

PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB

Notice of Motion

to

**Amend the Rules of Procedure of the
Provincial Assembly of the Punjab 1997
under Rule 244-A of the said Rules**

Notice is hereby given that the Rules of Procedure of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab 1997 may be amended as follows:

1. **Amendment of Rule 2**

In rule 2, in sub-rule (1), for clause (w), the following shall be substituted:

"(w) "Private Member" means a member who is not a Minister, an Advisor, a Special Assistant or a Parliamentary Secretary;"

2. **Amendment of Rule 56**

In rule 56, for the words "such supplementary questions as may be necessary", the words, "not more than three supplementary questions" shall be substituted.

3. **Amendment of Rule 85**

For rule 85, the following shall be substituted:

"**85. Procedure.**— (1) If the Speaker is of the opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed in the adjournment motion is in order, he shall put to the vote of the Assembly that "the adjournment motion be admitted for discussion" which shall be decided by the majority of members present and voting.

(2) If the adjournment motion is admitted for discussion, the Speaker shall announce that the adjournment motion shall be taken up for discussion in the same session for not more than two hours on such day as the Speaker may fix:

Provided that the Speaker may, of his own or on a motion made by a member, extend the sitting of the Assembly on such day by two hours.

(3) On the conclusion of discussion on the day fixed by the Speaker, if the mover is satisfied, the adjournment motion shall stand disposed of; however, if the mover is not satisfied, the Speaker may, of his own or on a motion made by a member, refer the Adjournment Motion to a Committee for consideration and report."

4. **Amendment of Rule 101**

In rule 101, sub-rule (4) shall be omitted.

5. **Amendment of Chapter XII-A**

For Chapter XII-A, the following shall be substituted:

**"CHAPTER XII-A
ZERO HOUR**

113A. Zero hour.— (1) A member may give zero hour notice to take up matters of urgent public importance relating to the Government and requiring intervention of the Assembly.

(2) The Notice shall be given in the prescribed format and shall be submitted in the Notice Office of the Assembly Secretariat not less than forty-eight hours before the commencement of the sitting on the day on which it is proposed to be fixed.

(3) The Secretary shall not entertain more than one such notice of a member for the sitting.

113B. Conditions of admissibility.— In order that a zero hour notice may be admissible, it shall satisfy the following conditions:

- (a) it shall not exceed fifty words;
- (b) it has not been raised through an adjournment motion or a Call Attention Notice; and
- (c) it fulfills the conditions mentioned in rule 83.

113C. Time and mode of taking zero hour notice.— (1) The notice shall be included in the List of Business on every Tuesday and Friday in such order as may be determined by the Speaker in view of the public importance of the notice raised thereby.

(2) The time for taking such notices shall be half an hour immediately after the question hour.

(3) Not more than two such notices shall be included in the List of Business for a sitting.

(4) A notice shall not be taken on the days mentioned in sub-rule (2) of rule 42.

(5) Upon being asked by the Speaker, the member concerned may read the zero hour notice and speak for not more than five minutes.

(6) The Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary concerned shall respond to the matter raised in the notice.

113D. Notices to lapse.— All zero hour notices which are not included in the List of Business on a day immediately following the said notice shall lapse, and notices which, although brought on the List of Business, are not disposed of because of expiry of time fixed for the purpose shall also lapse.”.

6. **Amendment of Rule 118**

In rule 118, after sub-rule (2), the following sub-rule (3) shall be added:

“(3) When a resolution has been admitted, it shall be transmitted to the concerned Department of the Government and the concerned Department shall, in addition to the action required under rule 40 of the Punjab Government Rules of Business 2011, apprise the Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department and the Assembly Secretariat of the stance of the Department on the resolution well before the resolution is taken up in the House.”.

7. **Amendment of Rule 126**

In rule 126:

- (i) in sub-rule (2):
 - (a) for the word “ninety”, the word “sixty” shall be substituted;
 - (b) for the full stop at the end, a colon shall be substituted and thereafter the following proviso shall be added:

"Provided that if the Department does not take any action on the resolution within the specified time, it shall submit a detailed report to the Assembly Secretariat with reasons of the inaction.";

- (ii) for sub-rule (3), the following shall be substituted:

"(3) If the Department concerned does not comply with the provisions of sub-rule (2) within the stipulated time, the Secretary shall inform the Speaker who may refer the matter to the Committee on Privileges."; and

- (iii) sub-rule (4) shall be omitted.

8. **Amendment of Rule 127**

In rule 127, for sub-rule (3), the following shall be substituted:

"(3) As soon as the motion referred to in sub-rule (2) has been moved, the Speaker shall put it to the vote of the Assembly, to be decided by the majority of the members present and voting; and if the leave is granted, the Speaker shall call upon the mover to move the resolution."

9. **Amendment of Rule 154**

In rule 154:

- (a) for sub-rule (1), the following shall be substituted:

"(1) A Committee shall examine a Bill or other matter referred to it by the Assembly or by the Speaker and shall submit its report to the Assembly or to the Speaker, as the case may be, with such recommendations including suggestion for legislation, if any, as it may deem necessary."; and

- (b) after sub-rule (6), the following sub-rule (7) shall be added:

"(7) With the prior approval of the Speaker, a Committee may examine the expenditures, administration, delegated legislation, statutory reports laid in the House and policies of the Department concerned and its associated bodies, and may forward its report containing findings and recommendations to the Department concerned and the Department concerned shall, within a period of two months, inform the Assembly Secretariat about the actions taken on the findings and recommendations:

Provided that a Committee shall not examine the expenditure of the Department concerned for more than two times in a year".

10. **Amendment of Rule 155**

For rule 155, the following shall be substituted:

"155. **Reference to a Committee.**- The Assembly, on a motion made by a member or the Speaker, may remit to the Committee concerned any subject or matter which may be examined by the Committee:

Provided that the Speaker may withdraw a matter referred to a Committee and recommit it to another Committee."

11. **Amendment of Rule 156**

In rule 156, in sub-rule (7), for the full stop at the end, a colon shall be substituted and thereafter the following proviso shall be added:

"Provided that if the Chairman does not call a sitting of the Committee within the stipulated period, the Secretary may fix the date and time of a sitting."

12. **Amendment of Rule 181**

After rule 181, the following new rules 181-A and 181-B shall be inserted:

"DA—COMMITTEE ON LAW REFORMS

"181-A. Composition.- (1) There shall be a Committee on Law Reforms which shall consist of seventeen members to be elected by the Assembly, and the Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs shall be its *ex-officio* member.

(2) The quorum for the election of the Chairman of this Committee shall be the majority of the elected members thereof and for a sitting of the Committee shall be six elected members.

181-B. Functions.- (1) The Committee shall study and keep under review on a continuing systematic basis the principal and the delegated legislation of the Punjab with a view to making recommendations to the Government for:

- (a) removing inconsistencies and anomalies;
- (b) repealing obsolete or unnecessary provisions;
- (c) simplifying the complex provision for easy comprehension; and
- (d) bringing the legislation in conformity with the existing social order.

(2) The Committee may consider any other matter incidental to the above functions.

(3) The recommendations to the Government under sub-rule (1) shall be made through a resolution by the Assembly which shall be dealt thereafter, so far as possible, in accordance with sub-rule (2) and sub-rule (3) of rule 126 of these rules.

(4) Advocate General Punjab, Secretaries of Services and General Administration Department, Finance Department, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department, and the Department concerned, or their nominees shall attend a meeting of the Committee as expert advisors.

(5) The Committee may co-opt any expert in the relevant field to assist the Committee.

(6) The experts in the Committee may be paid such amount as honorarium as may be determined by the Speaker."

13. **Amendment of Rule 225**

In rule 225, in sub-rule (1), after the word, "Questions", the words "and Privileges", shall be inserted.

14. **Amendment of Rule 235**

After rule 235, the following new rule 235-A shall be added:

"235-A. Prohibition of Disclosure.- No information regarding members of the Assembly or its Secretariat shall be disclosed to any person without prior approval of the Speaker."

15. **Amendment of Rule 244-A**

(a) In rule 244-A, for sub-rule (4), the following shall be substituted:

"(4) When the motion is reached, the Speaker shall put the motion to the vote of the Assembly to be decided by the majority of the members present and voting; and if the leave is granted, the Speaker shall declare that the mover has the leave of the Assembly."

(b) After rule 244-A, the following new rule 244-B shall be added:

"244B. Standing Orders.- The Standing Orders, notified by the Assembly Secretariat with the approval of the Speaker, shall be read and complied with as extension of these Rules in respect of procedure and conduct of business of the Assembly and its Committees. The Standing Orders shall also be read in extenso to the rules and procedures applicable to the Assembly Secretariat."

MINISTER-IN-CHARGE

LAHORE:
23 OCTOBER 2020

MUHAMMAD KHAN BHATTI
SECRETARY