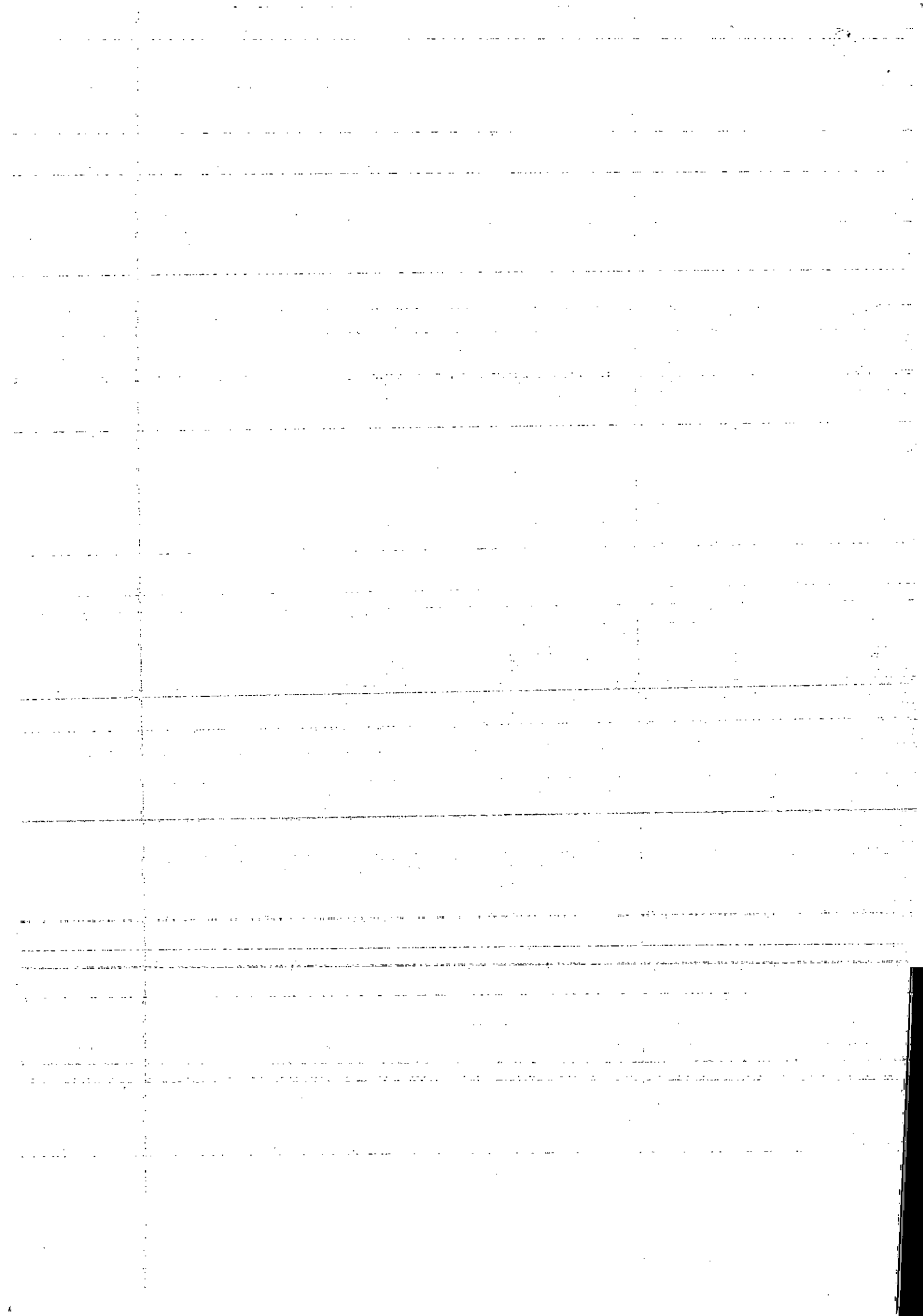
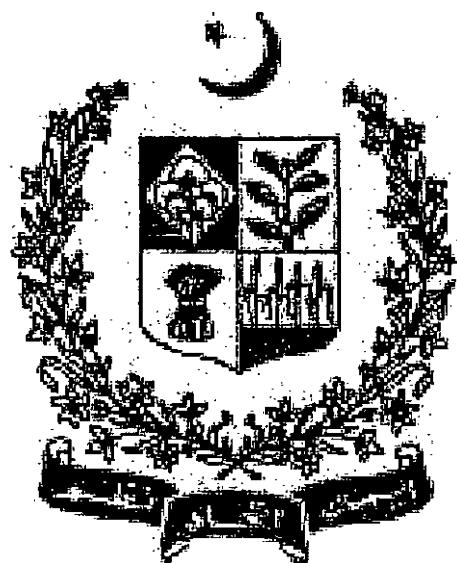






GILGIT-BALTISTAN COUNCIL

GILGIT-BALTISTAN COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS, 2010 (AMENDED UPTO SEPTEMBER, 2012)

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Sqn. Ldr.(R)
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Gilgit-Baltistan Council Secretariat
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GILGIT-BALTISTAN COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS, 2010.

CHAPTER-I PRELIMINARY

1. **Short title and commencement.** -(1) These rules may be called the Gilgit-Baltistan Council Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, 2010.

(2) They shall come into force with immediate effect.

2. **Definitions.**-(1) In these rules, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,-

- (i) **"Amendment"** means a motion to amend an earlier motion before that earlier motion is put to the Council for its decision;
- (ii) **"Assembly"** means the Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly;
- (iii) **"Bill"** means a motion for making a law;
- (iv) **"Chairman"** means the Chairman of the Council who shall be the Prime Minister of Pakistan.
- (v) **"Vice Chairman"** means the Governor of Gilgit-Baltistan;
- (vi) **"Chamber"** means the place where the Council meets to transact its business;
- (vii) **"Committee"** means a Committee constituted under these rules;
- (viii) **"Constitution"** means the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan;
- (ix) **"Gazette"** means the Gazette of Council;
- (x) **"Government"** means the executive body of the Council as defined in clause (12) Article 33 of the Gilgit-Baltistan (Empowerment and Self-Governance) Order, 2009.
- (xi) **"Leader of the House"** means the Federal Minister-in-Charge of the Council Secretariat or a Member appointed by him to represent the Government and regulate Government business in the Council.
- (xii) **"Lobby"** means the rooms and covered corridors adjoining the Chamber and co-terminus with it;
- (xiii) **"Member"** means a member of the Council;
- (xiv) **"Member-in-Charge"** means, in the case of a Government Bill, a Minister and in any other case, the member who has introduced the Bill or the Member authorized by him in writing to assume charge of the Bill;
- (xv) **"Minister"** means the Federal Minister-in-Charge of the Council;
- (xvi) **"Motion"** means a proposal made by a member relating to any matter which may be discussed by the Council and includes an amendment;
- (xvii) **"Order"** means the Gilgit-Baltistan (Empowerment and Self-Governance) Order, 2009.
- (xviii) **"Orders of the Day"** means the list of business to be brought before the Council on any day;
- (xix) **"Precincts of the Council"** includes the Chamber, the lobbies, the galleries and such other places as the Chairman may from time to time specify;
- (xx) **"Presiding Officer"** means, in relation to a sitting, any person who is presiding over that sitting;

- (xxi) "**Private Member**" means a member other than the Minister, Governor, Chief Minister and Advisors;
- (xxii) "**Resolution**" means a motion for the purpose of discussing and expressing an opinion on a matter of general public interest;
- (xxiii) "**Schedule**" means a schedule appended to these rules;
- (xxiv) "**Secretary**" means the Secretary of the Council and includes any person for the time being performing the duties of the Secretary;
- (xxv) "**Session**" means the period commencing on the day of the first sitting of the Council after having been summoned and ending on the day the Council is prorogued;
- (xxvi) "**Sitting**" means meeting of the Council or a Committee from the commencement of its business to the termination of the business on a day;
- (xxvii) "**Starred Question**" means a question for an oral answer;
- (xxviii) "**Table**" means the Table of the Council and includes its Library; and
- (xxix) "**Unstarred Question**" means a question for a written answer.

(2) The words and expressions used but not defined in these rules shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meanings assigned to them in the Order.

CHAPTER-II

SUMMONING, PROROGATION AND QUORUM OF THE COUNCIL AND SEATING, OATH AND ROLL OF MEMBERS

3. **Summoning of the Council.**- When the Council is summoned, the Secretary shall cause a notification to be published in the Gazette stating the date, time and place of the meeting and shall, as far as practicable, also cause to be issued to each member a notice intimating these particulars:

Provided that when a session is called at short notice or in an emergency, the date, time and place of Session shall be published in the Gazette and also announced on the radio and television which shall be deemed to be sufficient notice of the meeting to the members.

4. **Prorogation of the Council.**- When the Council is prorogued, the Secretary shall cause a notification to that effect to be published in the Gazette.

5. **Quorum.**- (1) No sitting of the Council shall commence unless at least one-third of its total membership is present.

(2) If, at any time during the continuance of a sitting attention of the Chairman is drawn to the fact that less than one-third of the total membership of the Council is present, he shall suspend the business of the Council and cause bells to be rung for five minutes, but if no quorum is available even when the bells stop ringing, he shall adjourn the sitting.

6. **Oath of members.**- A person elected as elected member shall, before entering upon office, make before the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman oath in the form set out in the First Schedule to the Order.

7. **Roll of members.**- There shall be a Roll of Members which shall be signed by every member after making the oath.

8. **Seating of members.**- The members shall sit in such order as the Chairman may determine.

CHAPTER-III

THE CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN AND PANEL OF CHAIRPERSONS.

9. **Powers and functions of the Chairman.**- (1) In addition to the specific functions and powers provided by Order and by these rules the Chairman shall take the chair at every sitting of the Council.
- (2) The Chairman shall preserve order and decorum.
 - (3) The Chairman shall decide all points of order.
 - (4) In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall take the chair at a sitting.
 - (5) The Chairman may, by order in writing, delegate to the Vice-Chairman all or any of his powers under the rules.
10. **Panel of Chairpersons.**- (1) The Chairman shall nominate, in order of precedence, from amongst the members a panel of not more than three Chairpersons and in the absence of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, the member having precedence amongst those present shall preside at the sitting.
- (2) If at any time at a sitting of the Council neither the Chairman nor the Vice-Chairman nor any member on the panel is present, the Secretary shall so inform the Council and the Council shall, by motion, elect one of the members present to preside at the sitting.

CHAPTER-IV

LEAVE OF ABSENCE, RESIGNATION AND VACATION OF SEATS IN THE COUNCIL

11. **Leave of absence from the Council.**- A member desirous of obtaining leave for his absence from any sitting of the Council shall make an application in writing addressed to the Chairman stating reasons for his absence.
- (2) On receipt of an application under sub-rule (1) the Chairman shall, immediately after the questions, if any, put the question, without debate, that leave be granted.
 - (3) Where a member is prevented or incapacitated from making such an application, leave of the Council may be granted on a motion moved by any other member
 - (4) The Secretary shall, as soon as possible, communicate the decision of the Council to the member concerned.
12. **Resignation of seat.**- (1) A member may, by writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman, resign his seat.
- (2) If -
 - (a) a member hands over the letter of resignation to the Chairman personally and informs him that the resignation is voluntary and

genuine and the Chairman has no information or knowledge to the contrary; or

- (b) the Chairman receives the letter of resignation by any other means and he, after such inquiry as he thinks fit, either himself or through the Gilgit-Baltistan Council Secretariat or through any other agency, is satisfied that the resignation is voluntary and genuine, the Chairman shall inform the Council of the resignation:

Provided that if a member resigns his seat, when the Council is not in session, the Chairman shall direct that intimation of his resignation specifying the date of the resignation be given to every member immediately.

(3) The Secretary shall, after the Chairman satisfies himself that the letter of resignation is voluntary and genuine, cause to be published in the Gazette a notification to the effect that the member has resigned his seat and forward a copy of the notification to the Chief Election Commissioner for taking steps to fill the vacancy thus caused.

(4) The date of resignation of a member shall be the date specified in writing by which he has resigned or if no date is specified therein the date of receipt of such writing by the Chairman.

13. Seat becoming vacant.- (1) The seat of a member of the Council elected by the Assembly, hereinafter referred to as an elected member, shall become vacant, if-

- (a) he resigns his seat by notice in writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman, or in his absence, to the Secretary of the Council;
- (b) he is absent, without the leave of the Chairman, from ten consecutive sittings of the Council;
- (c) he fails to make the oath referred to in rule 6 within a period of ninety days after the date of his election, unless the Chairman, for good cause shown, extends the period; or
- (d) he ceases to be qualified for being a member under any provision of this Order or any other laws for the time being in force.

14. Attendance Register.- The Secretary shall cause a register to be kept showing the attendance of each member at each sitting and shall make the register available for inspection of the members.

CHAPTER-V

SITTINGS OF THE COUNCIL AND CLASSIFICATION AND ARRANGEMENTS OF BUSINESS

15. Sessions of the Council.- There shall be at least two sessions of the Council every year.

16. Days of sitting.- (1) The council shall meet for, not less than 28 working days in each parliamentary year (7 working days in each quarter). Where from, not more than one hundred twenty days shall intervene, between the last sitting of the Council, in one session, and date appointed for its first sitting in the next session.

(2) Every sitting shall commence with recitation from the Holy Quran followed by its Urdu translation.

17. Hours of sitting and adjournment.- (1) Every sitting of the Council shall commence at such hour as the Chairman may direct.

(2) Subject to the other provisions of these rules, the Chairman may,-

- (a) adjourn a sitting of the Council ; and
- (b) if he thinks fit, call a sitting of the Council at a time or date different from that to which it was earlier adjourned.

18. Classes of business.- (1) The business of the Council, when it meets as legislature shall be classified as:

- (a) Government business; and
- (b) Private members' business.

(2) Government business shall include Bills, resolutions, amendments and other motions introduced or initiated by the Minister.

(3) Private members' business shall include Bills, resolutions, amendments and other motions introduced or initiated by private members.

19. Allotment of time for transaction of business.- The Chairman shall determine the days and time for Private members' business in each session.

20. Arrangement of Government business.- The Secretary shall arrange Government business in such order as intimated by the Minister-in-Charge or, in his absence, any other member authorized by him in this behalf.

21. Precedence of private members' Bills.- (1) The relative precedence of private members' Bill shall be determined by the Chairman.

(2) On a day on which private members' business has precedence, private members' Bills shall be taken up in the following order namely:-

- (a) Bills to be introduced;
- (b) Bills reported upon or not reported upon within the time allowed by a Special Committee;
- (c) Bills in respect of which the report of a Special Committee has been presented;
- (d) Bills in respect of which motion has been carried that the Bill be taken into consideration;
- (e) Bills which have been circulated for the purpose of eliciting public opinion thereon; and
- (f) Other bills.

22. Decision regarding identical Bills.- If notices of two or more identical Bills are received, the question, as to which one of these Bills is to be proceeded with, shall be decided by the Chairman. The remaining Bills shall not be proceeded with.

23. Precedence of resolutions.- The relative precedence of resolutions, notices of which have been given by private members and which have been admitted shall be decided by the Chairman.

24. Orders of the Day.- (1) The Secretary shall prepare the Orders of the Day and make a copy thereof available for the use of every member and any other person entitled under the order to speak or otherwise take part in the proceedings of the Council.

(2) Save as otherwise provided by these rules, -

- (a) the business for the day shall be transacted in the order in which it appears in the Orders of the Day;
- (b) the business not included in the Orders of the Day shall not be transacted at any sitting without the leave of the Chairman; and
- (c) no business without the consent of the Chairman requiring notice shall be set down for a day earlier than the day following the day on which the period of the notice necessary for that class of business expires.

(3) Unless the Chairman otherwise directs, not more than five resolutions excluding any resolution moved on, and outstanding from a previous day shall be set down in the Orders of the Day for any day on which private members' business has precedence.

25. Business outstanding at the end of the day.-(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in rule 20 or rule 22, any private members' business which has been commenced shall be set down for the next day allotted to business of that class and shall have precedence over all other business set down for that day.

(2) Private members' business set down for any day and not moved on that day shall not be set down for any subsequent day, unless so decided by the Chairman.

CHAPTER-VI

QUESTIONS

26. Time of questions.- Except as otherwise provided in these rules, the first hour of every sitting after the recitation from the Holy Quran, and taking oath by members, if any, shall be available for the asking and answering of questions.

27. Notice of questions.- Fifteen clear days notice of a question shall be given unless the Chairman, with the consent of the Minister-in-Charge, allows a question to be asked at shorter notice.

28. Form of notice of questions.- (1) A separate notice of each question shall be given in writing to the Secretary and shall specify the official designation of the Minister or, if the question is addressed to a private member, the name of that member to whom it is addressed.

(2) A member who desires to ask a Starred Question shall distinguish it with an asterisk:

Provided that if, in the opinion of the Chairman, any Starred Question is of such a nature that a written reply would be more appropriate, he may direct that such question be placed on the list of Unstarred Questions.

29. Notice of admission of questions.- No question shall be placed on the list of questions for answer until ten clear days have expired from the day on which notice of admission of the question by the Chairman was given by the Secretary to the Minister-in-Charge or the member to whom it is addressed.

30. Number and order of questions to be put on any one day.- (1) Not more than two Starred Questions including short notice questions and two Unstarred Questions from the same member shall be placed on the list of questions for any one day:

Provided that nothing in this sub-rule shall apply to a question transferred from an earlier date.

(2) The questions shall be put on the list of questions in the order in which their notices are received but a member may, by notice in writing 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 that later day the question shall, subject to the provisions of these rules, be placed on the list after all the questions not so postponed. A postponed question shall not be placed on the list until two clear days have expired from time when the notice of postponement was received by the Secretary.

31. Question not replied orally.- If any Starred question placed on the list of questions for answer on any day is not called for answer within the time available for answering questions on that day the answer already supplied by the Minister-in-Charge, or the member to whom the question is addressed, shall be laid on the Table and no oral reply shall be required for such question nor shall any supplementary question be asked in respect thereof:

Provided that if the Minister-in-Charge is not ready with the answer to the question, the question shall be put for answer on the next following day or on a day to be specified by the Minister.

32. Subject matter of questions.- (1) Subject to the provisions of these rules, a question may be asked for the purposes of obtaining information on a matter of public concern within the special cognizance of the Minister-in-Charge.

(2) A question addressed to the Minister-in-Charge must relate to the public affairs with which he is officially connected or to a matter of administration for which he is responsible.

33. Questions to private members.- A question addressed to a private member must relate to some Bill, resolution or other matter connected with the business of the Council for which that member is responsible.

34. Admissibility of questions.- In order that a question may be admissible, it must satisfy the following conditions, namely,-

- (a) it shall not bring in any name or statement not strictly necessary to make the question intelligible;
- (b) if it contains a statement, the member shall make himself responsible for the accuracy of the statement;
- (c) it shall not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expression, imputations, epithets or defamatory statements;
- (d) it shall not ask for an expression of opinion or the solution of an abstract legal question or a hypothetical proposition;
- (e) it shall not refer to the character or conduct of any person except in his official or public capacity nor to the character or conduct which can be challenged only on a substantive motion;
- (f) it shall not ordinarily exceed one hundred and fifty words;

- (g) it shall not relate to a matter which is not primarily the concern of the Council;
- (h) it shall not make or imply a charge of a personal character;
- (i) it shall not rise question of policy too large to be dealt with within the limits of an answer to a question;
- (j) it shall not repeat in substance questions already answered or disallowed by the Chairman or to which an answer was refused in the Council during the last two sessions;
- (k) it shall not be trivial, vexatious, vague or meaningless;
- (l) it shall not ask for information contained in documents accessible to the public or in ordinary works of reference;
- (m) it shall not ask for information on matters under the control of bodies or persons not primarily responsible to the Council or in which the Council has no financial interest;
- (n) it shall not contain references to newspapers by name and shall not ask whether statements in the press or by private individuals or by non-official bodies are accurate;
- (o) it shall not ask for information regarding Cabinet discussions, or any advice given to the Chairman or in relation to any matter in respect of which there is a constitutional or statutory obligation not to disclose information;
- (p) it shall not ask for information on matters which are under consideration before a Committee of the Council; nor shall it ask for information about the proceedings of any such Committee unless such proceedings have been placed before the Council or, as the case may be, by a report of the Committee;
- (q) it shall not,-
 - (i) contain any reflection on the conduct of the Chairman, President or a judge of the Supreme Court or of the High Court ; or
 - (ii) ask for information on matters which have already been discussed by means of an adjournment motion or otherwise during the same session; or
 - (iii) contain any criticism of the decisions of the Council; or
 - (iv) seek information about matters which are in their nature secret or sensitive ; or
 - (v) criticize or refer discourteously to a foreign country;
- (r) it shall not contain any reflection on a decision of a court of law or a statutory tribunal established in Gilgit-Baltistan or such remarks as are likely to prejudice a matter which is subjudice;
- (s) it shall not amount in substance to a suggestion for a particular course of action;
- (t) it shall not ordinarily ask for information on matters of past history; or
- (u) it shall not ordinarily ask about matters pending before any statutory tribunal or statutory authority performing any judicial or quasi judicial functions of any commission or court of inquiry 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 inquiry.

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

Provided that, -

- (a) a member may not ask more than one short notice question on any one day; and
 - (b) a short notice question may not be asked to anticipate reply to a question of which notice has already been given.
- (2) If the Minister-in-Charge agrees to reply, such question shall be answered on a day indicated by him and shall be called immediately after the questions appearing on the list of questions for oral answer have been disposed off.
- (3) If the Minister is unable to answer the question at short notice and the Chairman is of opinion that the question is of sufficient public importance to be orally answered in the Council, he may direct that the question be placed as the first question on the list of questions for the day on which it would be due for answer under rule 27:

Provided that not more than one such question shall be accorded first priority on the list of questions for any one day.

- (4) Where a member desires an oral answer to a question at a short 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 returned to the member.
- (5) The member who has given notice of the question shall be in his seat to read the question when called by Chairman and the Minister-in-Charge shall give a reply immediately.
- (6) In other respects, the procedure for short notice questions shall be the same as for ordinary questions for oral answer, with such modifications as the Chairman may consider necessary.

36. Question relating to Secretariat of Gilgit-Baltistan Council,- Questions relating to the Secretariat of the Council may be asked of the Minister-in-Charge by means of a private communication and not otherwise.

37. Question regarding correspondence between authorities.- A question shall not be asked (except as to a matter of fact) in respect of matters which are or have been the subject of correspondence between the Council, Government, Federal Government or Provincial Governments and the Government of Gilgit-Baltistan.

38. Chairman to decide admissibility of questions.- Within five days from the date of receipt of the notices, the Chairman shall decide on the admissibility of a question and shall disallow any question or a part thereof which, in his opinion, is in contravention of these rules, or he may, in his discretion, amend it in form.

39. List of questions.- Questions which have not been disallowed, shall be entered in the list of questions for the day along with the answers, if received from the Minister-in-Charge not later than forty-eight hours before the commencement of the sitting on the day on which the questions are put down for answer, and shall be called in the order in which they stand in the list, unless the Chairman changes the order of questions with the leave of the Council:

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

40. Mode of asking questions.- (1) At the time of asking questions, the Chairman shall call successively each member in whose name a Starred Question appears in 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 serial number on the list of question.

(3) If, on a question being called, it is not put or the member in whose name it stands is absent, the Chairman may, at the request of any other member, direct that the answer to it be given.

41. Question of absent member.- When all the questions for which oral answer is desired have been called, the Chairman may, if time permits call again any question which has not been asked by reason of the absence of the member in whose name it stands, and may also permit a member to ask a question standing in the name of another if so authorized by him.

42. Supplementary questions.- When a question has been answered, any member may ask such supplementary questions as may be necessary for the elucidation of the answer, but the Chairman shall disallow any supplementary question which, in his opinion, either infringes any provision of these rules relating to the subject matter and admissibility of question or is otherwise an abuse of the right of asking questions:

Provided that not more than three supplementary questions shall be asked in respect of any question.

43. No publicity of answers to questions in advance.- Answers to questions which Minister proposes to give in the Council shall not be released for publication until the answers have actually been given on the floor of the Council or laid on the Table.

44. Prohibition of discussions on questions or answers.- There shall be no discussion on any question or answer except as provided by rule 45.

45. Discussion on a matter of public importance arising out of answer to a question.- (1) The Chairman may, on three clear day's notice being given by a member, allot half an hour for discussion on a matter which in his opinion is of sufficient public importance and has recently been the subject of a question, Starred or Unstarred:

Provided that the Chairman may not admit a notice which, in this opinion, seeks to revise the policy of the Government.

(2) The notices received under sub-rule (1) during a week ending Saturday, shall be considered by the Chairman for their admissibility in the order in which they are received and when such notice is admitted all other notices shall lapse.

(3) There shall be no voting nor any formal motion in the course of or at the conclusion of such discussion.

CHAPTER-VII

PRIVILEGES

46. Question of privilege.- A member may, with the consent the Chairman, raise a question involving a breach of privilege either of a member or of the Council or of a Committee thereof.

47. Notice of question of privilege.- 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:

Provided that the Chairman may, if he is satisfied about the urgency of the matter, allow a question of privilege to be raised at any time during the course of a sitting after the disposal of questions.

48. Conditions of admissibility of question of privilege.- The right to raise a question of privilege shall be governed by the following conditions, namely:

- (a) not more than two questions shall be raised by the same member at the same sitting;
- (b) the question shall relate to a specific matter and shall be raised at the earliest opportunity;
- (c) the matter shall be such as requires the intervention of the Council; and
- (d) the question shall not reflect on the personal conduct of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman.

49. Mode of raising a question of privilege.- Where a question of privilege has been admitted, the Chairman shall, after the disposal of questions, if any, and before other business on the Orders of the Day is entered upon, call upon the member who gave the notice and thereupon the member shall raise the question of privilege and make a short statement relevant thereto:

Provided that where a member is allowed under the proviso of rule 47 to raise a question of privilege during the course of a sitting he shall raise that question immediately after being allowed to do so or at such other time as the Chairman may direct.

50. Precedence of question of privilege.- A question of privilege shall have precedence over adjournment motions.

51. Questions of privilege to be considered by the Council or Committee.- If the Chairman holds the motion to be in order, the Council may consider and decide a question of privilege or may, on a motion either by the member who raised the questions or by any other member, refer it for report to a Special Committee.

52. Priority for consideration of a report of the Committee.- A motion that the report of the Special Committee be taken into consideration shall be accorded priority on the Orders of the Day after the question hours, as a matter of privilege.

53. Intimation to Chairman by Magistrate etc. of arrest, detention etc. of a member.- When a member is arrested on a criminal charge or for a criminal offence or is sentenced to imprisonment by a court of law is detained under an executive order, the committing Judge, Magistrate or, as the case may be, executive authority, shall immediately intimate such fact to the Chairman indicating the reasons for the arrest, detention or imprisonment of the member in the appropriate form set out in the Schedule.

54. Intimation to Chairman on release of a member.- 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 Chairman by the authority concerned in the appropriate form set out in the Schedule.

55. Treatment of communications received from Magistrate, etc.- As soon as may be, after the Chairman has received a communication referred to in rule 52 or rule 53, he shall read it out in the Council if in session or, if the Council is not in session, direct that it may be circulated for the information of the members.

56. Arrest within the precincts of the Council.- No member shall be arrested within the precincts of the Council without the permission of the Chairman.

57. Service of legal process.- A legal process issued by any court, tribunal or other authority shall not be served on a member within the precincts of the Council without the permission of the Chairman.

CHAPTER-VIII

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

58. Adjournment motions.- Subject to the Order and these rules, a motion for an adjournment of the business of the Council for the purpose of discussion on a definite matter of an urgent public importance may be made with the consent of the Chairman.

59. Notice of a motion.- Notice of a motion under rule 58, explaining the matter proposed to be discussed, shall be delivered to the Secretary in quadruplicate not less than one day hours before the commencement of the sitting in which the motion is proposed to be moved, and the Secretary shall thereupon bring the notice to the knowledge of the Chairman and the Minister-in Charge.

60. Condition of admissibility of a motion.- A motion shall not be admissible unless it satisfies the following conditions, namely :-

- (a) it shall raise an issue of urgent public importance;
- (b) it shall relate substantially to one definite issue;
- (c) it shall be restricted to a matter of a recent occurrence;
- (d) it shall not revive discussion on a matter which has been discussed in the same session or the Council within the last six months;
- (e) it shall not anticipate a matter for consideration of which a date has been previously appointed;

- (f) it shall relate to a matter which is primarily the concern of the Council or to a matter in which the Council has substantial financial interest;
- (g) it shall not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions or defamatory statements;
- (h) it shall not refer to the conduct or character of a person except in his official or public capacity;
- (i) it shall not relate to a matter of privilege;
- (j) it shall not deal with a hypothetical case;
- (k) it shall not relate to a matter which can only be remedied by legislation ; or
- (l) it shall not relate to a matter pending before any Court or other authority performing judicial or quasi-judicial functions:

Provided that the Chairman, may in his discretion, allow such matter being raised in the Council as is concerned with the procedure or subject or stage of inquiry if he is satisfied that it is not likely to prejudice the consideration of the matter by such court or authority.

61. Asking leave for motion.- (1) Leave to make a motion shall be asked for after questions, leave of absence and a question of privilege, if any, and before other business entered on the Orders of the Day is taken up.

- (2) Leave to make a motion shall be asked for only by the member who has given notice thereof.

62. Grant or withholding of leave.-(1) If the Chairman is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order he shall ask whether the member has the leave of the Council to move the motion and, if objection is taken, he shall ask such of the members as may be in favour of leave being granted to rise in their seats.

- (2) If less than one-third of the total memberships of the Council rises, the Chairman shall inform the member that he has not the leave of the Council, but if such membership rises, the Chairman shall announce that leave is granted and that the motion shall be taken up as the last item for discussion for not more than two hours on such day, as soon as possible, as the Chairman may fix

63. Time-limit for asking and grant of leave.- On any one day, the aggregate time taken for asking for leave under rule 61 and the grant or withholding of leave under rule 61 shall not exceed half an hour.

64. Restriction on number of motions.- Notwithstanding anything contained in this Chapter, not more than one motion shall be admitted on any one day, but motions, if any, pending consideration as regards their admissibility shall be held over for the next day and shall be taken up in the same order in which they were received.

65. Question to be put .-On a motion under rule 58, the only question "that may be put shall be 'that the Council do now adjourn'" but no such question shall be put after the time for the discussion of the motion has expired.

66. Time-limit for speeches.-A speech during the debate on a motion for adjournment shall not exceed ten minutes in duration.

Provided that the mover or the Minister-in-Charge may speak for fifteen minutes.

CHAPTER-IX

LEGISLATION

INTRODUCTION OF GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS

67. Notice of private members bills.-(I) A private member may move for leave to introduce a Bill after giving to the Secretary ten days' written notice of his intention to do so.

(2) The notice shall be accompanied by three copies of the Bill together with statement of objects and reasons in triplicate, signed by the member,

68. Introduction of private members Bill.-(1) Motion for leave to introduce private members' Bills shall be set down in the Orders of the Day for a day meant for private members' business.

(2) If a motion for leave to introduce a private members' Bill is opposed, the Chairman may without further debate put the question and may permit a brief explanatory statement to the member seeking leave and the member opposing it.

(3) If leave is granted, the Member-in-Charge shall move forthwith to introduce the Bill, and the Bill shall stand introduced.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

69. Notice of Government Bills.-(1) The Minister-in-Charge may introduce a bill after giving to the Secretary a written notice of his intention to do so.

(2) The notice shall be accompanied by a copy of the Bill, together with Statement of Objects and Reasons signed by the Minister-in-Charge.

(3) The introduction of the Bill shall ordinarily be included in the Orders of the Day for a day meant for Government business.

(4) When the item is called, the Minister-in-Charge shall move to introduce the Bill, and thereupon the motion being made the Bill shall stand introduced.

PUBLICATION OF BILLS

70. Publication of Bills.-(1) The Secretary shall cause every Bill that has been introduced to be published in the Gazette as early as possible.

(2) The Chairman may order the publication of any Bill together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons accompanying it before its introduction and, if it so published, it shall not be necessary to publish it again after its introduction.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

71. Reference of Bills to Special Committees.-Upon introduction, a Bill, shall stand referred to the Special Committee concerned with the subject matter of the Bills:

Provided that the Member-in-Charge may move that the requirement of this rule be dispensed with and, if the motion is carried, the provisions of rule 72 shall apply to the Bill as if it were received back from the Special Committee on the day on which the motion is carried.

72. Time for consideration of Bills.-(1) When a Bill has been received back from the Special Committee, or when the time fixed for the Special Committee to send back has expired, the Secretary shall cause copies of the Bill as introduced, together with modifications, if any recommended by the Special Committee, to be supplied to each member within seven days after the receipt back or, as the case may, expiry of time and shall set down the Bill on the Orders of the Day for a day meant for Government business or on a day meant for private members business accordingly as the Bill is a Government bill or a private members' Bill, for a motion under rule 73.

(2) At least two clear days shall intervene between the day of supply of copies of the Bill to members and the day for setting of the Bill for a motion under rule 73.

(3) In case of urgency, the Member-in-Charge may move that the requirement of sub-rule (2) be dispensed with and, if the motion is carried, the provisions of that sub-rule shall stand suspended in regard to that Bill and the Member-in-Charge may forthwith make any of the motions in rule 73.

73. Motions to be made by Member-in-Charge.-On the day for which a Bill is set down under rule 72 or on any subsequent day to which the matter might have been adjourned, the Member-in-Charge may make any of the following motions with regard to his Bill, namely:-

- (a) that it be taken into consideration at once;
- (b) that it be taken into consideration on a date to be fixed forthwith ;
- (c) that it be referred to a Special Committee; or
- (d) that it be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.

74. Discussion on principles of Bills.-(1) On the day on which any of the motions referred to in rule 73 is made or on any subsequent day to which discussion thereof is proposed the principles of the Bill and its general provisions may be discussed but the details of the Bill shall no be discussed further than is necessary to explain its principles.

(2) At this stage amendments to the Bill may not be moved, but-

- (a) if the Member-in-Charge moves that the Bill be taken into consideration, any member may move as an amendment that the Bill 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 Special Committee, any member may move as an amendment that the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by a date to be specified in the motion.

(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 may, if he wishes to proceed with his Bill thereafter, may move that the Bill be referred to the Special Committee concerned or that it be taken into consideration.

75. Persons by whom motions in respect of Bills may be made.- No motion that the Bill be taken into consideration or be referred to a Special Committee shall be made by any member other than the Member-in-Charge and no motion that the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon shall be made by any member other than the Minister-in-Charge except by way of amendment to a motion made by the Member-in-Charge.

76. Procedure after presentation of report.-(1) Where a Bill has been referred to a Special Committee, the Member-in-Charge may, after the presentation of the final report by the Special Committee, move-

- (a) that the Bill as reported by the Special Committee be taken into consideration;
- (b) that the Bill as reported by the Special Committee be referred to the same Committee again either: -
 - (i) as a whole,
 - (ii) with respect to particular clauses or amendments only; or
 - (iii) with instructions to make some particular or additional provision in the Bill; or
- (c) that the Bill as reported by the Special Committee be circulated or circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion or further opinion thereon.

(2) If the Member-in-Charge moves that the Bill as reported by the Special Committee be taken into consideration, any member may object to its being so taken into consideration, if a copy of the report of the Special Committee has not been made available for the use of members at least two days before the motion is made and the objection shall prevail unless the Chairman allows the report to be taken into consideration.

(3) If the Member-in-Charge moves that the Bill as reported by the Special Committee be taken into consideration any member may move as an amendment that the Bill be referred to the same Committee again or be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.

77. Notice of amendments.-(1) When a motion that a Bill be taken into consideration is carried, any member may propose an amendment to the Bill. If notice of an amendment has not been given two clear days before the day on which the relevant clause of or Schedule to the Bill is to be considered any member may object to the moving of the amendment and any such objection shall prevail unless the Chairman allows the amendment to be moved.

(2) The Secretary shall cause a list of amendments of which notices have been received to be made available for the use of every member.

78. Conditions of admissibility of amendments.- The following conditions shall govern the admissibility of amendments; namely:-

- (a) an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates;
- (b) an amendments shall not be inconsistent with any previous decision of the Council on the same question;
- (c) an amendment shall not be such as to make the clause which it proposes to amend unintelligible or ungrammatical;
- (d) if an amendment refers to, or is not intelligible without, a subsequent amendment or schedule, notice of 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;

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

- (e) the Chairman shall determine the place at which an amendment shall be moved;
- (f) the Chairman may refuse to propose an amendment which is, in his opinion, is frivolous or meaningless;

- (g) an amendment may be moved to an amendment which has already been proposed by the Chairman; and
- (h) an amendment shall not be moved which has merely the effect of a negative vote.

79. Order of amendments.-Amendment shall ordinarily be considered in the order of the clauses of the Bill to which they respectively relate, & in respect of any such clause a motion shall be deemed to have been made: "That this clause stands part of the Bill."

80. Withdrawal of amendments.-An amendment moved may, by leave of the Council, but not otherwise, be withdrawn, at 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 off.

81. Submission of a Bill clause by clause.-Notwithstanding anything in these rules, the Chairman 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 Council clause by clause. The Chairman 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) stands part of the Bill".

82 Postponement of clause.-The Chairman may, if he thinks fit, postpone the consideration of a clause.

83. Schedule.-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 his schedule as amended) do stand part of the Bill".

84. Clause one, preamble and title of the Bill.-Clause one, 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 Chairman shall then put the question: "That clause one, or the preamble or the title (or as the case may be that clause one or the preamble or the title as amended) does stand part of the Bill".

PASSING OF BILLS

85. Passing of Bills.-(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.

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

(3) Where such objection as aforesaid prevails, a motion that the Bill be passed may be made on a subsequent day.

(4) At this stage, no amendment to the Bill may be moved, except verbal amendments, which are of a formal or consequential nature.

86. Scope of debate.-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 the 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.

87. Withdrawal of Bills.-The Minister-in-Charge may, at any stage of the Bill, may withdraw the Bill with the consent of the Chairman and no further motion shall be made with reference to the Bill.

88. Authentication and submission of a Bill.-When a Bill is passed by the Council, the Secretary shall cause a copy thereof to be submitted to the Chairman for authentication.

89. Bills assented to by the Chairman.-When a Bill passed by the Council is authenticated by the Chairman, the Secretary shall immediately cause it to be published in the Gazette as an Act of the Council.

ORDER AMENDMENT BILL

90. Order amendment Bill.- When a Bill to amend the Order is introduced in the Council, the Secretary shall immediately inform the Governor and supply him with a copy of the Bill so introduced for summoning the joint sitting as prescribed.

CHAPTER-X

RESOLUTIONS NOT MENTIONED IN THE ORDER

91. Right to move resolution.- Subject to the provision of these rules, any member may move a resolution relating to a matter of general public interest.

92. Notice of resolution.- (1) A private member who wishes to move a resolution shall give seven days' notice of his intention to do so and shall submit, together with the notice, a copy of the resolution which he intends to move.

(2) If the Minister wishes to move a resolution he shall give three days notice of his intention to do so and shall submit, together with the notice, a copy of the resolution which he intends to move.

93. Form and contents of resolution.- (I) A resolution shall be in the form of a declaration of opinion by the Council.

(2) It shall relate to a matter which is primarily the concern of the Government or to a matter in which the Government has substantial financial interest.

(3) It shall be clearly and precisely expressed and shall raise substantially one definite issue.

(4) It shall not,-

- (a) contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions or defamatory statements;
- (b) refer to the conduct or character of a person except in his official or public capacity;
- (c) raise discussion which is detrimental to public interest:

- (d) contain reflection on the Chairman or a judge of the Supreme Appellate Court or Chief Court ; or
- (e) relate to any matter which is pending before any court or other authority performing judicial or quasi-judicial functions:

Provided that Chairman may, in his discretion, allow such matter being raised in the Council as is concerned with the procedure or subject or stage of enquiry if he is satisfied that it is not likely to prejudice the consideration of the matter by such court or authority.

94. Chairman to decide admissibility of resolution.- The Chairman shall decide whether a resolution or a part thereof is or is not admissible under these rules and may disallow any resolution or a part thereof when in his opinion it is an abuse of the right of moving a resolution or is calculated to obstruct or prejudicially affect the procedure of the Council or is in contravention of these rules.

95. Moving of resolution or its withdrawal.- (1) A member in whose name a resolution stands in the Orders of the Day may, when called upon, either,-

- (a) move the resolution in which case he shall commence his speech by a formal motion in the terms appearing in the Orders of the Day; or
- (b) not move the resolution, but may make a brief statement.
- (2) In the absence of the member, the resolution shall be dropped.

96. Amendment of resolution.- (1) After a resolution has been moved, any member may, subject to these rules, move an amendment to the resolution.

97. Notice of amendment.- (1) If notice of an amendment has not been given one clear days before the day on which it is moved, any member may object to the moving of the amendment and thereupon the objection shall prevail, unless the Chairman in his discretion allows the amendment to be moved.

- (2) The Secretary shall, if time permits, cause a copy of each amendment to be made available for the use of every member.

98. Withdrawal of resolution or amendment after having been moved.- A member who has moved a resolution or an amendment to a resolution shall not withdraw the resolution, or as the case may be, the amendment, except by leave of the Council.

99. Repetition of resolution.- (1) When a resolution has been moved, no resolution or amendment raising substantially the same question shall be moved within six months from the date of the moving of the earlier resolution.

- (2) When a resolution has been withdrawn with the leave of the Council, no resolution raising substantially the same question shall be moved during the same session.

100. Time limit for speeches. - Save with the permission of the Chairman, a speech on a resolution shall not exceed ten minutes:

Provided that the mover of a resolution, when moving the same and the Minister may speak for twenty minutes.

101. Scope of discussion.- The discussion on a resolution shall be strictly limited to the subject matter of the resolution.

102. Copy to the concerned authority.- A copy of every resolution which has been passed by the Council shall be forwarded to the concerned authority which shall apprise the Council the action taken on the resolution within a period of six months from the date of communication by the Council Secretariat.

CHAPTER-XI

RESOLUTIONS MENTIONED IN THE ORDER

103. Resolutions for the disapproval of Ordinances.- (1) On the commencement of a session, as soon as may be, all Ordinances made and promulgated after the prorogation of the last session shall be laid on the Table.

(2) A member may move a resolution for disapproval of an Ordinance after giving three clear days notice of his intention to do so.

(3) When more than one notices under sub-rule (2) are given in respect of the same Ordinance, the resolutions shall be taken up in the order in which their notices have been received.

(4) If a resolution disapproving an Ordinance is passed, all other resolutions relating to that Ordinance shall lapse.

104. Resolution for the approval of a Proclamation.- (1) A member may move a resolution, for the approval of a Proclamation, under Article 87 (4) after giving three clear days notice of his intention to do so.

(2) When more than one notice under sub-rule (1) are given in respect of the same Proclamation, the resolutions shall be taken up in the order in which their notices have been received.

(3) If a resolution approving a Proclamation is passed, all other resolutions relating to that Proclamation shall lapse.

105. Withdrawal of resolution after having been moved.- A member who has moved a resolution shall not withdraw the resolution except by leave of the Council.

106. Amendment.- No amendment shall be moved to any resolution under this Chapter.

107. Certain provisions of Chapter X to apply.- The provisions of rules 95, 99, 100, 101 and 102 shall apply to resolutions under this Chapter.

CHAPTER-XII

RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE GILGIT-BALTISTAN ASSEMBLY

108. Treatment of Resolution.- A resolution passed by the Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly drawing attention of the Council to any matter shall, on receipt, be brought to the notice of the members.

to specific point or points mentioned in the notice and it shall be open to members to advocate an alternative policy;

- (b) "that the amount of the demand be reduced by a specified amount" representing the economy that can be effected. Such specified amount may be either a lump sum reduction in the demand or omission or reduction of an item in the demand. The motion shall be known as 'Economy Cut'. The notice shall indicate briefly and precisely the particular matter on which discussion is sought to be raised and speeches shall be confined to the discussions as to how economy can be effected;
- (c) "that the amount of the demand be reduced by Rs. 100" in order to ventilate a specific grievance which is within the sphere of the responsibility of the Council. Such a notice shall be known as "Token Cut" and discussion thereon shall be confined to the particular grievance specified in the motion.

116. Considerations for admissibility of cut-motions.- In order that a notice of motion for reduction of the amount of demand may be admissible, it shall satisfy the following conditions, namely:-

- (a) it shall relate to one demand only;
- (b) it shall not seek to increase a grant or alter the destination of a grant;
- (c) it shall not relate to expenditure charged on the Council Consolidated Fund;
- (d) it shall be clearly expressed and shall not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions, imputations, epithets or defamatory statements;
- (e) it shall be confined to one specific matter which shall be started in precise terms;
- (f) it shall not reflect on the character or conduct of any person whose conduct can only be challenged on a substantive motion;
- (g) it shall not make suggestions for the amendment or repeal of any existing law;
- (h) it shall not refer to a matter which is not primarily the concern of the Government;
- (i) it shall not relate to a matter which is under adjudication by a court of law;
- (j) it shall not raise a question of privilege;
- (k) it shall not revive discussion on a matter which has been discussed in the same session and on which a decision has been taken;
- (l) it shall not anticipate a matter which has been previously appointed for consideration in the same session ; nor shall it relate to a trifling matter; and
- (m) it shall not relate to any matter which is pending before any court or other authority performing judicial or quasi-judicial functions;

Provided that the Chairman may, in his discretion, allow such matter being raised in the Council as is concerned with the procedure or subject or stage of enquiry if he is satisfied that it is not likely to prejudice the consideration of the matter by such court or authority.

117. Chairman to decide admissibility of cut-motions.- The Chairman shall decide whether a cut-motion is or is not admissible under these rules and may disallow cut-motion if in his opinion, it is an abuse of the right of moving cut-motions or is calculated to obstruct or prejudicially effect the procedure of the Council or is in contravention of any of these rules.

CHAPTER-XIII

REPORTS TO BE LAID BEFORE THE COUNCIL

109. Report of the Auditor General.- (1) The annual report of the Auditor General relating to the accounts of the Government and the Council, when received, shall be laid on the Table by the Minister-in-charge.

(2) The report of the Auditor General so laid shall be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

CHAPTER-XIV

PROCEDURE IN FINANCIAL MATTERS

110. The Budget.- (I) The statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Council for the year shall be presented to the Council by the Minister-in-Charge on such day and at such time as the Chairman may appoint.

111. Budget not to be discussed on presentation.- There shall be no discussion on budget on the day on which it is presented by the Minister-in-Charge to the Council.

112. Stages of discussion of the Budget.- The budget shall be dealt with by the Council in the following stages namely :-

- (a) general discussion of the budget as a whole;
- (b) discussion on appropriations (in respect of charged expenditure); and
- (c) discussion and voting on demands for grants (in respect of expenditure other than charged expenditure), including voting on motions for reduction, if any.

113. Allotment of days.- The Chairman shall, in consultation with the Minister-in-Charge, allot days for different stages of the budget referred to in rule 112:

Provided that at least two days shall elapse between the day the budget is presented and the first day allotted for the general discussion on the budget:

Provided further that not more than four days shall be allotted for general discussion on the Budget.

114. General discussion on the budget.- On the days allotted for general discussion on the budget, the Council may discuss the budget as 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 Council.

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

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

115. Cut-motions.- Any member may move a cut-motion to reduce the amount of demand in any of the following ways namely :-

- (a) "that the amount of the demand be reduced to Rs. 1" representing disapproval of the policy underlying the demand. Such a motion shall be known as "Disapproval of Policy Cut". A member giving notice of such a motion shall indicate in precise terms the particular of the policy, which he proposes to discuss. The discussion shall be confined

CHAPTER-XV

COMMITTEES

PART-I

STANDING COMMITTEES AND GENERAL PROVISIONS REGARDING STANDING COMMITTEES

124. Committees of the Council.- (1) In addition to the Standing Committees on Public Accounts and Business Advisory, there shall be a Standing Committee of the Council for the Gilgit-Baltistan Council Secretariat and the Departments or institutions working under its administrative control.

(2) The Standing Committee shall deal with the subjects assigned under the rules for the allocation and transaction of business of the Council to the Gilgit-Baltistan Council Secretariat and the Departments or institutions working under its administrative control and any other matter referred to it by the Council.

(3) Whereas there is any change in the composition of the Council, the Chairman shall issue suitable directions in regards to the re-allocation of the existing Standing Committee or, as the case may be, the modification in its nomenclature and election of the new Standing Committee.

125. Reference to Standing Committee.- Except as otherwise provided in these rules, the Council or the Chairman may remit to the Standing Committee any subject or matter with which it is concerned and the Standing Committee shall study such subject or matter with a view to suggest legislation or making recommendations to the Council.

126. Composition.- (1) The Standing Committee shall consist of not more than three members including a Chairperson to be appointed by the Chairman, Gilgit-Baltistan Council.

(2) The Minister-in-Charge shall be an ex-officio member of the Committee.

(3) A Member on whose motion any subject or matter was referred to the Standing Committee may attend the meetings of the Committee but shall not vote unless he is a member of the Committee.

(4) The Secretary of the Gilgit-Baltistan Council Secretariat or an officer not less than the rank of a Joint Secretary designated in this behalf may attend the meeting of the Standing Committee.

127. Functions.- (1) The Standing Committee shall examine a Bill, subject or matter referred to it by the Council and shall submit its report to the Chairman with such recommendations including suggestions for legislation, if any, as it may deem necessary. In the case of a Bill, the Committee shall also examine whether the Bill violates, disregards or is otherwise not in accordance with the Order.

(2) The Standing Committee may propose amendments which shall be shown in its report along with original provisions of the Bill, provided that the Committee shall have no power of preventing the Bill from being considered by the Council. The Committee will also examine whether the Bill violates, disregards or is otherwise not in accordance with the order.

1. Added the words "and Business Advisory" by Amendment Notification No. C-1 (1)/2011 GBC Dated 13th December, 2011.

118. Notice of Cut-motions.- If notice of a cut-motion has not been given two clear days before the day on which the demand is taken up for consideration any member may object to the moving of the motion and the objection shall prevail unless the Chairman allows the motion to be made.

119. Amendment to cut-motion.- No amendment to a cut motion shall be permissible.

120. Voting on demands for grants.- (1) Each demand for grant referred to in clause (c) of rule 112 shall be discussed separately.

(2) Before a question is put in respect of a demand for grant, all cut-motions in respect of that demand shall be discussed and voted upon.

(3) When several cut-motions relating to the same demand are tabled they shall be discussed in the order in which the demand to which they relate appear in the budget.

(4) On the last of the days allotted under rule 112 for the stage referred to in clause (c) of rule 112 at the time when the meeting is to terminate, the Chairman shall forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of all the outstanding matters in connection with the demands for grants.

121. Schedule of authorised expenditure.- The schedule of authorised expenditure when authenticated by the Chairman under Article 54 (5) of the Order shall be laid on the Table but shall not be open to discussion or vote thereon.

122. Vote on account. (1) A motion for vote on account shall state the total sum required to be voted and the various amounts needed for Council Secretariat or its Departments or item of expenditure which compose that sum shall be stated in a schedule appended to the motion.

(2) Amendment may be moved for the reduction of the whole demand for grant or for the reduction or omission of the items of which the demand composed.

(3) Discussion of a general character may 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 demand for grant.

(5) The schedule referred to in sub-rule (1) shall also separately specify the several sums required to meet the expenditure charged on the Council Consolidated Fund.

123. Procedure for dealing with supplementary and excess demands.- The procedure for dealing with supplementary estimates of expenditure and excess demand shall, as far as possible, be the same as prescribed for the budget, except that, if, on a demand for a supplementary grant, funds to meet the proposed expenditure on a new purpose are available for re-appropriation, a demand for the grant of a token sum may be submitted to the vote of the Council and if the Council assents to the demand, funds may be made available.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

129-A. Composition.- The chairman may nominate a Committee called, Business Advisory Committee consisting of not more than five members including the Minister-in-Charge, as Chairman of the Committee.

129-B. Functions.- (1) The Committee to recommend the time that should be allocated for discussion of the stage or stages of such official Bills and other Business as the Chairman may direct, for being referred to, the Committee.

(2) That Committee shall have the powers to indicate, in the proposed timetable, the different hours, at which the various stages of the Bill or other Business shall be completed.

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

GENERAL PROVISIONS REGARDING STANDING COMMITTEES

130. Chairman of a Committee.- (1) The Chairman of each Committee unless specified in the motion, shall be elected by the Committee from amongst its members.

(2) If the Chairman of a Committee is not present at any sitting, the Committee shall choose one of its members present to act as Chairman for that sitting.

131. Quorum of a meeting.- The quorum to constitute a sitting of a Committee shall be at least two members of the total membership of the Council.

132. Resignation of members from the Committee. A member may resign his membership of a Committee by writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman.

133. Casual vacancies.- (1) The casual vacancies in a Committee shall be filled as soon as possible after such vacancies occur, by election.

(2) Subject to the requirement of quorum, a Committee shall have power to act notwithstanding any vacancy in its membership.

134. Adjournment, etc. of Committee.- (1) If, at the time fixed for any sitting of a Committee or at any time during any such sitting less than two member are present, the Chairman of the Committee shall either suspend the sitting until at least two members are present or adjourn the sitting to some future day.

(2) Where the sitting of a Committee is adjourned on two successive days, the Chairman of the Committee shall report the fact to the Chairman.

135. Discharge of Members absent from sittings of Committee.- If a member is absent from three or more consecutive sittings of a Committee without the permission of its Chairman, a motion may be moved by any member in the Council for the discharge of such member from the Committee.

1. Inserted the words "Business Advisory Committee" and Rules 129-A & 129-B by Amendment Notification No. C-1 (1)/2011 GBC Dated 13th December, 2011.

(3) If the Standing Committee does not present its report within the period prescribed, or the time allowed, the Bill, subject or matter referred to it may be considered by the Council provided that the Committee shall have no power of preventing the Bill from being considered by the Council.

(4) If a Committee does not present its report within the prescribed period or the time allowed, the Council may consider the Bill, subject or matter referred to it, without waiting for the report upon a motion by any member or by the Minister Incharge and such Bill, subject or matter shall be treated as withdrawn from the Committee.

(5) The Standing Committee may examine the expenditures, administration, delegated legislation, public petitions and policies of the Council Secretariat and its associated public bodies and may forward its report of findings and recommendations to the Gilgit-Baltistan Council Secretariat and the Gilgit-Baltistan Council Secretariat shall submit its reply to the Committee.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

128. Composition. - (1) The Standing Committee on Public Accounts Committee shall consist of not more than three members to be elected either by the Council or appointed by the Chairman, Gilgit-Baltistan Council.

(2) The Minister-in-Charge shall be an ex-officio member of the Public Accounts Committee.

(3) The Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee, unless specified in the motion, shall be elected by the Committee from amongst its members.

129. Functions. - (1) The Public Accounts Committee shall examine the accounts showing the appropriation of sums granted by the Council for the expenditure of the Council, the annual finance accounts of the Council, the report of the Auditor-General and such other matters as the Minister-in-Charge may refer to it.

(2) In scrutinizing the appropriation accounts of the Council and the reports of the Auditor-General thereon it shall be the duty of the Committee to satisfy itself,-

- (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 governs it; and
- (c) that every re-appropriation has been made in accordance with the provision made in this behalf under rules made by the Council.

(3) It shall also be the duty of the Committee, to consider the report of the Auditor General in cases where the Chairman, Gilgit-Baltistan Council or the PAC may have required him to conduct the audit of any receipts or to examine the accounts of stores and stocks.

(4) If any money has been spent on any service during a financial year in excess of the amount granted by the Council for that purpose, the Committee shall examine with reference to the facts of each case the circumstances leading to such an excess and make such recommendation as it may deem fit.

(5) The report of the Committee shall be presented within a period of one year from the date on which reference was made to it by the Council unless the Council, on a motion being made directs that the time for the presentation of the report be extended to a date specified in the motion.

143. Evidence or information to be kept confidential or secret.- Any evidence produced or information tendered before a Committee shall be treated as confidential or secret, unless the Committee, in the public interest decides otherwise.

144. Request for views of Council Secretariat on private Members Bills.- In case of a private member's Bill, the Secretary shall transmit a copy thereof to the Council Secretariat with a request to furnish its views on the Bill for consideration by the Committee.

145. Record of the proceedings of Committees.- A summary of the record of the proceedings of each Committee shall be maintained by the Secretary.

(2) A summary of evidence tendered before a Committee may be made available to all the members of the Committee and the Minister.

146. Restriction on publications etc. of proceedings.- (1) A Committee may direct that the whole or any part of its proceedings or a summary thereof may be laid on the Table.

(2) The report of a Committee which has not been presented to the Council or the proceedings of a Committee or any part or summary thereof which has not been laid on the Table shall be treated as confidential and shall not be open to inspection except with the permission of the Committee.

(3) The Chairman may direct that any part of the proceedings may be communicated to the members confidentially before it is laid on the Table.

(4) A Committee may, with the permission of the Chairman, make available to the Government its report or a part thereof before presentation to the Council and such report or part shall be treated as confidential by Government until presented to the Council.

147. Special reports.- A Committee 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 Chairman or the Council.

148. Reports of Committee.- (1) Where the Council has not fixed any time for the presentation of a report, the report of a Committee shall be presented within thirty days from the date on which reference was made to it by the Council unless the Council, on a motion being made, directs that the time for presentation of the report be extended to a date specified in the motion.

(2) Reports may be either preliminary or final.

(3) The report shall,-

(a) incorporate the views, if any, of the Minister Incharge;

(b) Set forth the recommendations of the Committee together with minutes of dissent, if any, and

(c) be signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee or, if the Chairman is absent or not readily available, by another member chosen by the Committee.

(4) The Secretary shall cause a copy of every report of a Committee together with the minutes of dissent, if any, to be made available for the use of every member of the Council. The report shall, if it relates to a Bill, be published in the Gazette with the views of the minority, if any.

136. Speeches in Committees.- A member may, with the permission of the Chairman speak more than once on a particular point or matter at a sitting of a Committee.

137. Voting in Committees. - All questions, at a sitting of a Committee shall be determined by a majority of the members present and voting.

138. Casting vote of Chairman.- In addition to his vote as a member, the Chairman of a Committee or the person presiding in his absence shall, in the event of the equality of votes, have a casting vote.

139. Power to appoint Sub-Committees.- (1) A Committee may appoint one or more Sub-Committees, each having the powers of the whole Committee, to examine any matter that may be referred to them.

(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 and when approved by the whole Committee, be deemed to be report of that Committee.

140. Sittings of Committees. - (1) A Committee shall sit on such day and at such hours as the Chairman may, in consultation with the Secretary, fix.

(2) The sittings of a Committee shall ordinarily be held within the precincts of the Council.

(3) If a Committee is sitting while the Council is also sitting, the Chairman of the Committee shall, if a division is being called in the Council, suspend the proceedings of the Committee for such time as will, in his opinion, enable the members to vote in the division.

(4) Subject to sub-rule (1), on a requisition made by not less than two members of a Committee, the Chairman of the Committee shall call a meeting of the Committee within fourteen days from the date of receipt of the requisition.

141. Meetings in Camera.- The sittings of a Committee may be held in camera if so determined by the Committee.

142. Power to take evidence or call for papers, records or documents.- (1) A Committee shall have power to require the attendance of persons or the production of papers or records, if such course is considered necessary for the discharge of its duties:

Provided that if any question arises whether the evidence of a persons or the production of a document is relevant for the committee, the question shall be referred to the Chairman whose decision shall be final:

Provided further that the Government may decline to produce a document on the ground that its disclosure would be prejudicial to the defense, security or external relations of the Pakistan.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this rule, a witness may be summoned by an order signed by the Secretary and shall produce such documents as are required for the use of the Committee.

(3) A Committee may summon or allow to appear before the Committee any member or any other person having a special interest in relations to any matter under its consideration and may hear expert evidence and held public hearing.

CHAPTER-XVI

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE

158. Applicability of general rules.- Except for matters for which special provisions are made in these rules the general rules contained in the chapter shall apply to all matters; and if, and so far as, any provision in the special rules relating to a matter is inconsistent with the general rules, the former shall prevail.

159. Notice by members.- (1) Every notice required by these rules shall be given in writing addressed to the Secretary and signed by the member giving notice and shall be left at the Notice Office which shall be kept open for this purpose on every working day between such hours as may be notified from time to time.

(2) A notice delivered when the Notice Office is closed shall be treated as given on the next working day.

160. Contingent notice.- (1) A member may give notice on a motion or resolution or Bill which he may desire to be taken up on the conclusion of other business on which that motion or resolution or Bill is contingent and if such a notice is admitted by the Chairman it may be included in the Orders of the Day under the heading contingent notice of motion or resolution, or as the case may be, Bill.

(2) A contingent notice shall be in such form as the Chairman may prescribe and shall be taken up in the Council only after the business on which the notice is contingent is disposed of.

161. Circulation of notices to members.- (1) The Secretary shall make every efforts to circulate to each member and any other person entitled under the Order to take part in the proceedings of the Council, a copy of the notice or other paper which is required by these rules to be made available for their use.

(2) A notice or other paper shall be deemed to have been made available for the use of every member if a copy thereof is deposited in such manner and in such place as the Chairman may from time to time direct.

162. Lapse of pending notices on prorogation of session.- On the prorogation of the Council all pending notices, other than notices of intention to move for leave to introduce a Bill, shall lapse and fresh notices shall be given for the next session.

163. Motion, resolution or amendment moved not to lapse.- A motion, resolution or an amendment, which has been moved and is pending in the Council shall not lapse by reason only of the prorogation of the Council.

164. Chairman to amend notices of questions, motions, etc.- If in the opinion of the Chairman any notice contains words, phrases or expressions which are argumentative, unparliamentary, ironical, irrelevant, verbose or otherwise inappropriate, he may, in his discretion, amend such notice before it is circulated.

149. Presentation of report.- (1) The report of a Committee shall be presented to the Council by the Chairman of the Committee or, in his absence, by another member chosen by the Committee.

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

150. Printing, publication or circulation of report before its presentation to Council.- The chairman may, on a request being made to him when the Council is not in session, order to the printing, publication or circulation of a report of a Committee, although it has not been presented to the Council. In that case the report shall be presented to the Council during its next session at the first convenient opportunity.

151. Agenda and notice of the meetings of the committees.- (1) The time table of business of a Committee and agenda for each meeting of the Committee be determined by the Chairman of the Committee in consultation with the Minister-in-Charge.

(2) Notices of all meetings of a Committee shall be sent to the members of the Committee.

152. Supplementary rules.- A Committee may, with the approval of the Chairman, make supplementary rules of procedure not inconsistent with these rules.

153. Application of general rules of the Council.- Subject to the rules in this chapter and the supplementary rules of the Committee, if any, the general rules of the Council shall apply to the proceedings in each Committee.

154. Removal of doubt and interpretation of rules.- If any doubt arises on any point of procedure or interpretation of these rules, the Chairman of the Committee may refer the point to the Chairman whose decision thereon shall be final.

155. Provisions relating to Standing Committees apply to other Committees. - In the absence of special provisions relating to Special or Select Committee, the provisions relating to the Standing Committees shall apply mutatis mutandis to a Special or Select Committee.

PART-II

OTHER COMMITTEES

156. Special Committee.- The Council may, by motion appoint a Special Committee which, shall have such composition and functions as may be specified in the motion.

157. Select Committee.- The Council may, by motion appoint a Special Committee which, shall have such composition and functions as may be specified in the motion.

warrant the re-circulation of the Bill, he may forthwith put the question thereon or decline to propose the question.

(3) If the Chairman is of opinion that motion for re-committal of a Bill to a Special or Select Committee or circulation or re-circulation of the Bill after the Special or Select Committee has reported thereon is in the nature of a dilatory motion in abuse of these rules in as much as the Special or Select Committee has dealt with the Bill in a proper manner or that no unforeseen or new circumstance has arisen since the Bill emerged from such Committee, he may forthwith put the question thereon or decline to propose the question.

170. Motion that policy, situation, statement or any other matter be taken into consideration.- A motion that any policy, situation, statement or any other matter be taken into consideration shall not put to the vote of the Council, but the Council 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 Chairman and the vote of the Council shall be taken on such motion.

171. Conditions of admissibility of amendments.- (1) An amendment shall be within the scope of, and relevant to, the subject matter of the motion to which it is proposed.

(2) An amendment shall not raise a question which by these rules can only be raised by a substantive motion after notice.

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

(4) An amendment on a question shall not be inconsistent with the previous decision on the same question at the same stage of Bill or matter.

(5) An amendment may be moved to an amendment which has been moved in the Council.

(6) When a Bill is passed, with or without amendment, the Secretary may, if necessary; -

- (a) correct punctuation or grammatical or printing errors ; or
- (b) make incidental, consequential or verbal alternations ; or
- (c) re-number or re-letter the provisions of the Bill.

(7) In respect of any motion or in respect of any Bill under consideration in the Council, the Chairman shall have the power to select one of several identical or substantially identical amendments to be proposed.

172. Notice of amendments.- Notice of an amendment to a motion shall be given one day before the day on which the motion is to be considered, unless the Chairman allows the amendment to be moved without such notice.

173. Selection of amendments.- The Chairman shall have power to select the amendments to be proposed in respect of any motion, 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 judgment upon it.

174. Putting of amendments.- The Chairman may put amendments in such order as he may think fit:

MOTIONS

165. Repetition of motions.- (1) Except as otherwise provided by these rules it shall not revive discussion on a matter or a motion, including the discussion on the admissibility of adjournment motion which has been discussed in the Council during the last four months.

(2) This rule shall not be deemed to prevent the making of any of the following motions, namely: -

- (a) a motion for taking into consideration, or reference to a Special Committee, of a Bill where an amendment to the effect that the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon has been carried to a previous motion for taking into consideration or for referring it to a Special Committee;
- (b) a motion for the amendment of a Bill which has been re-committed to a Committee or re-circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon;
- (c) a motion for the amendment of a Bill which is consequential or is designed merely to alter the drafting of another amendment which has been carried; or
- (d) a motion which has to be or may be made within a period of time determined by or under these rules.

166. Anticipation of a matter before the Council,- A motion or amendment must not anticipate a matter already appointed for consideration of the Council; and in determining whether a motion is out of order on the ground of anticipation, the Chairman shall have regard to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the Council within a reasonable time.

167. Withdrawal of motion.- (1) A member who has made a motion may withdraw the same by leave of the Council.

(2) Subject to sub-rule (3), the leave shall be signified not upon question but by the Chairman taking the pleasure of the Council. The Chairman shall ask: "Is it your pleasure that the motion be withdrawn?" If no one dissents, the Chairman shall say: "The motion by leave stand withdrawn." But if any dissentient voice is heard or a member rises to continue the debate, the Chairman shall forthwith put the motion.

(3) If an amendment has been proposed to a motion, the original motion shall not be withdrawn until the amendment has been disposed of.

168. Adjournment of debate on motion.- At any time after a motion has been made, a member may move that the debate on the motion be adjourned.

169. Dilatory motion in abuse of these rules.- (1) If the Chairman is of opinion that a motion for the adjournment of a debate is an abuse of these rules, he may either forthwith put the question thereon or decline to propose the question.

(2) If the Chairman is of opinion that a motion for re-circulation of a Bill to elicit further opinion thereon is in the nature of a dilatory motion in abuse of these rules in as much as the original circulation was adequate or comprehensive or that no new or unforeseen circumstance has arisen since the previous circulation to

Provided that a member disabled by sickness or infirmity may be permitted to speak sitting.

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

(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 Chairman 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.

179. Questions to be asked through the Chairman. When, for the purposes of explanation during discussion or for any other sufficient reason any member has occasion to ask a question of another member on any matter than under consideration of the Council, he shall ask the question through the Chairman.

180. Irrelevance or repetition.- The Chairman, after having called the attention of the Council 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.

181. Personal explanation.- A member may, with the permission of the Chairman make a personal explanation although there is no question before the Council but no debate shall be allowed on it.

182. Order of speeches and right of reply.- (1) After the member who has made motion has spoken, other members may speak on the motion in the order in which the Chairman may call upon them. If any member who is so called upon does not speak, he shall not be entitled, except with the permission of the Chairman, to speak on the motion at any later stage of the debate.

(2) Except in the exercise of a right of reply or as otherwise provided by these rules, a member shall not speak more than once on any motion, except with the permission of the Chairman, for the purpose of making a personal explanation but in that case debatable matter may be brought forward.

(3) A member who has made a motion may speak by way of reply, and if the motion has been made by a private member, the Minister-in-Charge may speak after the mover has replied.

(4) Nothing in sub-rule (3) shall be deemed to give any right of reply to the mover of an amendment to a Bill, resolution or motion, save with the permission of the Chairman.

183. Mover's reply concludes debate.- Subject to the sub-rule(3) of rule 182, the reply of the mover of the original motion shall in all cases conclude the debate.

Provided that the Chairman may refuse to put an amendment which in his opinion is frivolous.

175. Rules to be observed by members while present in the Council.- While the Council is sitting, a member,-

- (a) shall not read any book, newspaper or letter except in connection with the business of the Council;
- (b) shall not interrupt any member while speaking by disorderly or expression or noises or in any other disorderly manner;
- (c) shall bow to the Chair while entering or leaving the Council and also when taking or leaving his seat;
- (d) shall not pass between the Chair and any member who is speaking;
- (e) shall always address the Chair;
- (f) shall keep to his usual seat while addressing the Council;
- (g) shall maintain silence when not speaking in the Council;
- (h) shall not obstruct proceedings, his or interrupt and shall avoid making running commentaries when speeches are being made in the Council.

176. Rules to be observed, while speaking.- (1) The subject matter of every speech shall be relevant to the matter before the Council.

(2) Except with the permission of the Chairman a member may not read his speech but may refresh his memory by reference to his notes.

(3) A member while speaking shall not,-

- (a) discuss any matter which is subjudice; and
- (b) reflect upon the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman in his personal capacity;

Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall preclude any reference, subject to the provisions of the Order, to the Chairman in relation to any act done by him in his official capacity.

- (c) discuss the conduct of any judge of the Supreme Appellate Court or of the Chief Court in the discharge of his duties;
- (d) ke personal charge against a member, Minister Incharge or the holder of a public office, except in so far as, it may be relevant in regard to the matter before the Council;
- (e) use his right of speech for the purpose of willfully and persistently obstructing the business of the Council;
- (f) use offensive expressions about the conduct or proceedings in the joint sitting, Council and Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly;
- (g) unnecessarily cast reflection on the conduct of any person who cannot defend himself before the Council;
- (h) reflect on any determination of the Council except on a motion for rescinding it;
- (I) use the Chairman's name for the purpose of influencing the debate; or
- (j) utter treasonable, seditious or defamatory words or make use of offensive or unparliamentary expressions.

Explanation. - In this paragraph, the expression "unparliamentary expression" means any expression which imputes false motives to a member or charges him with falsehood or is couched in abusive language.

177. Mode of address.- A member desiring to speak on any matter before the Council or to raise a point of order or privilege shall speak only when called upon by the Chairman to do so, shall speak from his place, shall rise when he speaks and shall address the Chairman:

192. Decision on points of order.- (1) A point of order shall relate to the interpretation or enforcement of the rules or such articles as regulate the business of the Council and shall raise a question which is within the cognizance of the Chairman.

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

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

(3) A point of order may not be raised before the Chairman has disposed of the earlier point of order.

(4) Subject to the provisions of sub-rules (1), (2) and (3), a member may formulate a point of order and the Chairman shall decide whether the point raised is a point of order, and if so, give his decision thereon, which shall be final.

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

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

(7) A member shall not raise a point of order; -

- (a) to ask for information;
- (b) to explain his position;
- (c) when a question on any motion is being put to the Council; or
- (d) which may be hypothetical;
- (e) that division bells did not ring or were not heard; or
- (8) there shall be no discussion on a decision on a point of order.

193. Chairman to preserve order and enforce decisions.- (1) The Chairman shall preserve order and shall have all powers necessary for the purpose of enforcing his decisions.

(2) For the purpose of enforcing the order of the Chairman, there shall be a Sergeant-at-Arms.

194. Withdrawal of members.- The Chairman may direct any member whose conduct is, in his opinion, grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the Chamber and any member so ordered to withdraw shall do so forthwith and shall absent himself during the remainder of the day's sitting.

195. Suspension of members.- (1) The Chairman may, if he deems it necessary, name a member who disregards the authority of the Chairman or abuses these rules, by consistently and willfully obstructing the business of the Council.

(2) If a member is so named by the Chairman, he shall forthwith put the question that the member (naming him) be suspended from the service of the Council for a period not exceeding the remainder of the session:

Provided that the Council may at any time, on a motion being made, resolve that such suspension be terminated.

(3) A member suspended under this rule shall forthwith withdraw from the precincts of the Council.

184. Procedure when Chairman addresses.- (1) Whenever the Chairman addresses the Council, 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 Chairman is addressing the Council.

185. Closure.- (1) At any time after a motion has been made, any member may move "That the question be now put" and, unless it appears to the Chairman that the motion is an abuse of these rules or any infringement of the right of reasonable debate, the Chairman shall put the motion "That the question be now put".

(2) Where a motion made under sub-rule (1) is carried, the question shall be put without amendment or debate, unless the Chairman allows a member such right of reply as he may have under these rules.

186. Decision of the Council.- A matter requiring the decision of the Council shall be decided by means of a question put by the Chairman on a motion made by a member.

187. Proposal and putting of question.- When a motion has been made, the Chairman shall propose the question for consideration, and put it for the decision of the Council. If a motion embodies two or more separate propositions, the Chairman may propose those propositions as separate questions.

188. Voting.- (1) Save as otherwise provided, the votes of members on any question put by the Chairman may be taken by voices in the first instance. On the conclusion of a debate, the Chairman 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 Chairman shall then say: "I think the Ayes or, as the case may be, the Noes have it" and the question before the Council shall be determined.

(3) A member may not vote on any question in which he has a pecuniary interest, If he votes on such a question, the vote shall, on a substantive motion carried by the Council, be disallowed.

Explanation. - The pecuniary interest contemplated in this sub-rule shall be direct and personal and not remote or general.

189. No speech after question is put.- A member shall not speak on a question after the Chairman has put the question to the Council.

190. Casting vote.- The Chairman shall not vote except in the event of an equality of votes.

191. Validity of proceedings, etc.- (1) The validity of the proceedings in the Council shall not be called in question on the ground of any irregularity of procedure.

(2) The Council shall have power to act notwithstanding any vacancy in the membership thereof and no proceedings in the Council shall be invalid by reason only that a person who was disqualified for being or continuing as member or a person who was otherwise not entitled to do so, was present at or voted or otherwise took part in the proceedings.

205. Language of the Council.- (1) The members shall address the Council in Urdu or English, provided that the Chairman may permit any member who cannot adequately express himself in any of these languages to address the Council in his mother tongue.

(2) If a member desires that a summary in Urdu of his speech delivered in a language other than Urdu and English be read to the Council, he shall supply a copy of the summary to the Chairman who may, in his discretion allow it to be read to the Council. Such summary shall be included in the record of proceedings of the Council.

(3) The official record of the proceedings of the Council shall be kept in English or Urdu.

206. Report of proceedings.- (1) The Secretary shall cause to be prepared a full report of the proceedings of the Council at each of its sittings, and shall, as soon as practicable, publish in such form and manner as the Chairman may from time to time direct.

(2) The Secretary may also cause to be prepared a journal of the Council containing,-

- (a) a brief record proceedings of the Council at each of its sittings;
- (b) information on any matter relating to or connected with the business of the Council or a matter which in the opinion of the Chairman may be included therein; and
- (c) information regarding the Committee.

207. Custody of documents or records.- The Secretary shall have the custody of all records, documents, including the original documents notified in the Gazette, and papers belonging to the Council or any of its Committee or the Secretariat of the Council, and he shall not permit any such records, documents or papers to be taken out of the Secretariat without the permission, in writing, of the Chairman.

208. Expunction of words from debates.- If the Chairman is of opinion that words have been used in debate which are defamatory, indecent, unparliamentary or undignified, he may, in his discretion, either during the debate or subsequently, order that such words be expunged from the proceedings of the Council.

209. Indication in printed debates of expunged proceedings.- The portion of the proceedings of the Council expunged under rule 208 shall be marked by asterisks and an explanatory footnote shall be inserted in the proceedings as follows:-
"Expunged as ordered by the Chairman".

210. Secretary to be ex officio Secretary of Committee.- The Secretary shall be ex-officio Secretary of all Committees of the Council.

211. Secretary may authorize any Officer.- The Secretary may authorise any officer of the Secretariat to perform such duties as he may direct.

212. Suspension of rules.. Wherever any inconsistency or difficulty arises in the application of these rules, any member may, with the consent of the Chairman, move that any rule may be suspended in its application to a particular motion before the Council and if the motion is carried the rule in question shall stand so suspended.

196. Power of Chairman to suspend sitting or adjourn the Council.- In the case of a grave disorder arising in the Council, the Chairman may, if he thinks it necessary to do so, suspend any sitting for a time to be specified by him or adjourned the Council.

197. Admission of strangers.- The admission of strangers during the sittings of the Council to those portions of the House which are not reserved for the exclusive use of members shall be regulated in accordance with directions given by the Chairman.

198. Withdrawal of strangers.- The Chairman may, whenever, he thinks fit, order the galleries to be cleared and any strangers to be removed.

199. Removal of strangers.- Any officer authorized in this behalf by the Chairman shall remove from the precincts of the Council any stranger whom he may see or who may be reported to him to be, in any portion of the precincts of the Council reserved for the exclusive use of members, and also any stranger who, misconducts, himself or willfully infringes the directions given by the Chairman under rule 197 or does not withdraw when the strangers are directed to withdraw under rule 198.

200. Secret Sitting.- (1) On a request made by the Leader of the House, the Chairman may in his discretion, fix a day or part thereof for sitting of the Council in Secret.

(2) When the Council sits in secret, no stranger shall be permitted to be present in the Chamber, lobby or galleries, except the Secretary and such other officers of the Council as the Chairman may direct.

201. Report of the proceedings.- The Chairman may cause a report of the proceedings of a secret sitting to be kept in such manner as he thinks fit, but no other persons present shall keep a note or record of any proceedings or decisions of a secret sittings, whether in part on full, or issue any report of, or divulge, or purport to describe, such proceedings.

202. Procedure in other respects .- Subjects to these rules, the procedure in all other respects in connection with a secret sitting shall be in accordance with such directions as the Chairman may give.

203. Lifting ban of Secrecy.- (1) When it is considered that the necessity for maintaining secrecy in regard to the proceedings of a secret sitting has ceased to exist, a motion may, subject to the consent of the Chairman, be moved by the Leader of the House or any member authorized by him in this behalf that the proceedings be no longer treated as secret.

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

204. Disclosure of proceedings or decisions .- Save as provided in rule 203, disclosure of the proceedings of decisions of a secret sitting by any person in any manner shall be treated as a gross breach of privilege of the Council.

(7) After the proposed amendment has been referred to the Committee the procedure in regard to a Bill similarly omitted shall be, as far as may be, followed with such variation as the Chairman may consider necessary.

(8) When a rule or an amendment of a rule is passed by the Council it shall come into force at once.

213. Residuary powers of the Chairman.- All matters not specifically provided for in these rules and all questions relating to the detailed working of these rules shall be regulated in such manner as the Chairman may, from time to time, direct.

214. Statement made by the Minister.- A Statement may be made by the Minister on a matter of public importance with the consent of the Chairman but no question shall be asked nor discussion take place thereon at the time the statement is made.

215. Restriction on use of Chamber of the Council.- The Chamber shall not be used for any purpose other than the joint sitting, sittings of the Council or the Assembly.

216. Papers quoted to be laid on the Table.- If the Minister-in-Charge quotes in the Council a dispatch or other State paper which has not been presented to the Council, he shall lay the relevant extract thereof on the Table:

Provided that where the Minister gives in his work a summary or gist of such dispatch of State paper it shall not be necessary to lay the relevant extract thereof on the Table.

217. Treatment of papers laid on the Table.- (1) A paper or document to be laid on the Table shall be duly authenticated by the member or Minister-in-Charge by whom it is so laid.

(2) All papers and documents laid on the Table shall be considered public.

CHAPTER-XVII

AMENDMENT OF RULES

218. Amendment of rules.- (1) Unless the Chairman otherwise directs, fifteen clear days notice of a motion for leave to amend these rules shall be given and the notice shall be accompanied by the amendment proposed.

(2) The Secretary, as soon as may be, circulate the notices to the members.

(3) The motion shall be included in the Orders of the Day if the Council is in session, within seven days of the expiry of the notice given under sub-rules (1) or, if the Council is not in session, within seven days of the commencement of the next session.

(4) When the motion is reached, the Chairman shall read out the proposed amendment to the Council and ask whether the member has the leave of the Council. If objection is taken, the Chairman shall call such of the members as may be in favour of leave being granted to rise in their seats, and, if one third of total membership of the Council does not so rise, he shall declare that the member has not the leave of the Council or, if no objection is taken or such membership so rises, the chairman shall declare that the members has the leave of the Council.

(5) When a member has the leave of the Council under sub-rule(4) he may move that the proposed amendment be taken into consideration and to such a motion any other member may move as an amendment that the proposed amendment be referred to a Special Committee.

(6) If the amendment to refer the proposed amendment to the Committee is carried the matter shall be referred to the Committee.

SCHEDULE

FORM OF COMMUNICATION REGARDING ARREST, DETENTION,
CONVICTION OR RELEASE OF A MEMBER

(Sec rules 53 and 54)

Place.....

To.....

To

The Chairman of the Council,
Islamabad.

(A)

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN,

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 Mr/Mrs/Miss.....
Member of the Council, be arrested/detained for.....
(reason for the arrest or detention).

Mr/Mrs/Miss Member of the Council.....
was accordingly arrested/taken into custody at.....
(time) on(date)and is at present lodged in the
.....(jail)..... (place).

(B)

I have the honour to inform you that Mr/Mrs/Miss Member of
the Council was tried at the.....
Court before me on a charge (or charges) of..... (Nature of offence with
which charged) on.....after trial lasting for days, I found
him/her guilty ofand sentenced him/her to imprisonment
for.....
(period).

His/Her applications for leave to appeal to (Name
of the Court) is pending consideration.

(C)

I have the honour to inform you that Mr/Mrs/Miss Member of
the Council, who was arrested/detained/convicted
on.....(date) for..... (Reasons of
arrest/detention/conviction) was released on (date) on
..... (Grounds for release).

Yours faithfully,

(JUDGE, MAGISTRATE OR
EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY)

