

CHAPTER XXIV

Committees

(a) General

180. Appointment of Committee.— (1) The members of a Committee shall be appointed or elected by the House or nominated by the Speaker, as the case may be.

(2) No member shall be appointed to a Committee if he is not willing to serve on it. The proposer shall ascertain whether the member whose name is proposed by him is willing to serve on the Committee.

(3) Casual vacancies in a Committee shall be filled by appointment or election by the House on a motion made, or nomination by the Speaker, as the case may be, and any member appointed, elected or nominated to fill such vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired portion of the term for which the member in whose place he is appointed, elected or nominated would have normally held office.

180A. Objections to membership of Committee.— Where an objection is taken to the inclusion of a member in a Committee on the ground that the member has a personal, pecuniary or direct interest of such an intimate character that it may prejudicially affect the consideration of any matters to be considered by the Committee, the procedure shall be as follows:—

- (a) The member who has taken objection shall precisely state the ground of his objection and the nature of the alleged interest, whether personal, pecuniary or direct, of the proposed member in the matters coming up before the Committee;
- (b) after the objection has been stated, the Speaker shall give an opportunity to the member proposed on the Committee, against whom the objection has been taken, to state the position;
- (c) if there is dispute on facts, the Speaker may call upon the member taking objection and the member against whose appointment on the Committee objection has been taken, to produce documentary or other evidence in support of their respective cases;
- (d) after the Speaker has considered the evidence so tendered before him, he shall give his decision which shall be final;
- (e) until the Speaker has given his decision, the member against whose appointment on the Committee objection has been taken shall continue to be a member thereof if elected or nominated and take part in discussion but shall not be entitled to vote; and
- (f) if the Speaker holds that the member against whose appointment objection has been taken has a personal, pecuniary or direct interest in the matter before the Committee, he shall cease to be a member thereof forthwith;

Provided that the proceedings of the sitting of the Committee at which such member was present shall not in any way be affected by the decision of the Speaker.

Explanation:— For the purposes of this rule, the interest of the member should be direct, personal or pecuniary and separately belong to the person whose inclusion in the Committee is objected to and not in common with the public in general or with any class or section thereof or on a matter of State policy.

181. Term of office of the Committee nominated by the Speaker — A Committee nominated by the Speaker shall, unless otherwise specified in the rules contained in

this Chapter, hold office for the period specified by him or until a new Committee is nominated.

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

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

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

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

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

184. Quorum.— (1) The quorum to constitute a sitting of a Committee shall be, as near as may be, one-third of the total number of members of the Committee.

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

185. Discharge of members absent from sittings of Committee.— If a member is absent from two or more consecutive spells of sittings of a Committee without the permission of the Chairman, a motion may be moved in the House for the discharge of such member from the Committee:

Provided that where the members of the Committee are nominated by the Speaker, such member may be discharged by the Speaker.

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

187. Casting vote of Chairman.— In the case of an equality of votes on any matter, the Chairman, or the person acting as such, shall have a second or casting vote.

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

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

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

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

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

190. Committee may sit whilst House is sitting.— A Committee may sit whilst the House is sitting, provided that on a division being called in the House, the Chairman

of the Committee shall suspend the proceedings in the Committee for such time as will, in his opinion, enable the members to vote in division.

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

192. Venue of sittings.— The sittings of a Committee shall be held within the precincts of the Assembly House and if it becomes necessary to change the place of sitting outside the Assembly House, the matter shall be referred to the Speaker whose decision shall be final.

193. All strangers to withdraw when Committee deliberates.— All persons other than members of the Committee and officers of the Assembly Secretariat shall withdraw whenever the Committee is deliberating.

194. Power to take evidence or call for documents.— (1) A witness may be summoned by an order signed by the Secretary and shall produce such documents as are required for the use of a Committee.

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

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

195. Power to send for persons, papers and records.— A Committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records:

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

Provided further that Government may decline to produce a document on the ground that its disclosure would be prejudicial to the safety or interest of the State, in which case the matter shall be referred to the Speaker whose decision shall be final.

196. Counsel for a witness.— A Committee may, under the direction of the Speaker, permit a witness to be heard by a counsel appointed by him and approved by the Committee.

197. Evidence on oath.— (1) A Committee may administer oath or affirmation to a witness examined before it.

(2) The form of the oath or affirmation shall be as follows :—

"I,..... do swear in the name of God or solemnly affirm that the evidence which I shall give in this case, shall be true, that I will conceal nothing, and that no part of my evidence shall be false."

198. Procedure for examining witness.— The examination of witnesses before Committee shall be conducted as follows:—

- (i) The Committee shall, before a witness is called for examination, decide the mode of procedure and the nature of questions that may be asked of the witness.
- (ii) The Chairman of the Committee may first ask the witness such question or questions as he may consider necessary with reference to the subject matter under consideration or any subject connected therewith according to the mode of procedure mentioned in clause (i) of this rule.
- (iii) The Chairman may call other members of the Committee one by one to ask any other questions.

- (iv) A witness may be asked to place before the Committee any other relevant points that have not been covered and which a witness thinks are essential to be placed before the Committee.
- (v) A verbatim record of proceedings of the Committee shall, when a witness is summoned to give evidence, be kept.
- (vi) The evidence tendered before the Committee may be made available to all members of the Committee.

199. Record of decisions of Committee.— A record of the decisions of a Committee shall be maintained and circulated to members of the Committee under the direction of the Chairman.

200. Evidence, report and proceedings treated as confidential.— (1) A Committee may direct that the whole or a part of the evidence or a summary thereof may be laid on the Table.

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

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

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

201. 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 Speaker or the House, notwithstanding that such matter is not directly connected with or does not fall within or is not incidental to its terms of reference.

202. Report of Committee.— (1) Where the House has fixed any time for the presentation of a report by a Committee, the report shall be presented within the said period:

Provided that the House may, on a motion made by the Chairman or, in his absence, by any other member of the Committee, extend the time for the presentation of the report.

(2) Reports may be either preliminary or final.

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

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

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

204. Presentation of Report.— (1) The report of a Committee shall be presented to the House by the Chairman or in his absence by any member of 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 fact, but there shall be no debate on that statement at this stage.

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

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

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

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

(2) If any doubt arises on any point of procedure or otherwise, the Chairman may, if he thinks fit, refer the point to the Speaker whose decision shall be final.

209. Business before Committee not to lapse on prorogation of House.— Any business pending before a Committee shall not lapse by reason only of the prorogation of the House and the Committee shall continue to function notwithstanding such prorogation.

210. Unfinished work of Committee.— Where a Committee has not been able to complete its work before the expiry of its term or before the dissolution of the Assembly, the new Committee may take up the work at the stage where the outgoing Committee left it. Any preliminary report, memorandum or note that the Committee may have prepared or any evidence that the Committee may have taken shall be made available to the new Committee.

211. Applicability of general rules to Committees.— Except for matters for which special provision is made in the rules relating to any particular Committee, the general rules in this Chapter shall apply to all Committees and if and so far as any provision in the special rules relating to a Committee is inconsistent with the general rules, the former rules shall prevail.

(b) Business Advisory Committee

212. Constitution of Business Advisory Committee.—At the commencement of the House or from time to time, as the case may be, the Speaker may nominate a Committee called the Business Advisory Committee consisting of not more than fifteen members including the Speaker who shall be the Chairman of the Committee:

Provided that the Speaker may invite any other member including the Leader of the House, where he is not a member of the Committee, as a special invitee at a sitting of the Committee for consultation or advice.

213. Functions of Committee.— (1) It shall be the function of the Committee to recommend-

- (a) the order in which Government and other business may be discussed in the House:

- (b) the number of hours or day or days or actual day or days that may be allotted for discussion of different types of Government and other business.

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

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

214. Report of Committee.—The recommendations of the Committee shall be presented to the House in the form of a report.

215. Motion moved in House on Report.—At any time after the report has been presented to the House, a motion may be moved that the House agrees or agrees with amendments or disagrees with the report:

Provided that an amendment may be moved that the report be referred back to the Committee either without limitation or with reference to any particular matter:

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

216. Notification of allocation of Time Order.— The allocation of time in respect of Bills and other business as approved by the House shall take effect as if it were an Order of the House and shall be notified in the Bulletin.

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

218. Variation in the allocation of Time Order.—No variation in the allocation of Time Order shall be made except on a motion made, with the consent of the Speaker, and accepted by the House:

Provided that the Speaker may, after taking the sense of the House, increase the time, not exceeding one hour without any motion being moved:

Provided further that the Speaker may, on being satisfied as to the urgent need therefor, make such variation in the allocation of Time Order as he may deem appropriate.

(c) Select Committees on Bills

219. Constitution of Select Committee.— The members of a Select Committee on a Bill shall be appointed by the House when a motion that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee is made.

220. Other members may be present at a sitting.—Members who are not members of the Select Committee may be present during the deliberations of the committee but shall not address the Committee nor sit in the body of the Committee:

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

221. Notice of amendments and procedure generally.— (1) If notice of a proposed amendment has not been given before the day on which the Bill is taken up by the Select Committee, any member may object to the moving of the

amendment and such objection shall prevail unless the Chairman allows the amendment to be moved.

(2) In other respects, the procedure in a Select Committee shall, as far as practicable, be the same as is followed in the House during the consideration stage of a Bill, with such adaptations, whether by way of modification, addition or omission, as the Speaker may consider necessary or convenient.

222. Notice of amendments by members other than members of Committee.—

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

223. Power of Committee to take evidence.—

A Select Committee may hear expert evidence and representatives of special interests affected by the measure before them.

224. Report of Committee.—

(1) As soon as may be, after a Bill has been referred to a Select Committee, the Select Committee shall meet from time to time in accordance with rule 189 to consider the Bill and shall make a report thereon within the time fixed by the House:

Provided that where the House has not fixed any time for the presentation of the report by a Select Committee, the report shall be presented before the expiry of three months from the date on which the House adopted the motion for the reference of the Bill to the Select Committee:

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

(2) The Select Committee shall in their report state whether the publication of the Bill directed by these rules has taken place, and the date on which the publication has taken place.

(3) Where a Bill has been altered, the Select Committee may, if they think fit, include in their report a recommendation to the member-in-charge of the Bill that his next motion should be a motion for circulation, or, where the Bill has already been circulated, for re-circulation.

(4) Any member of the Select Committee may record a minute of dissent on any matter or matters connected with the Bill or dealt within the report.

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

(6) If in the opinion of the Speaker a minute of dissent contains words, phrases or expressions which are unparliamentary or otherwise inappropriate, he may order such words, phrases or expressions to be expunged from the minute of dissent.

225. Presentation of report.— The report of the Select Committee on a Bill together with the minutes of dissent, if any, shall be presented to the House by the Chairman, or, in his absence, by any member of the Committee.

226. Printing and Publication of reports.—The Secretary shall cause every report of a Select Committee to be printed, and a copy of the report shall be made available for the use of every member of the House. The report, and the Bill, as reported by the Select Committee, shall be published in the Gazette.

(d) Committee on Petitions

227. Constitution of Committee on Petitions.— At the commencement of the House, or from time to time, as the case may be, the Speaker shall nominate a Committee on Petitions consisting of not more than fifteen members:

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

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

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

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

(4) The Committee shall also meet as often as necessary to consider representations, letters and telegrams from various individuals, associations, etc., which are not covered by the rules relating to petitions, and give direction for their disposal:

Provided that representations, which fall in the following categories shall not be considered by the Committee, but shall be filed on receipt in the Secretariat :—

- (i) anonymous letter or letters on which names and/or addresses of senders are not given or are illegible, and
- (ii) endorsement copies of letters addressed to authorities other than the Speaker or House unless there is a specific request on such a copy praying for redress of the grievance.

(5) The Speaker may, before referring any petition to the Committee on Petitions, also, if necessary, ascertain facts from the State Government and inform the member presenting the petition appropriately.

(e) Committee on Public Accounts

229. Functions of Committee on Public Accounts.— (1) There shall be a Committee on Public Accounts for the examination of accounts showing the appropriation of sums granted by the House for the expenditure of the State, the annual finance accounts of the State and such other accounts laid before the House as the Committee may think fit.

(2) In scrutinising the Appropriation Accounts of the State and the report of the Comptroller and 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 provisions made in this behalf under rules framed by competent authority.

(3) It shall also be the duty of the Committee.—

- (a) to examine the statement of accounts showing the income and expenditure of State corporations, trading and manufacturing schemes, concerns and projects together with the balance sheets and statements of profit and loss accounts which the Governor may have required to be prepared or are prepared under the provisions of the statutory rules regulating the financing of a particular corporation, trading or manufacturing scheme or concern or project and the report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General thereon;
- (b) to examine the statement of accounts showing the income and expenditure of autonomous and semi-autonomous bodies, the audit of which may be conducted by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India either under the directions of the Governor or by a statute of Legislature; and
- (c) to consider the report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General in case where the Governor may have required him to conduct an audit of any receipts or to examine the accounts of stores and stocks.

(4) It shall also be open to the Committee to ask for information and examine any case involving loss, nugatory expenditure or financial irregularities even though such a case does not appear in an Audit Report.

(5) If any money has been spent on any service during a financial year in excess of the amount granted by the House 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 recommendations as it may deem fit:

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

230. Constitution of Committee.— (1) The Committee shall consist of not more than fifteen members, who shall be elected by the House every year from amongst its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote:

Provided that the Speaker may fill up casual vacancies not exceeding one-third of the total membership of the Committee by nomination. Such nominated members shall hold office till the vacancies to which they are nominated are filled by election by the House or for the remaining term of office whichever is earlier:

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

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

Provided that the Speaker may at any time extend the term of office not exceeding six months.

(f) Committees on Estimates

231. Formation of Committees on Estimates.— There shall be two Committees on estimates, namely, Committee on Estimates 'A' and Committee on Estimates 'B' for the examination of estimates pertaining to different Departments as mentioned in the Fourth Schedule:

Provided that the Speaker or the House may at any time vary the allocation of estimates pertaining to individual departments among different Committees inter se

as also allocate estimates or subjects pertaining to department or departments not mentioned above to any of these Committees:

Provided further that any Estimates Committee may, with the previous permission in writing of the Speaker, undertake examination of any subject pertaining to any department allocated to the other Committee, in which case such subject or department shall, so long as the examination persists, be deemed to have been allocated to the former:

Provided further again that the Committees shall not exercise their functions in relation to Public Undertakings as are allocated to the Committee on Public Undertakings by these rules or by the Speaker.

231A. Functions of Committees.— (1) The functions of the Committees shall be:—

- (a) to report what economies, improvements in organisation, efficiency or administrative reform, consistent with policy underlying the estimates, may be effected;
- (b) to suggest alternative policies in order to bring about efficiency and economy in administration; and
- (c) to examine whether the money is well laid out within the limits of the policy implied in the estimates.

(2) It shall also be the function of one of the Committees on Estimates named by the Speaker to suggest the form in which the estimates shall be presented to the Assembly.

232. Constitution of Committees.— Each of the two Committees shall consist of not more than fifteen members who shall be elected by the House every year from amongst its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote:

Provided that the Speaker may fill up casual vacancies not exceeding one-third of the total membership of any of these Committees by nomination. Such nominated members shall hold office for the remaining term of office unless the vacancies to which they are nominated are earlier filled by election by the House:

Provided further that a Minister shall not be elected or nominated a member of any of these Committees and that if a member, after his election or nomination to the Committee, is appointed a Minister, he shall cease to be a member of the Committee from the date of such appointment.

(2) The term of office of members of each of these Committees shall not exceed one year:

Provided that the Speaker may at any time extend the term of office not exceeding six months.

233. Examination of estimates by Committees.— Each of these Committees may continue the examination of the estimates from time to time throughout the financial year and report to the House as its examination proceeds. It shall not be incumbent on these Committees to examine the entire estimates of any one year. The demands for grants may be finally voted notwithstanding the fact that any of these Committees has made no report.

(ff) Committee on Public Undertakings

233A. Functions of Committee on Public Undertakings.— There shall be a Committee on Public Undertakings for the examination of the working of the Public Undertakings specified in the Fifth Schedule. The functions of the Committee shall be—

- (a) to examine the reports and accounts of the Public Undertakings specified in Fifth Schedule and such other Undertakings as may be decided by the House from time to time or the Speaker when the House is not in session;
- (b) to examine the reports, if any, of the Comptroller and Auditor-General on the Public Undertakings;
- (c) to examine, in the context of the autonomy and efficiency of the Public Undertakings, whether the affairs of the Public Undertakings are being managed in accordance with sound business principles and prudent commercial practices; and
- (d) to exercise such other functions vested in the Committee on Public Accounts and the Committees on Estimates in relation to the Public Undertakings specified in the Fifth Schedule as are not covered by clauses (a), (b) and (c) above and as may be allotted to the Committee by the Speaker from time to time :

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

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

233B. Constitution of Committee.— (1) The Committee shall consist of not more than fifteen members who shall be elected by the House every year from amongst its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable votes:

Provided that the Speaker may fill up casual vacancies not exceeding one-third of the total membership of the Committee by nomination. Such nominated members shall hold office till the vacancies to which they are nominated are filled by election by the House or for the remaining term of office whichever is earlier:

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

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

Provided that the Speaker may at any time extend the term of office not exceeding six months.

(g) Committee of Privileges

234. Constitution of Committee of Privileges.— At the commencement of the House or from time to time, as the case may be, the Speaker shall nominate a Committee of Privileges consisting of not more than fifteen members:

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

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

(2) Where the House or the Speaker, as the case may be, has not fixed any time for the presentation of the report by the Committee, the report shall be presented within a period of six months in the case of a motion referred to the Committee by the Speaker under Rule 162, or where the question of privilege has been referred by the House, not late than the last day of the first week of the session commencing after the expiry of six months from the last day of session in which the question has been so referred:

Provided that where the Committee has not been able to finish its work, the Speaker or the House, as the case may be, may, on a motion made by the Chairman, extend the time for the presentation of the report.

(3) Where a question has been referred to the Committee on the complaint made by a member or any other person, it shall not be open to the complainant to withdraw the complaint at any stage of the examination of the same by the Committee.

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

236. Consideration of report.— (1) After the report has been presented, the Chairman or any member of the Committee or any other member shall move that the report be taken into consideration, where-upon the Speaker may put the question to the House.

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

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

237. Priority for consideration of report of Committee.— A motion that the report of the Committee be taken into consideration shall be accorded the priority assigned to a matter of privilege under sub-rule (1) of rule 160, unless there has been undue delay in bringing it forward :

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

237A. Treatment of a report in respect of which no motion that the report be taken into consideration has been made.— The recommendations contained in a report of the Committee which has been presented to the House and in respect of which no motion has been made under sub-rule (1) of rule 236 before the expiry of the first week of the session succeeding the session in which the same has been presented, shall be deemed to have been agreed to by the Assembly at the expiry of the first week of the session, unless any member moves before such expiry that the House disagrees, or agrees with amendment, with the said recommendations, in which case the matter shall be decided by the House.

(h) Committee on Subordinate Legislation

238. Function of Committee on Subordinate Legislation.— There shall be a Committee on Subordinate Legislation to scrutinize and report to the House whether the powers to make regulations, rules, sub-rules, bye-laws, etc., conferred by the Constitution or delegated by Legislature are being properly exercised within such delegation.

239. Constitution of Committee.— (1) The Committee shall consist of not more than fifteen members who shall be nominated by the Speaker:

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

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

240. Numbering and publication of Orders.— Each regulation, rule, sub-rule, bye-law, etc., framed in pursuance of the provisions of the Constitution or the legislative functions delegated by Legislature to a subordinate authority, whether laid before the House or not, hereinafter referred to as "Order", shall, subject to such rules as the Speaker may in consultation with the Leader of the House prescribe, be numbered centrally and published in the Gazette immediately after it is promulgated.

241. Duties of Committee.— After each such Order referred to in rule 240 is promulgated, the Committee shall select for scrutiny such of them as it may consider appropriate and in respect of each of them, in particular consider-

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

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

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

243. Power of Speaker to give directions.—The Speaker may issue such directions as he may consider necessary for regulating the procedure in connection with all matters connected with the consideration of any question of subordinate legislation either in the Committee or in the House.

(i) Committee on Government Assurances

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

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

245. Constitution of Committee.—(1) The Committee shall consist of not more than fifteen members who shall be nominated by the Speaker:

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

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

(j) Rules Committee

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

247. Constitution of Committee.—The Committee on Rules shall be nominated by the Speaker and shall consist of fifteen members including the Chairman of the Committee. The Speaker shall be the ex-officio Chairman of the Committee:

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

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

(2) Any notice given by a member of any amendment to the recommendations of the Committee shall stand referred to the Committee who shall consider it and make such changes in their recommendations as the Committee may consider fit. The final report of the Committee after taking into consideration the amendments suggested by the members shall be laid on the Table. Thereafter, on the House agreeing to the report on a motion made by a member of the Committee, the amendments to the rules, as approved by the House, shall be promulgated by the Speaker in the Bulletin.

(3) If notice of such amendment has not been given within seven days, the recommendations of the Committee shall be deemed to have been approved by the House and on the expiry of the said period, the Speaker shall promulgate in the Bulletin the amendments to the rules as recommended by the Committee.

(4) The amendments to the rules shall come into force on their publication in the Bulletin until otherwise specified.

(k) House Committee

249. Constitution of House Committee.— (1) There shall be a House Committee consisting of not more than fifteen members including the Chairman.

(2) The Committee shall be nominated by the Speaker and shall hold office for a term not exceeding one year. A member may be renominated by the Speaker to the new House Committee:

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

250. Deleted.

251. Functions of Committee.— (1) The function of the House Committee shall be-

- (i) to deal with all questions relating to residential accommodation for members of Assembly; and
 - (ii) to exercise supervision over facilities for accommodation, food, medical aid and other amenities accorded to members in members' residences and hostels in Jaipur, in particular, and over other amenities and facilities provided to members under rules.
- (2) the functions of the Committee shall be advisory.

252. Power to appoint sub-committee.— (1) The Committee may appoint one or more sub-committees, each having the powers of the undivided Committee, to examine any special points relating to residential accommodation, food, medical aid and other amenities in members' residences and hostels in Jaipur, in particular, and to other amenities and facilities that are or may be provided to members and the reports of such sub-committee shall be deemed to be the reports of the whole Committee if they are approved at a sitting of the whole Committee.

(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.

253. Appeal against decision of Committee.— An appeal against the decision of the House Committee shall lie to the Speaker whose decision shall be final.

(l) Library Committee

253A. Constitution of Library Committee.— (1) There shall be a Library Committee consisting of not more than ten members including the Chairman.

(2) The Committee shall be nominated by the Speaker and the term of office of its members shall not exceed one year:

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

253 B. Functions of the Committee.— The functions of the Library Committee shall be-

- (1) to consider and advise on such matters concerning the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly Library and the Research and Reference Branch as may be referred to it by the Speaker from time to time;

(2) to consider suggestions for improvement of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly Library and the Research and Reference Branch; and

(3) to assist members of Assembly in fully utilising the services provided by the Library and the Research and Reference Branch.

(m) Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes

253 C Constitution of the Committee.— (1) There shall be a Committee for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes.

(2) The Committee shall consist of not more than fifteen members who shall be nominated by the Speaker:

Provided that no Minister shall be nominated a member of the Committee and if a member after his appointment to the Committee is appointed a Minister, he shall cease to be a member of the Committee from the date of such appointment.

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

253 D. Functions of the Committee.— The Committee shall examine the steps taken by the State Government in connection with the welfare and over-all development of the Scheduled Castes.

(n) Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes

253 E. Constitution of the Committee.— (1) There shall be a Committee for the Welfare of the Scheduled Tribes.

(2) The Committee shall consist of not more than fifteen members who shall be nominated by the Speaker:

Provided that no Minister shall be nominated a member of the Committee and if a member after his appointment to the Committee is appointed a Minister, he shall cease to be a member of the Committee from the date of such appointment.

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

253 F Functions of the Committee.— The Committee shall examine the steps taken by the State Government in connection with the welfare and over-all development of the Scheduled Tribes.

(o) General Purposes Committee

253 G Constitution of Committee.— (1) There shall be a General Purposes Committee consisting of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, members of the Panel of Chairmen, Chairmen of all standing Parliamentary Committees of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly (except the Parliamentary Consultative Committees), Leaders of recognised parties and groups in the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly and such other members as may be nominated by the Speaker. The Speaker shall be the ex-officio Chairman of the Committee.

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

(p) Parliamentary Consultative Committees

253 I. 1. Composition.— (1) The Speaker may, in consultation with the Leader of the House, constitute as many Parliamentary Consultative Committees as he thinks fit, in respect of a Department or group of Departments of the State Government composed of members of the Assembly only.

(2) Before nominating a member to a Parliamentary Consultative Committee, the Speaker may, as far as possible, ascertain the option of the member in respect of serving on a particular Parliamentary Consultative Committee, but the decision of the Speaker shall be final.

(3) Each Parliamentary Consultative Committee shall be presided over by a Minister or a State Minister having independent charge of a Department or Departments under him:

Provided that one Minister or State Minister may be the Chairman of more than one Parliamentary Consultative Committee, and that more than one Minister or State Minister may be the members of the same Parliamentary Consultative Committee, in which case the Committee shall be presided over by the Minister or the State Minister having charge of the particular department or departments being discussed at the meeting for the time being:

Provided further that in the absence of the Minister or the State Minister concerned, any other State Minister nominated by the Speaker may preside over the meeting of the Committee.

(4) The Secretary shall be the Secretary to all Parliamentary Consultative Committees.

2. Term.— The Parliamentary Consultative Committees shall be constituted in the beginning of the term of the Assembly, but it shall be open to the Speaker to reconstitute any of these Committees as and when necessary in consultation with the Leader of the House or to nominate a fresh member or change the nomination of a member to a particular Parliamentary Consultative Committee as and when he may deem fit.

3. Functions and Powers.— (1) The functions of the Parliamentary Consultative Committees will be:

- (a) to act as a liaison between the members and the State Government;
- (b) to enable the members to obtain such information from the State Government, in relation to the policy, programmes, plans, performance, achievements, functioning and expenditure of the Department or Departments concerned, as the members may desire to have, and to provide a forum for discussion and exchange of views:

Provided that it shall be within the competence of the Minister to claim privilege in respect of such information as he may deem fit.

- (c) to provide a forum for ventilation of grievances of public nature.

(2) It shall not be open to the Committee to call for records, summon witnesses, require production of documents or to make on the spot studies.

4. Meetings and Working Procedure.—(1) The Parliamentary Consultative Committees shall ordinarily meet only on a day or days when there is no sitting of the Assembly, but it may also, at the instance of the Chairman, meet on any day when there is a sitting of the Assembly. In any event, there shall be a meeting of each Parliamentary Consultative Committee at least once in every two months between the date on which the Assembly has been adjourned sinedie and the date of the next sitting of the Assembly.

(2) The meetings of the Parliamentary Consultative Committees shall be held in the precincts of the House when summoned in Jaipur but they may also be

convened outside Jaipur at the discretion of the Chairman, in which case the venue will be decided by the Chairman.

(3) The Chairman may, for the purpose of assisting him in making available to members information desired by them, require the service of any official of the Department concerned and may ask him to make available any documents or information as he may think fit.

(4) There shall be no voting, resolution or report of the Committees, but the proceedings of the Committees may be drawn up and circulated to the members concerned.

(5) The Chairman shall be free to announce the decisions, if any, taken as a result of the discussions of the Committee, to the press.

(6) No decisions involving financial implications or bearing upon the working of an autonomous board or body shall be taken at the meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committees.

(7) Nothing transacted in the course of discussions in the Committees shall be referred to in the House either by the members or by the Chairman.

(Q) Question and Reference Committee

253J. Constitution of the Committee.— (1) At the beginning of each financial year of the Legislative Assembly, the Speaker shall constitute a "Question and Reference Committee", the term of office of which shall be one year.

(2) The Committee shall consist of not more than fifteen members, who shall be nominated by the Speaker:

Provided that no Minister shall be nominated as a member of the Committee and where a Member is appointed as a Minister after his nomination to the Committee, he shall cease to be a member of the Committee from the date of such appointment.

253K. Functions of the Committee.— (1) If the answer to a starred question, unstarred question, short notice question, call attention motion and a notice under rule 295 is not received from the Government in time even after sufficient opportunity having been given or if the answer received does not give satisfaction to the Speaker and the Speaker deems it proper so to do, he may refer the matter to the Question and Reference Committee.

(2) In addition to the matters aforesaid, any matter relating to the House, if not within the jurisdiction of any other Committee under the rules, may be referred by the Speaker to the said Committee for consideration.

(R) Women and Children Welfare Committee

253L. Constitution of the Committee.— (1) The Speaker shall, as far as may be, at the beginning of the financial year, constitute a Committee on the Welfare of Women and Children, the term of office of which shall ordinarily be two years.

(2) The Committee shall consist of not more than fifteen members out of which not more than ten shall be women members. All members shall be nominated by the Speaker:

Provided that no Minister shall be nominated as a member of the Committee and where a member after his nomination to the Committee is appointed as a Minister, he shall cease to be a member of the Committee from the date of such appointment.

253M. Functions of the Committee.— There shall be a Committee for the prevention of atrocity on, traffic in and exploitation of women and children as well as for their welfare. The functions of the Committee shall be as follows :—

(a) to consider the complaints received with regard to the atrocities, trafficking and exploitation against the provisions of the Constitution of India or of a Rajasthan Act, and to give a report to the Assembly as to what action should be taken by the State Government with regard to the matter under its jurisdiction. The Committee shall examine complaints generally relating to all matters covering atrocities on, traffic in and exploitation of the women and children in the State and particularly to the following subjects and shall submit its comments, suggestions and recommendations by way of a report to the Assembly, namely:—

- (1) Cases of the children below the age of 14 years who, within the meaning of article 24 of the Constitution, are employed to work in any factories, hotels or mines or are engaged in any other hazardous employment in the State;
- (2) Working of the orphan homes, observation homes, women welfare homes or women reformatories, special schools made for women and children;
- (3) Cases of exploitation of women and their murder committed in the State for dowry;
- (4) Evils developed among the children by the use of drugs and other intoxicating substances;
- (5) Issues raised in the Assembly during discussion on atrocities, trafficking and exploitation of women and children;
- (6) Working of the administrative departments and the Directorate of women and children welfare running women and children welfare programmes in the State;

(b) to submit implementation report to the Assembly with regard to the action taken by the State Government on the measures proposed by the Committee; and

(c) to examine the cases relating to the aforesaid matters which the Committee may deem proper or which may specifically be entrusted by the Assembly or the Speaker.

253 N. Regulation of the procedure.— The Speaker may issue such directions as he may consider necessary for regulating the procedure in connection with all matters related with the consideration of the Committee or the Assembly.

(S) Committee on Welfare of Backward Classes

253 O. Constitution of the Committee.— (1) There shall be a Committee for the Welfare of the Backward Classes.

(2) The Committee shall consist of not more than fifteen members who shall be nominated by the Speaker:

Provided that no Minister shall be nominated a member of the Committee and if a member after his appointment to the Committee is appointed a Minister, he shall cease to be a member of the Committee from the date of such appointment.

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

253 P. Functions of the Committee.— The Committee shall examine the steps taken by the State Government in connection with the welfare and over-all development of the Backward Classes.