

# PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB

## NOTIFICATION

22 February 2016

**No.PAP/Legis-1(15)/2013/1380.** The Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, in its meeting held on 17 February 2016, passed the following amendments in the Rules of Procedure of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, 1997:-

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

“(f) “Chamber” means the place where the Assembly meets to transact its business and notified by the Speaker as the Chamber;” and
  - (b) for clause (n), the following shall be substituted:

“(n) “Leader of Opposition” means a member declared as Leader of Opposition by the Speaker under Chapter IV-A;”.
2. In rule 18, in sub-rule (3), for the word “clause”, the word “sub-rule” shall be substituted.
3. In rule 23, in sub-rule (4), the following shall be substituted:

“(4) Leave to move the resolution shall be asked for after the commencement of the sitting in terms of sub-rule (3) of rule 24 and before any other business on the List of Business, is taken up.”

4. After rule 23, the following Chapter IV-A shall be inserted:

### “CHAPTER IV-A

#### LEADER OF OPPOSITION

**23A. Declaration of Leader of Opposition.**— (1) Subject to this rule, the Speaker shall declare the Leader of Opposition.

(2) After the election of the Chief Minister consequent to the general elections, or the vacation of office of the Leader of Opposition owing to any cause or on the requisition of majority of the members of the Opposition, the Speaker shall inform the members of the Opposition about the date, time and place for submission of the name for Leader of Opposition.

(3) The Speaker, after verification of the signatures of the members, shall ascertain the majority on the date, time and place fixed for submission of the name of Leader of Opposition and declare the member who commands the majority of the members of the Opposition as Leader of Opposition.

(4) In case a member of the Opposition has signed two or more proposals or he has not signed any proposal, the Speaker may ascertain the signatures of such a member for purposes of declaration of the Leader of Opposition under this rule.

**23B. Removal of Leader of Opposition.**— (1) A notice signed by a majority of the members of the Opposition may be given to the Secretary showing that the Leader of Opposition has lost the support of the majority of the members of the Opposition.

(2) The name of the proposed Leader of Opposition shall be mentioned in the notice under sub-rule (1).

(3) After verification of the signatures of the members of the Opposition, if the Speaker is satisfied that the Leader of Opposition does not command the majority of the members of Opposition, he shall declare that the Leader of Opposition stands removed.

(4) When the Leader of Opposition is removed, the Speaker shall immediately ascertain the member who commands majority of the members and declare him as the Leader of Opposition.

(5) The Speaker shall follow the procedure contained in rule 23A for ascertainment of the majority under this rule.

**23C. Vacancy in the office of Leader of Opposition.**— Whenever the office of the Leader of Opposition becomes vacant, it shall be filled in the manner provided in rule 23A.”

5. After rule 33, the following rules 33A and 33B shall be inserted:

**“33A. Annual calendar for sessions of the Assembly.**— (1) After the commencement of each parliamentary year, the Government shall provide a calendar for sessions of the Assembly to the Speaker.

(2) The Secretary shall cause the calendar to be circulated amongst the members.

(3) The Assembly shall be summoned on the dates given in the calendar but the Governor may summon the Assembly on a date other than that mentioned in the calendar.

(4) Nothing contained in this rule shall limit the power of the Speaker to summon a requisitioned session of the Assembly to meet at any time under clause (3) of Article 54 read with Article 127.

**33B. Sessions of the Assembly.**— (1) There shall be at least three sessions of the Assembly every year, and not more than one hundred and twenty days shall intervene between the last sitting of the Assembly in one session and the date appointed for its first sitting in the next session.

(2) The Assembly shall meet for not less than one hundred working days in each parliamentary year.”

6. In rule 42, in sub-rule (1), for the words “recitation from the Holy Quran”, the words “commencement of the sitting in terms of sub-rule (3) of rule 24” shall be substituted.

7. In rule 54, in sub-rule (1), for the expression “sub-rule (1)”, the expression “rule 53” shall be substituted.

8. In rule 65, after the words “Chief Minister”, a comma and the words, “, Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs” shall be inserted.

9. For rule 74, the following shall be substituted:

**“74. Reference by the Speaker.**— Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules, the Speaker may, in consultation with the Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs, refer any question of privilege to the Committee on Privileges for report to the Assembly.”

10. After rule 84, the following rule 84A shall be inserted:

**“84A. Number of motions and mode of reply.**— (1) A member shall not move more than one motion for adjournment during a sitting but that condition shall not apply to a motion moved in an

earlier sitting and pended for reply on the request of the Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary concerned.

(2) After a motion for adjournment is moved or on any subsequent sitting to which the motion is pended, the Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary concerned shall reply the motion."

11. For rule 101, the following shall be substituted:

**"101. Consideration of a Bill.—** (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules, but subject to sub-rule (3), the Speaker shall, when a motion that a Bill be taken into consideration has been carried, submit the Bill, or any part of the Bill, to the Assembly clause by clause.

(2) The Speaker may call each clause separately and when the amendments relating to it have been dealt with, he shall put the question: "That this clause (or, as the case may be, that this clause as amended) do stand part of the Bill".

(3) Subject to sub-rule (4), the Speaker may, if he thinks fit, put as one question, a group of clauses in which no notice of amendment has been received or the amendments have been withdrawn and in such an eventuality, the Speaker shall put the question: "That the group of clauses do stand part of the Bill".

(4) If a member requests that question regarding any clause be put separately, the Speaker shall put the question regarding that clause separately."

12. In rule 113, for sub-rules (2), (3), (4) and (5), the following shall be substituted:

"(2) The member-in-charge may give notice of motions in respect of a Bill returned by the Governor in the following manner:

*"(a) Notice is hereby given that the member-in-charge shall move that the message of the Governor in respect of the \_\_\_\_\_ (name of the Bill), as passed by the Assembly on \_\_\_\_\_ (date of passage by the Assembly), be taken into consideration at once.*

*(b) Notice is hereby given that the member-in-charge shall move that the \_\_\_\_\_ (name of the Bill), as originally passed by the Assembly and returned by the Governor under Article 116(2)(b) of the Constitution, be reconsidered by the Assembly in the light of the message of the Governor.*

*(c) Notice is hereby given that the member-in-charge shall move that the \_\_\_\_\_ (name of the Bill), as originally passed by the Assembly, be passed again; (or, the \_\_\_\_\_ (name of the Bill) as amended, be passed)."*

(3) The Secretary shall, as soon as may be, include in the List of Business the motions mentioned in sub-rule (2).

(4) When the motion mentioned in clause (a) of sub-rule (2) is made, the Speaker shall announce:

*"The message of the Governor in respect of the \_\_\_\_\_ (name of the Bill), as received and circulated, is taken into consideration at once. The member-in-charge may move the motion for reconsideration of the Bill".*

(5) The member-in-charge shall move the motion mentioned in clause (b) of sub-rule (2) and the Speaker shall read out the motion to the Assembly and a Minister or a member may oppose it.

(6) The motion in sub-rule (5) shall be dealt with in the following manner:

- (a) if the motion is not opposed, the Speaker shall, without debate, put the motion to the vote of the Assembly and shall announce the result: "*The motion is carried*" or, as the case may be, "*The motion is not carried*": provided that if the motion is not carried, no further motion shall be made with reference to the Bill; or
- (b) if the motion is opposed, the Speaker shall give opportunity to the member or the Minister of expressing his views in favour or against the motion, but the discussion shall remain confined to the message of the Governor and thereafter, the Speaker shall put the motion to the vote of the Assembly, and shall announce the result: "*The motion is carried*" or, as the case may be, "*The motion is not carried*": provided that if the motion is not carried, no further motion shall be made with reference to the Bill.

(7) If the message of the Governor pertains generally to the whole Bill and no specific amendment has been proposed, the following procedure shall be followed:

- (a) after the motion mentioned in clause (b) of sub-rule (2) is carried, the Speaker shall announce:  
*"Since the motion for reconsideration of the Bill has been carried and no specific amendment has been proposed in any clause of the Bill, the member-in-charge may move the motion for passage of the Bill."*; and
- (b) the Speaker shall put the motion to the vote of the Assembly and thereafter shall announce: "*The Bill, after reconsideration by the Assembly, is passed or, as the case may be, not passed*".

(8) If the Governor or the member-in-charge has proposed any specific amendment in some clause or clauses of the Bill, only those clauses shall be reconsidered by the Assembly and the following procedure shall be followed:

- (a) if the specific amendment has been proposed by the member-in-charge on the basis of the message of the Governor, he shall move the amendment and a Minister or a member may oppose it;
- (b) if the specific amendment has been proposed by the Governor in his message, the member-in-charge shall move such amendment on behalf of the Governor and shall also express his views on the amendment;
- (c) after discussion on the amendment, the Speaker shall put the amendment to the vote of the Assembly and after decision of the Assembly, the Speaker shall put the clause to the vote of the Assembly without any further debate;
- (d) after all such clauses have been passed, the Speaker shall announce: "*The member-in-charge may move the motion for passage of the Bill.*"; and
- (e) the Speaker shall put the motion to the vote of the Assembly and thereafter shall announce: "*The Bill, after reconsideration by the Assembly, is passed or, as the case may be, not passed*".

(9) When after reconsideration or consideration, the Bill is again passed by the Assembly, it shall be dealt with in accordance with rule 111.

(10) Only the member-in-charge may propose amendments in any clause of the Bill on the basis of the message of the Governor."

13. After rule 113, the following Chapter XII-A shall be inserted:

**"CHAPTER XII-A  
ZERO HOUR**

**113A. Zero hour.**— (1) The last half an hour of a sitting shall be utilized as "zero hour" to take up matters of urgent public importance relating to the Government and requiring intervention of the Assembly.

(2) A member may give a notice in writing to the Secretary for a matter to be taken up in the zero hour, between one hour before the scheduled commencement of a sitting and after the time for notice of previous zero hour has elapsed but the Secretary shall not entertain more than one such notice of a member for the sitting.

(3) If two or more notices are received for zero hour from two or more members, the Speaker shall decide the order in which such notices shall be taken up for discussion.

(4) If the notice under sub-rule (2) does not fulfill the condition mentioned in rule 113B, the Speaker may afford an opportunity of personal hearing to the member before declaring the said notice inadmissible.

(5) The member shall not speak for more than five minutes while raising the matter.

(6) The Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary concerned, if present, may respond to the matter raised under sub-rule (2).

(7) If the Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary concerned is not present, the Speaker may, if necessary, require the Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary concerned to respond to the point raised by the member on a date to be fixed by the Speaker.

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

- (a) it shall not exceed fifty words;
- (b) it shall not relate to a matter which has been discussed in the same session or which is substantially identical to the matter already raised by a member during the session;
- (c) it shall not raise more than one issue and the issue shall not pertain to trivial matters;
- (d) it shall not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions, imputations, epithets or defamatory statements;
- (e) it shall not relate to any matter which is *sub-judice*;
- (f) it shall relate to a matter of recent occurrence;
- (g) it shall not refer to proceedings of the House or a Committee or working of the Assembly Secretariat; and
- (h) it shall not refer to the conduct or character of a person except in his public capacity."

14. In rule 115, in sub-rule (1), for the word "seven", the word "fourteen" shall be substituted.

15. For rule 126, the following shall be substituted:

**“126. Voting and transmission of copies.—** (1) Subject to sub-rule (2) of rule 124, on the conclusion of the discussion, the Speaker shall put the resolution or, as the case may be, the resolution as amended, to the vote of the Assembly and if the resolution is passed by the Assembly, a copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Department concerned or, as the case may be, to the Federal Government or the National Assembly.

(2) If the resolution relates to a Department of the Government, the Department concerned shall, within a period of ninety days from the date of the communication of the resolution by the Assembly Secretariat, apprise the Assembly of the action taken on the resolution.

(3) The Speaker may, on the receipt of the written request of the Department concerned, extend the period mentioned in sub-rule (2) for another ninety days.

(4) If the Department disagrees to the resolution, it shall submit a detailed report containing reasons to the Assembly and the Assembly may take appropriate action in the matter.”

16. In rule 148:

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

“(1) In addition to the Standing Committees constituted under rules 176, 180, 182, 183 and 185, there shall be elected by the Assembly after a general election the following Standing Committees for the duration of the Assembly for the departments noted against each:

Sr #	Name of the Committee	Department
1.	Standing Committee on Agriculture	Agriculture
2.	Standing Committee on Auqaf and Religious Affairs	Auqaf and Religious Affairs
3.	Standing Committee on Chief Minister's Inspection Team	Chief Minister's Inspection Team
4.	Standing Committee on Colonies	Colonies
5.	Standing Committee on Communications and Works	Communications and Works
6.	Standing Committee on Cooperatives	Cooperatives
7.	Standing Committee on Education	Higher Education & School Education
8.	Standing Committee on Environment Protection	Environment Protection
9.	Standing Committee on Excise and Taxation	Excise and Taxation
10.	Standing Committee on Finance	Finance
11.	Standing Committee on Food	Food
12.	Standing Committee on Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries	Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries
13.	Standing Committee on Health	Health
14.	Standing Committee on Home Affairs	Home
15.	Standing Committee on Housing, Urban Development and Public Health Engineering	Housing, Urban Development and Public Health Engineering
16.	Standing Committee on Human Rights	Human Rights and Minorities Affairs
17.	Standing Committee on Industries, Commerce and Investment	Industries, Commerce and Investment

18.	Standing Committee on Information and Culture	Information and Culture
19.	Standing Committee on Irrigation and Energy	(i) Irrigation (ii) Energy
20.	Standing Committee on Labour and Human Resource	Labour and Human Resource
21.	Standing Committee on Law	(i) Law and Parliamentary Affairs (ii) Public Prosecution
22.	Standing Committee on Literacy and Non-Formal Basic Education	Literacy and Non-Formal Basic Education
23.	Standing Committee on Livestock and Dairy Development	Livestock and Dairy Development
24.	Standing Committee on Local Government and Community Development	Local Government and Community Development
25.	Standing Committee on Management and Professional Development	Management and Professional Development
26.	Standing Committee on Mines and Minerals	Mines and Minerals
27.	Standing Committee on Planning and Development	Planning and Development
28.	Standing Committee on Population Welfare	Population Welfare
29.	Standing Committee on Revenue, Relief and Consolidation	(i) Revenue (ii) Consolidation and Holdings (iii) Relief and Crisis Management
30.	Standing Committee on Services and General Administration	Services and General Administration
31.	Standing Committee on Social Welfare and Bait-ul-Maal	Social Welfare and Bait-ul-Maal
32.	Standing Committee on Special Education	Special Education
33.	Standing Committee on Transport	Transport
34.	Standing Committee on Gender Mainstreaming	Women Development
35.	Standing Committee on Youth Affairs, Sports, Archeology and Tourism	Youth Affairs, Sports, Archeology and Tourism
36.	Standing Committee on Zakat and Ushr	Zakar and Ushr"

(b) after sub-rule (2), the following sub-rule (3) shall be inserted:

"(3) The Speaker may, in consultation with Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of Opposition, change the name of the Committee and the Department assigned to a Committee in order to bring this rule in accord with the Departments reflected in the Punjab Government Rules of Business 2011 by notification in the official Gazette."

17. In rule 150, after sub-rule (2), the following sub-rules (3) and (4) shall be inserted:

"(3) The Committees shall be elected by the Assembly within ninety days after the election of the Leader of the House following the general election.

(4) After the election of the Committees, if any change in the membership of a Committee is necessitated, the Speaker shall, in consultation with the Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs on behalf of the Leader of the House and Leader of Opposition, change the membership of any one or more Committees."

18. In rule 151, after sub-rule (2), the following sub-rule (3) shall be inserted:

"(3) The election for the Chairman of a Committee shall be held within a period of thirty days from the date of the election of the Committee or from the date of vacancy in the office of the Chairman."

19. In rule 166, after sub-rule (2), the following sub-rule (3) shall be inserted:

"(3) If the Assembly is not in session and the period of presentation of the report under sub-rule (1) has expired or is about to expire and the Committee is yet to finish its work, the Speaker may grant a special permission to the Committee to hold not more than one meeting beyond the period specified in sub-rule (1)."

20. For rule 191, the following shall be substituted:

**"191. Decision on a motion.**— (1) Subject to sub-rule (2), a matter requiring the decision of the Assembly shall be brought forward by means of a question put by the Speaker on a motion moved by a member.

(2) Before a motion is put for decision of the Assembly, the Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary concerned shall have a right to reply the motion.

(3) The Speaker shall read a motion once and even if it is opposed, there shall be no need to repeat the motion at the time of putting the question for decision of the Assembly."

21. After rule 209, the following rule 209A shall be inserted:

**"209A. Decision and ruling of the Speaker.**— (1) Subject to sub-rule (3), if the Speaker gives ruling on any matter on the floor of the House or in his office on a file, the decision or the ruling shall not be called in question and shall be final.

(2) If the Speaker gives ruling in his office on a file, the Secretary shall circulate the ruling for information of the members.

(3) The Speaker may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, review a decision made or ruling given under sub-rule (1)."

22. For rule 221, the following shall be substituted:

**"221. Expunction.**— (1) If the Speaker is of the opinion that words have been used in debate which are defamatory, indecent, unparliamentary or undignified, he may, at any time, order that such words be expunged from the proceedings of the Assembly.

(2) The broadcasting of audio or video proceedings of the House on air or through internet shall be for information only and the printed version of the debates shall be the official and authentic version of the proceedings."



23. After rule 230, the following rule 230A shall be inserted:

**"230A. Procedure in case of joint notice.**— (1) In case a joint notice of an amendment, a motion or resolution is given by two or more members, the Speaker may, in order to avoid repetition and to save the time of the House, call the name of the primary mover of the amendment, motion or resolution.

(2) The names of all the signatory members of an amendment, a motion or resolution shall be printed on the documents relating to the proceedings of the House."

24. For rule 240, the following shall be substituted:

**"240. Use of Assembly Chamber.**— Except with the permission of the Speaker or of the House, the Chamber shall not be used for any purpose other than the sittings of the Assembly."

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**RAI MUMTAZ HUSSAIN BABAR**  
Secretary

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**No.PAP/Legis-1(15)/2013/1263**

**22 February 2016**

A copy is forwarded to the Superintendent, Government Printing Press, Punjab, Lahore, for publication of the above Notification in the Gazette of the Punjab (Extraordinary) today.

  
**(Khalid Mahmood)**  
Deputy Secretary (Legislation)

**No. & date even**

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7. All Parliamentary Secretaries, Government of the Punjab.
8. All Members of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab.
9. Chief Secretary, Punjab.
10. Additional Chief Secretary, Punjab
11. Secretary, Senate of Pakistan, Islamabad.
12. Secretary, National Assembly of Pakistan, Islamabad.
13. Secretaries, Provincial Assemblies of Sindh, Balochistan and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa.
14. All Administrative Secretaries to Government of the Punjab.
15. Advocate General, Punjab.
16. Accountant General, Punjab, Lahore.
17. Director-General, Public Relations, Punjab.
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Deputy Secretary (Legislation)

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