assurances to scrutinise the assurances, promises and undertakings, etc., given by Ministers from time to time, on the floor of the House and to report on—

Functions of
the
Committee.

- (a) the number and kind of assurances given and the names of the Ministers and the Departments to which they relate ;

- (b) the extent to which such assurances have been implemented ; and
- (c) where implemented whether such implementation has taken place within the minimum time necessary for the purpose.

Constitution
of
Committee.

238. The Committee shall consist of not more than thirteen members who shall be nominated by the Speaker.

X. Committee on Subordinate Legislation

Committee
on
Subordinate
Legislation
and its
Function.

239. There shall be a Committee on Subordinate Legislation to scrutinise and report to the House whether the powers to make regulation, rules, sub-rules, bye-laws, etc., conferred by the Constitution or delegated by Legislature are being properly exercised within such delegation and consider such other matters as may be referred to it by the Speaker.

Constitution
of the
Committee on
Subordinate
Legislation.

240. The Committee shall consist of not more than thirteen members who shall be nominated by the Speaker. The Advocate-General shall be one of them.

Numbering
and
publication of
regulation,
rule, sub-rule,
etc.

241. Each regulation, rule, sub-rule, bye-law, etc., framed in pursuance of the provisions of the Constitution or the legislative functions delegated by Legislature to a subordinate authority and which is required to be laid before the House, hereinafter referred to as “order” shall subject to such rules as the Speaker may in consultation with the Leader of the House prescribe, be numbered centrally and published in the

Gazette immediately after it is promulgated.

242. After each such order referred to in rule 241 is laid before the House, the Committee shall, in particular, consider—

Duties of the Committee.

- (i) whether it is in accord with the general objects of the Constitution or the Act pursuant to which it is made ;
- (ii) whether it contains matter which in the opinion of the Committee should more properly be dealt with in an Act of Legislature ;
- (iii) whether it contains imposition of any tax ;
- (iv) whether it directly or indirectly bars the jurisdiction of the courts ;
- (v) whether it gives retrospective effect to any of the provisions in respect of which the Constitution or the Act does not expressly give any such power ;
- (vi) whether it involves expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the State or the Public Revenues ;
- (vii) whether it appears to make some unusual or unexpected use of the powers conferred by the Constitution or the Act pursuant to which it is made ;
- (viii) whether there appears to have been unjustifiable delay in the publication or laying

it before Legislature ; and

- (ix) whether for any reason its form or purport calls for any elucidation.

Report of the
Committee

243. (1) If the Committee is of opinion that any order should be annulled wholly or in part, or should be amended in any respect, it shall report that opinion and the grounds thereof to the House.

(2) If the Committee is of opinion that any other matter relating to any orders should be brought to the notice of the House, it may report that opinion and matter to the House.

Regulation of
Procedure

244. The Speaker may issue such directions as he may consider necessary for regulating the procedure in connection with all matters connected with the consideration of any question of Subordinate Legislation either in the Committee or in the House.

XI. General Purposes Committee

Constitution
of General
Purposes
Committee.

245. There shall be a General Purposes Committee consisting of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, members of the Panel of Chairmen, Chairmen of all Committees of the House, Leaders of recognised parties and groups in the House and such other members as may be nominated by the Speaker.

Chairman of
the
Committee.

246. The Speaker shall be the *ex-officio* Chairman of the Committee.

247. The functions of the Committee shall be to consider and advise on such matters concerning the affairs of the House as may be referred to it by the Speaker from time to time.

Functions of the Committee.

XII. Committee on Agriculture and its Allied Activities

248. (1) There shall be a Committee to be called the Committee on Agriculture and its Allied Activities i.e. on Agriculture, Water Resources and Power consisting of not more than 13 members to be nominated by the Speaker.

Constitution of the Committee.

(2) The term of office of the Members of the Committee shall be one year.

248-A (1) The functions of the Committee shall be-

Functions of the Committee.

- (i) to scrutinize the demands for grants;
- (ii) to examine the working of these departments and to suggest measures for improvement in administration and in different programmes / schemes / projects;
- (iii) to examine legislation;
- (iv) to advise Government on a question of policy or legislation; and
- (v) to discuss generally and formulate views on-

- (a) State's future Programmes relating to these departments and their implementation;
 - (b) Reports of Public Undertakings under these departments;
 - (c) Reports of any statutory or other body, including any Commission of Inquiry, which are laid before the House relating to these departments; and
 - (d) Annual Performance Reports of these departments.
- (2) The Committee shall not examine or investigate matters of day-to-day administration.

XIII House Committee

House
Committee.

249. At the commencement of each financial year a Committee called the House Committee may be nominated by the Speaker, consisting of the Deputy Speaker as *ex-officio* Chairman and eight members, to meet from time to time under directions of the Speaker, to consider and advise upon matters connected with the comfort and convenience of members of the House.

XIV. Committee on Petitions

Constitution
of the
Committee.

250. At the commencement of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly), or from time to time, as the case may be, the Speaker shall nominate a Committee called 'The

Committee on Petitions', consisting of not more than thirteen Members.

251. (1) The Committee shall examine every petition referred to it by the Speaker and if the petition complies with these Rules, the Committee may direct that it be circulated. Where circulation of the petition has not been directed, the Speaker may at any time direct that the petition be circulated.

Functions of
the
Committee.

(2) Circulation of the petition shall be in *extenso* or in summary form as the Committee or the Speaker, as the case may be, may direct.

(3) It shall also be the duty of the Committee to report to the House on specific complaints made in the petition referred to it after taking such evidence as it deems fit and to suggest remedial measures either in a concrete form applicable to the case under review or to prevent such cases in future.

(4) The Committee shall also meet as often as necessary to consider representations addressed to the Secretary from various individuals, associations etc., duly recommended by any Member of the Assembly after permission from the Speaker, which are not covered by the Rules relating to petitions and give directions for their disposal.

**XV. Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes,
Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes**

Constitution
of the
Committee.

251-A. (1) There shall be a Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes consisting of thirteen members who shall be elected by the House every year from its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

(2) The term of office of members of the Committee shall not exceed one year.

Functions
of the
Committee.

251-B. The functions of the Committee shall be—

- (a) to consider and examine the recommendations contained in the reports of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Government of India, in so far as the Punjab State is concerned and which fall within the purview of the State Government, and to report to the House as to the measures that should be taken by the State Government;
- (b) to report to the House on the action taken by the Government on the measures proposed by the Committee;
- (c) to examine the measures taken by the Government to secure due representation of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes in services and posts under

its control (including appointments in the Public Sector Undertakings, Statutory and Semi-Government Bodies) having regard to the provisions of Article 335 of the Constitution;

- (d) to report to the House on the working of the welfare programmes for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes; and
- (e) to examine such other matters as may be specifically referred to it by the House or the Speaker.

XVI. Committee on Papers laid/to be laid on the Table and Library

251-C. (1) There shall be a Committee on Papers laid/to be laid on the Table and Library, consisting of not more than ten members. Constitution of the Committee.

(2) The Committee shall be nominated by the Speaker and shall hold office for a term not exceeding one year.

251-D. (1) The functions of the Committee shall be to examine all papers laid on the Table by Ministers and to report to the House on— Functions of the Committee.

- (a) whether there has been compliance of the provisions of the Constitution, Act, rule or regulation under which the paper has been laid;
- (b) whether there has been any unreasonable delay in laying the paper; and
- (c) if there has been such delay, whether a statement

explaining the reasons for delay has been laid on the Table and whether those reasons are satisfactory.

(2) The Committee shall perform such other functions in respect of the papers laid on the Table as may be assigned to it by the Speaker from time to time.

(3) The Committee shall also examine and report on such cases, where the papers have not been laid on the Table within the time prescribed by the relevant Act, rule, regulation, etc., or where the papers required to be laid have not been so laid on the Table within a reasonable period of time.

(4) The Committee shall also advise upon matters connected with the Members' Library.

Restriction on raising matters in the House.

251-E. A Member wishing to raise any of the matters referred to in Rule 251-D shall not raise it in the House.

Limitation on the functions of the Committee.

251-F. The provisions contained in Rules 251-C and 251-D shall not apply to matters falling within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

XVII. Questions and References Committee.

Constitution of the Committee.

251-G. (1) There shall be a Committee on Questions and References consisting of nine Members.

(2) The Committee shall be nominated by the Speaker and shall hold office for a term not exceeding one year.

Functions of the Committee.

251-H. The functions of the Committee shall be –

- i) to examine such matters, as may be referred to it by the Speaker, from time to time, regarding

Starred, Unstarred or Short Notice Questions;

- ii) to report to the House whether there has been any unreasonable delay in giving replies, oral or written, and whether such replies, if given, are satisfactory or not; and to suggest the remedial measures therefor; and
- iii) to examine and suggest remedial measures in respect of any important policy matter raised by a Member during debates in the House, as may be referred to it by the Speaker.

XVIII Committee on Local Bodies

251-I. (1) There shall be a Committee on Local Bodies consisting of not more than thirteen Members, for the examination of the working of the Local bodies which shall mean and include Notified Area Committees, Municipal Committees, Improvement Trusts and Municipal Corporations.

Constitution
of the
Committee.

(2) The Committee shall be nominated by the Speaker and the term of office of the Members of the Committee shall be one year.

251-J. The functions of the Committee shall be:-

Functions
of the
Committee.

- a) to examine the audit reports and accounts of the Local Bodies as may be selected by the Committee;
- b) to examine the reports, if any, of the Examiner, Local Fund Accounts, laid on the Table of the House;

- c) to examine in the context of autonomy, whether affairs of the Local Bodies are being managed in accordance with the provisions of law;
- d) to examine any other aspect of the working of any Local Body, as may be referred to it by the Speaker; and
- e) to examine the annual technical inspection reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General on Urban Local Bodies, if any, laid on the Table of the House.

Provided that the Committee shall not examine and investigate any of the following, namely:-

- i) matters of major government policy as distinct from the working of the Local Bodies;
- ii) matters relating to day-to-day administration of Local Bodies; and
- iii) matters for the consideration of which machinery is established by any special statute under which the Local Bodies are established.

XIX. Committee on Panchayati Raj Institutions

Constitution
of the
Committee.

251-K. (1) There shall be a Committee on Panchayati Raj Institutions consisting of not more than thirteen Members, for the examination of the working of the Panchayati Raj Institutions which shall mean and include Panchayat Samities and Zila Parishads.

(2) The Committee shall be nominated by the Speaker and the term of office of the Members of the Committee shall be one year.

251-L. The functions of the Committee shall be:- Functions of the Committee.

- a) to examine the audit reports and accounts of the Panchayati Raj Institutions as may be selected by the Committee;
- b) to examine the reports, if any, of the Examiner, Local Fund Accounts, laid on the Table of the House;
- c) to examine in the context of autonomy, whether affairs of the Panchayati Raj Institutions are being managed in accordance with the provisions of law;
- d) to examine any other aspect of the working of any Panchayati Raj Institutions, as may be referred to it by the Speaker; and
- e) to examine the annual technical inspection reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General on Panchayati Raj Institutions, if any, laid on the Table of the House.

Provided that the Committee shall not examine and investigate any of the following, namely:-

- i) matters of major government policy as distinct

from the working of the Panchayati Raj Institutions;

- ii) matters relating to day-to-day administration of Panchayati Raj Institutions; and
- iii) matters for the consideration of which machinery is established by any special statute under which the Panchayati Raj Institutions are established.

XX. COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION AND ITS ALLIED ACTIVITIES

Constitution
of the
Committee.

251-M.(1) There shall be a Committee to be called the Committee on Co-operation and its Allied Activities consisting of not more than thirteen members to be nominated by the Speaker.

(2) The term of office of the Members of the Committee shall be one year.

Functions
of the
Committee.

251-N. (1) The functions of the Committee shall be-

- (i) to scrutinize the demands for grants;
- (ii) to examine the working of this department and to suggest measures for improvement in administration and in different programmes / schemes / projects;
- (iii) to examine legislation;

- (iv) to advise Government on a question of policy or legislation; and
- (v) to discuss generally and formulate views on-
 - (a) State's Future Programmes relating to this department and their implementation;
 - (b) Reports of Public Undertakings under this department;
 - (c) Reports of any statutory or other body, including any Commission of Inquiry, which are laid before the House relating to this department; and
 - (d) Annual Performance Reports of this department.

(2) The Committee shall not examine or investigate matters of day-to-day administration.

CHAPTER XXI

Privileges

1. Question of Privilege

Question of Privilege.

252. A member may, with the consent of the Speaker, raise a question involving a breach of privilege either of a Member or of the House or of a Committee thereof.

Notice of question of privilege.

253. A member wishing to raise a question of privilege shall give notice in writing to the Secretary before the commencement of the sitting on the day the question is proposed to be raised. If the question raised is based on a document, the notice shall be accompanied by the document.

Conditions of admissibility of question of privilege.

254. The right to raise a question of privilege shall be governed by the following conditions:—

- (i) not more than one question shall be raised at the same sitting ;
- (ii) the question shall be restricted to a specific matter of recent occurrence; and
- (iii) the matter requires the intervention of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly).

Mode of raising a question of privilege.

255. (1) The Speaker, if he gives consent under rule 252 and holds that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, shall, after the Questions and before the list of business is entered upon, call the member

concerned who shall rise in his place and, while asking for leave to raise the question of privilege, make a short statement relevant thereto:

Provided that where the Speaker has refused his consent under rule 252 or is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is not in order, he may, if he thinks it necessary, read the notice of question of privilege and state that he refuses consent or holds that the notice of question of privilege is not in order.

(2) If objection to leave being granted is taken, the Speaker shall request those members, who are in favour of leave being granted to rise in their places and if not less than thirty members rise accordingly, the Speaker shall intimate that leave is granted. If less than thirty members rise, the Speaker shall inform the member that he has not the leave of the House.

256. The Speaker may, if he is satisfied about the urgency of the matter, allow question of privilege to be raised at any time during the course of a sitting. Such question shall be raised at the earliest opportunity and shall not ordinarily require notice.

Question of privilege suddenly arising.

257. If leave under rule 255 is granted the question shall be referred to a Committee of Privileges on a motion made either by the member who has raised the question of privilege or by any other member.

Reference to Committee of Privileges.

258. (1) After the report has been presented, the Chairman or any member of the Committee or any other

Consideration of Report.

member may move that the report be taken into consideration, whereupon the Speaker may put the question to the House.

(2) Before putting the question to the House, the Speaker may permit a debate on the motion, not exceeding half-an-hour in duration, and such debate shall not refer to the details of the report further than is necessary to make out a case for the consideration of the report by the House.

(3) After the motion made under sub-rule (1) is agreed to, the Chairman or any member of the Committee or any other member, as the case may be, may move that the House agrees or disagrees, or agrees with amendments, with the recommendations contained in the report.

Amendment. **259.** Any member may give notice of an amendment to the motion for consideration of the report that it be re-committed to the Committee either without limitation or with reference to any particular matter.

Priority for consideration of Report of the Committee. **260.** A motion that the Report of the Committee of Privileges be taken into consideration shall be accorded the priority assigned to a matter of privilege under sub-rule (1) of rule 255 unless there has been undue delay in bringing it forward:

Provided that when a date has already been fixed for the consideration of the Report, it shall be given priority as a matter of privilege on the day so appointed.

261. The Speaker may issue such directions as may be necessary for regulating the procedure in connection with all matters connected with the consideration of the question of privilege either in the Committee or in the House.

Regulation of Procedure.

262. Notwithstanding anything contained in these Rules, the Speaker may refer any question of privilege to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation or report.

Power of Speaker to refer Question of Privilege to Committee.

II. Intimation to Speaker of arrest, detention, etc., and release of a Member

263. When a member is arrested on a criminal charge or for a criminal offence or is sentenced to imprisonment by a court or is detained under an executive order, the committing judge, magistrate or executive authority, as the case may be, shall immediately intimate such fact to the Speaker indicating the reasons for the arrest, detention or conviction, as the case may be, as also the place of detention or imprisonment of the member in the appropriate form set out in Schedule III.

Intimation to Speaker by Magistrate of arrest, detention, etc. of a member.

264. When a member is arrested and after conviction released on bail pending an appeal or otherwise released, such fact shall also be intimated to the Speaker by the authority concerned in the appropriate

Intimation to Speaker on release of a member.

form set out in Schedule III.

Treatment of
communi-
cations
received from
Magistrate.

265. As soon as may be, the Speaker shall, after he has received a communication referred to in rule 263 or rule 264, read it out in the House if in Session, or if the House is not in Session, direct that it may be intimated to the members:

Provided that if the intimation of the release of a member either on bail or by discharge on appeal is received before the House has been informed of the original arrest, the fact of his arrest, or subsequent release or discharge may not be intimated to the House by the Speaker.

III. Procedure regarding service of a legal process and arrest within the precincts of the House

Arrest within
the precincts
of House.

265-A. No arrest shall be made within the precincts of the House without obtaining the permission of the Speaker.

Service of
Legal Process.

265-B. A legal process, civil or criminal, shall not be served within the precincts of the House without obtaining the permission of the Speaker.

CHAPTER XXII
Petitions

266. (1) Petitions may be presented or submitted to the House with the consent of the Speaker on— Scope of petitions.

- (i) a Bill which has been published under rule 121 or which has been introduced in the House;
- (ii) any matter connected with the business pending before the House; and
- (iii) any matter of general public interest provided that it is not one—
 - (a) Which falls within the cognizance of a court of law having jurisdiction in any part of India or a court of enquiry or a statutory tribunal or authority or a quasi-judicial body or a commission;
 - (b) which should ordinarily be raised in Parliament;
 - (c) which can be raised on a substantive motion or resolution; and
 - (d) for which remedy is available under the law, including rules, regulations, bye-laws made by the Government of Punjab or an authority to whom power to make such rules, regulations, etc., is delegated.

- (2) Petitions to the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) must—
- (a) relate to some matter which is within the competence of the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) to consider ; and
- (b) not propose expenditure of public moneys or the imposition of any charge on public revenues.

General form
of petition.

267. (1) The general form of petition set out in Schedule IV with such variations as the circumstances of each case require, may be used, and, if used, shall be sufficient.

(2) Every petition shall be couched in respectful, decorous and temperate language.

(3) Every petition shall be in Punjabi, Hindi or English.

Authenti-
cation of
petition.

268. (1) The full name and address of every signatory to a petition shall be set out therein and shall be authenticated by his signature, and if illiterate, by his thumb-impression.

(2) Where there is more than one signatory to petition, at least one person shall sign, or, if illiterate, affix his thumb-impression, on the sheet on which the petition is inscribed. If signatures or thumb-impressions are affixed to more than one sheet, the prayer of the petition shall be repeated at the head of each sheet.

Documents
not to be
attached.

269. Letters, affidavits or other documents shall not be attached to any petition.

270. (1) Every petition shall, if presented by a member, be countersigned by him. Counter-signature.

(2) A member shall not present a petition from himself.

271. Every petition shall be addressed to the House and shall conclude with a prayer reciting the definite object of the petitioner in regard to the matter to which it relates. Petition to be addressed to House.

272. A member shall give advance intimation to the Secretary of his intention to present a petition. Notice of presentation.

273. A petition may be presented by a member or be forwarded to the Secretary, who shall report it to the House. The report shall be made in the form set out in Schedule V. No debate shall be permitted on the presentation, or the making of such report. Presentation of petition.

274. A member presenting a petition shall confine himself to a statement in the following form :— Form of presentation.

“Sir, I beg to present a petition signed by _____ petitioner(s) regarding.....”

and no debate shall be permitted on this statement.

275. Every petition, shall after presentation by a member or report by the Secretary, as the case may be, stand referred to the Committee on Petitions. Reference to Committee on petitions.

SCHEDULES**I****Procedure for the holding of the Ballot**

(See Rule 30)

A ballot shall be held for each day on which the business other than Government business has precedence. Not less than fourteen days or such period as the Speaker may direct before each such day the Secretary shall cause to be placed in the Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) office a numbered list. There shall be one such list in respect of Bills to be introduced and another in respect of resolutions.

2. The list shall be kept for two days and on those days during office hours any member who has given notice of a Bill or a resolution may have his or her name entered—

- (1) in the case of ballot for resolution, against one number only ; and
- (2) in the case of a ballot for Bills, against one number for each Bill of which he or she had given notice, up to the number of three.

3. Slips of paper bearing the numbers against which entries have been made on the numbered list shall be folded and placed in a box. A clerk having shuffled the slips of paper shall at hazard take a slip out of the

box and read out the number thereon. The Secretary shall announce the name of the member to whom that number is attached on the numbered list. This process will be repeated till all the numbers in respect of Bills or ten numbers in respect of resolutions have been drawn.

4. The order in which the numbers have been drawn shall determine the order in which members shall be placed on the priority list.

5. A member who has secured a place on the priority list may set down against it, for the day with reference to which the ballot has been held, any Bill or any resolution, as the case may be, of which he or she has given or intends to give notice as required by the Rules ; provided that he or she shall specify such bill or resolution before or at the time the ballot is held.

6. The dates in regard to numbered list, and the time and place of ballot, shall be communicated to members.

II

List of Public Undertaking

(See Rule 228)

1. Punjab Financial Corporation.
2. Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. and its allied Units.
3. Punjab State Small Industries and Export Corporation Ltd.

4. Punjab State Electronics Development and Production Corporation Ltd.
5. Punjab State Seeds Corporation Ltd.
6. Punjab Land Development and Reclamation Corporation Ltd.
7. Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Ltd.
8. Punjab State Warehousing Corporation.
9. Punjab State Electricity Board.
10. The Punjab Water Resources Management and Development Corporation Ltd.
11. Punjab Scheduled Castes Land Development and Finance Corporation.
12. Punjab Backward Classes Land Development and Finance Corporation.
13. Punjab State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd.
14. Pepsu Road Transport Corporation.
15. Punjab Urban Planning and Development Authority.
16. Punjab Water Supply and Sewerage Board.
17. Punjab Tourism Development Corporation Ltd.
18. Punjab Ex-Servicemen Corporation.

- 19. The Punjab State Forest Development Corporation Ltd.
- 20. Punjab Health Systems Corporation.

III

**Form of the Communication Regarding
Arrest, Detention, Conviction or Release,
as the case may be, of a Member**

(See Rules 263 and 264)

Place _____

Date _____

To

The Speaker,
Punjab Vidhan Sabha, Chandigarh.

Dear Mr. Speaker,

A

I have the honour to inform you that I have found it my duty in the exercise of my powers under section.....of the (Act) to direct that Shri.....Member of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative

Assembly) be arrested for.....
detained

(reasons for the arrest or detention as the case may be).

Shri.....M.L.A., was accordingly

arrested _____ at.....(time) on.....
taken into custody

(date) and is at present lodged in the.....jail
(place).

B

I have the honour to inform you that
Shri.....Member of the
Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly), was
tried at the.....Court before me on a charge
(or charges) of.....(reasons for the conviction).

On.....(date) after a trial lasting
for.....days, I found him guilty
of.....and sentenced him to
imprisonment for.....(period).

(His application for leave to appeal to*.....
is pending consideration).

*Name of the Court.

C

I have the honour to inform you that
Shri.....Member of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha
(Punjab Legislative Assembly), who was convicted
on.....(date) and imprisoned
for.....(period) for.....(reasons for

conviction) was released on bail pending appeal (or, as the case may be, released on the sentence being set aside on appeal) on the.....(date).

Yours faithfully,

(Judge, Magistrate or Executive Authority)

IV

Form of Petition

(See Rule 267)

To

The Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).

The humble petition of

(Here insert name and designation or description of petitioner(s) in concise form e.g., “A, B and others” or “the inhabitants of” or “the municipality of.....” etc.)

SHEWETH

(Here insert concise statement of case) and accordingly your petitioner(s) pray(s) that.....

(Here insert “that the Bill be or be not proceeded with” or “that special provision be made in the Bill to meet the case of your petitioner(s)” or any other appropriate prayer regarding the Bill or matter before the House or a matter of general public interest).

And your petitioner(s) as in duty bound will ever pray.

Name of petitioner	Address	Signature or thumb-impression

Countersignature of Member
presenting.

V

Form of report on Petition by the Secretary

(See Rule 273)

Sir,

Under rule _____ of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly), I have to report that _____ petitions as per statement laid down on the Table have been received relating to _____ (in case of Bills) the Bill to provide for _____ which was introduced in the House on the _____ 20 , by Shri _____.

STATEMENT

Petitions relating to _____ (in case of Bills)
the Bill to provide for _____ which was
introduced in the House on the _____ 20

Number of signatories	District or Town

ANNEXURE

1. In 1954, the Speaker constituted a Rules Committee under his Chairmanship. This Committee felt that these Rules were not up-to-date and, therefore, needed revision and modification. It also felt that the Rules needed re-arrangement and re-numbering. With this end in view, it held a number of meetings in which it carefully scrutinized the existing Rules in the light of the Rules obtaining in other Legislatures and in the Lok Sabha.

2. It made a number of recommendations which, in the form of a Report, were laid before the Assembly on the 3rd October, 1955, for a period of three days as then required under the Rules. These were deemed to have been approved by the Assembly because no notice of any amendment to any of them was received.

3. Under orders of the Speaker, these recommendations were published under Notification No. CB/25, dated the 7th October, 1955, in the *Punjab Government Gazette*.

4. Later, in August, 1956, some amendments were made in the Rules by the Speaker in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 208(2) of the Constitution of India and thereafter various modifications/amendments (thirteen notifications) were made by the Speaker in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 208(2) of the Constitution of India read with section 32 of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956 (Act 37 of 1956).

5. In 1967, the Speaker constituted a Rules Committee. This Committee examined a number of Rules but for want of time it was not able to finalise its report, and, therefore, whatever recommendations it

made could not be embodied in the Rules except the ones relating to deletion of Rules in respect of Regional Committees and amendments to some other rules. These were laid before the Assembly for a period of three days and were deemed to have been approved by the Assembly because no notice of any amendment to any of them was received.

6. Under the orders of the Speaker, these recommendations were published under Notifications Nos. 82-LA-67/21, dated the 25th May, 1967 and 82-LA-67/54, dated the 14th December, 1967, in the *Punjab Government Gazette*.

7. The Rules Committee nominated by the Speaker in 1969 made certain recommendations which were laid before the House on the 19th March, 1970, in the form of First Report. Notice of certain amendments were received to some of the recommendations contained in this Report. The Committee could not consider these amendments during its term.

8. The Rules Committee nominated by the Speaker in 1970 considered these amendments. The Committee made certain recommendations which were set out in the Second Report. These recommendations/modifications related to deletion of Rules in respect of the Punjab Legislative Council, since abolished, removal of overlapping in the Rules regarding Committees and addition of certain rules including the one relating to the constitution of the Committee on Public Undertakings. The Second Report was laid on the Table of the House on the 19th January, 1971, and remained so laid under rule 256 (1) [now rule 232 (1)]. The modifications were deemed to have been approved under rule 256 (3) [now rule 232 (3)] and were carried out at the proper places in the Rules after they were published in the

Gazette,—*vide* notification No. 21-LA-71/16, dated the 22nd January, 1971.

9. The Rules Committee of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha which was nominated by the Speaker in 1972 under rule 231 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Legislative Assembly made certain recommendations in respect of rules relating to Motion of No-confidence in the Council of Ministers, Committee on Petitions, and Petitions. These were laid before the Assembly for a period of three days and were deemed to have been approved by the Assembly because no notice of any amendment to any of them was received. Under the orders of Speaker, these recommendations were published in the Gazette under notification No. 57-LA-73/26, dated the 30th March, 1973.

10. The Rules Committee nominated in 1974 made certain recommendations in respect of rules relating to resolution for the removal of Speaker or Deputy Speaker, timings of the meetings of the Vidhan Sabha, Rules Committee, constitution of a Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes, procedure regarding service of legal process and arrest within the precincts of the House, etc. These were laid on the Table for a period of three days and were deemed to have been approved by the Assembly as no notice of any amendment to any of them was received. Under the orders of the Speaker, these recommendations were published in the Gazette under notification No. 34-LA-75/16, dated the 4th February, 1975.

11. The Rules Committee nominated in 1975 made certain recommendations in respect of rules relating to Secret Sitzings of the

House, Governor's Special Address, Questions, Resignation of Members and Calling Attention Notices, etc. These were laid on the Table of the House for five days. Some of the recommendations were deemed to have been approved by the Assembly as no notice of any amendment to any of them was received. Under the orders of the Speaker, these recommendations were published in the Gazette under notification No. 18-LA-76/20, dated the 30th January, 1976. The recommendations to which notices of amendments were received were re-considered by the Committee and final report in respect of these recommendations was laid on the Table of the House. Thereafter, on the House agreeing to the final Report on a motion, the amendments to the Rules contained in the final report as approved by the House were notified in the Gazette under the order of the Speaker,—*vide* notification No. 18-LA-76/38, dated the 23rd February, 1976.

12. The Rules Committee nominated in 1978 made certain recommendations in respect of rules relating to Committees and constitution of a Committee on Papers Laid/to be Laid on the Table. These were laid on the Table of the House for a period of five days. Some of the recommendations were deemed to have been approved by the Assembly as no notice of any amendment to any of them was received. Under the orders of the Speaker, these recommendations were published in the Gazette under Notification No. 53-LA-79/18, dated the 21st April, 1979. The recommendations to which notices of amendments were received were re-considered by the Committee, nominated in the year 1979, and Final Report in respect of these recommendations was laid on the Table of the House, thereafter, on the House agreeing to the Final Report on a motion, the amendments to the Rules contained in the Final Report as approved by the House were

notified in the Gazette under the order of the Speaker,—*vide* Notification No. 53-LA-79/20, dated the 24th April, 1979.

13. The Rules Committee nominated in 2002 made certain recommendations in respect of Rules relating to the general Rules of Procedure and the Constitution of a Committee on Questions and References. First and Second Report of the Rules Committee were laid on the Table of the House on 17-3-2003 and 25-3-2003 respectively and on the completion of the period the reports as approved by the House were notified in the Gazette by the orders of the Speaker .- vide notification No. 133-LA-2002/13, dated 21-3-2003 and 133-LA-2002/23, dated 31-3-2003.

14. The Rules Committee nominated in 2004 made certain recommendations in respect of rules relating to total number of sittings of Assembly in a Calendar year, functions of Questions and References Committee and constitution of a Committee on Local Bodies & Panchayati Raj Institutions. These were laid on the Table of the House on 11.04.2005 for a period of five days. Some of the recommendations were deemed to have been approved by the Assembly as no notice of amendment to any of them was received. Under the orders of the Speaker, these recommendations were published in the Gazette under Notification No. 131-LA-2004/19, dated the 19th April, 2005. The recommendation to which the notice of amendment was received contained in the report was referred to the Rules Committee when it meets next.

15. The Rules Committee nominated in 2005 made certain recommendations in respect of Rules regarding salient features of the Report of the Committee to be read by the Chairman or in his absence by the Member while presenting the Report to the House as well as Action Taken Report to be sent by the department to the Committee within six months from the presentation of the Report of the Committee to the House. These were laid on the Table of the House on 27.2.2006 for five days and were deemed to have been approved by the Assembly because no notice of amendment to any of them was received. Under the orders of Speaker these recommendations were published in the Gazette under Notification No. 109-LA-2005/10, dated the 9th March, 2006.

16. Under the orders of the Hon'ble Speaker, an amendment was made in the Rule 100(2) which was published in the Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary) vide Notification No. 68-LA-2017/60, dated the 14th August, 2017.

17. The Rules Committee nominated in 2019 made certain recommendations in respect of Rules relating to re-define the definition of "Precincts of the House"; Constitution of two new Committees i.e. Committee on Agriculture & its Allied Activities and Committee on Co-operation & its Allied Activities; bifurcation of existing Committee on Local Bodies & Panchayati Raj Institutions into two new Committees i.e. Committee on Local Bodies and Committee on Panchayati Raj Institutions; merging of existing Library Committee into Committee on

Papers Laid / to be Laid on the Table; and addition of proviso under existing Rule 228. These were laid on the Table of the House on 28th August, 2020 for a period of five days and no notice of any amendment to any of the recommendations was received. These were approved by the House on 2.3.2021. Under the orders of the Speaker, these recommendations were published in the Gazette under notification No. 54-LA-2019/6, dated the 4th March, 2021. These amendments came into force w.e.f. 4th March, 2021, Uner Rule-232 (4).

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