

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE, 1945.

No. 2

[Amendment : 19.02.1946]

No.2.-The Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him under the Proclamation of the 17th October 1945, makes the following rules regulating the practice and procedure and conduct of business in the Legislative Council :-

General Provisions.

1. (1) The Governor shall appoint two members of the Council to be President and Vice-President, respectively, of the Council :
Provided that the Governor may personally attend any sitting of the Council, and if he does so he shall preside over the Council at that sitting.
(2) The Governor shall appoint a person to be the Secretary of the Council.
2. Every member of the Council shall, before taking his seat, make before the President at a meeting of the Council an oath according to the form, as nearly as may be, set out in the Fifth Schedule to the Government of Burma Act, 1935, and shall sign the register kept for this purpose.
3. (1) The Governor may in his discretion by order-
 - (a) summon the Council to meet at such time and place as he thinks fit ;
 - (b) prorogue the Council ;
 - (c) dissolve the Council.
(2) On the issue by the Governor of an order appointing a time and place for a session of the Council, the Secretary shall issue a summons to each member for the time and place so appointed.
4. The members shall sit in such order as the President shall determine.
5. All proceedings of the Council shall be conducted in the English language, but any member who is unacquainted or is not sufficiently acquainted with the English language may use the Burmese language.
6. (1) Subject to the provisions of the proviso to sub-rule (1) of Rule 1, the President, or in his absence the Vice-President, shall preside over all sittings of the Council.

- (2) All questions at any sitting of the Council shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting, other than the President. The President shall not vote in the first instance, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.
- (3) If at any time during a sitting of the Council less than fifteen members are present, it shall be the duty of the President either to adjourn the Council or to suspend the sitting until at least fifteen members are present.
- (4) The Council shall have power to act notwithstanding any vacancy in the membership thereof, and any proceedings of the Council shall be valid notwithstanding that it is discovered subsequently that some person who was not entitled so to do sat and voted or otherwise took part in the proceedings.
- 6A. Every Counsellor who is not a member of the Executive Council and the Advocate-General shall have the right to speak in and otherwise to take part in the proceedings of the Council and any committee of the Council of which he may be named a member, but shall not by virtue of this rule be entitled to vote.
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7. (1) The President shall preserve order and have all powers necessary for the purpose of enforcing his decisions.
- (2) He may direct any member whose conduct is, in his opinion, grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the precincts of the Council Chamber, and any member so ordered to withdraw shall do so forthwith and shall absent himself from the Council during the remainder of the day's sitting. If any member is ordered to withdraw a second time in the same session, the President may direct the member to absent himself from the sittings of the Council for any period not longer than the remainder of the session, and the member so directed shall absent himself from the precincts of the Council Chamber accordingly.
- (3) The President may in the case of grave disorder suspend any sitting for a time to be named by him.
8. (1) Any member may at any time submit a point of order for the decision of the President, but in so doing shall confine himself to stating the point.
- (2) The President shall decide all points of order which may arise and his decision shall be final.
- (3) When a point of order is before the President the member speaking shall immediately resume his seat.
9. A member desiring to make any observations on any matter before the Council shall speak from his place, shall rise when he speaks and shall address the President. If the President rises at any time any member then speaking shall resume his seat.

10. When for the purpose of explanation during a discussion or for any other sufficient reason any member has occasion to ask a question of another member on any matter then under the consideration of the Council he shall ask the question through the President.
11. The President shall not allow any motion (including a motion for leave to introduce a Bill), amendment or question which relates to a matter the raising or discussion of which requires the prior sanction of the Governor, either under the Government of Burma Act, 1935, or under these rules, unless the sanction in writing of the Governor is produced. If a question arises as to whether a motion, amendment or question is or is not such as to require the prior sanction of the Governor, the question shall be referred by the President to the Governor, whose decision shall be final.
12. No private member shall introduce any Bill which falls within the purview of section 63 or section 80 of the Government of Burma Act, 1935.
13. The discussion of, or the asking of questions on, any matter which affects the discharge of the functions of the Governor in so far as he is by or under the Government of Burma Act, 1935, required to act in his discretion or to exercise his individual judgment requires the prior sanction of the Governor.
14. A member while speaking for the purpose of taking part in debate, moving a motion, or asking a question must not-
 - (i) refer to any matter the discussion of which is prohibited by the Government of Burma Act, 1935 ;
 - (ii) refer to any matter mentioned in Rule 13 of these Rules, save with the prior sanction of the Governor;
 - (iii) refer to any of the matters mentioned in clause (c) of sub-section (1) of section 29 of the Government of Burma Act, 1935, save with the consent of the Governor;
 - (iv) discuss a decision of the Governor prohibiting, or refusing to consent to, the discussion of any matter or the asking of any question.

NOTE.- The matters mentioned in section 29 (1) (c) of the Government of Burma Act, 1935, are-

 - (i) any matter connected with relations between His Majesty or the Governor and any foreign State or Prince ; and
 - (ii) (except in relation to estimates of expenditure) any matters connected with territories in Burma not vested in His Majesty, or any matters arising out of or affecting the administration of any of the areas specified in Part I of the Second Schedule to the Act.
15. A resolution or motion which is inadmissible under either of the two preceding rules shall not be entered in the list of business.

16. A member while speaking for the purpose of taking part in debate, moving a motion, or asking a question shall not-
- (i) refer to any matter on which a judicial decision is pending ;
 - (ii) make a personal charge against another member ;
 - (iii) use offensive expressions regarding the conduct of any legislature in the British Commonwealth ;
 - (iv) reflect upon the conduct of His Majesty the King, or the Governor or any Court of Justice ;
 - (v) utter treasonable, seditious, defamatory or vulgar words.
17. (1) No member shall, without the permission of the President, speak in any debate for more than twenty minutes.
- (2) The matter of every speech shall be strictly relevant to the matter before the Council, and no member shall use his right of speech for the purpose of obstructing the business of the Council.
- (3) The President may direct 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 to discontinue his speech and resume his seat.
- (4) A decision of the President under sub-rule (2) or sub-rule (3) shall not be open to discussion.
18. Every notice required by these rules shall be given in writing and shall be handed to the Secretary or left at his office.
19. (1) When the Council is prorogued-
- (a) all pending notices shall lapse;
 - (b) all Bills which have been introduced shall be carried over to the next session :
- Provided that if the member in charge of a Bill makes no motion in regard to the Bill during two consecutive sessions it shall lapse.
- (2) On the dissolution of the Council every Bill which has not been passed by the Council shall lapse.
- Sittings and Arrangement of Business.
20. (1) Unless the President directs otherwise, the Council, whilst in session, shall sit on every week day except Saturdays, and shall continue to sit on each such day until the business for the day is concluded, or until the President adjourns the Council.
- (2) The President shall have power to adjourn the Council from time to time.
21. (1) The Governor may arrange Government business in such order as he deems fit, and Government business shall always have precedence.

(2) Subject to any order to the contrary made by the Governor, and subject to the exigencies of Government business, private members' business shall have precedence on one day in each week throughout the session, such day to be fixed from time to time by the President.

22. (1) A list of business for each day shall be prepared by the Secretary and shall be circulated to members.

(2) No business not included in the list of business for the day shall be transacted at any sitting without the leave of the President, and no business requiring notice shall be set down for a day before the period of the necessary notice has expired.

(3) The business of the day shall be taken up in accordance with the list :

Provided that-

(a) the President may permit a motion of condolence or congratulation to be interposed at any time if, in his opinion, the moving of the motion is in accordance with the general desire of the Council, and thereafter may accept a vote that the Council do adjourn;

(b) a motion for adjournment for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent public importance may be moved in accordance with the following rules :-

(i) A written statement of the matter proposed to be discussed must be given to the President before the expiry of questions or before the list of business for the day is entered upon ;

(ii) the matter must be a matter of recent occurrence as to which it is of urgent importance that the views of the Council be ascertained ;

(iii) the matter must not be a matter which could have been brought before the Council in the ordinary course, and it must not be a matter with reference to which a notice of motion has been given and which will be brought before the Council within a reasonable time;

(iv) the matter must not revive discussion on a matter which has been discussed in the same session, and it must not be a matter as to which discussion is not permitted;

(v) if the President is satisfied that the motion is in accordance with the foregoing rules he shall, after questions and before the list of business for the day is entered upon, read the statement to the Council and ask whether the Council will permit the business for the day to be closed at 3-30 p.m. for the discussion of the matter. If at least twenty members rise in support leave will be taken to be given, and the matter shall be discussed from 3-30 p.m. or after the conclusion of the business for the day (if that is earlier) for two hours unless a motion "That the Council do now adjourn" is carried earlier. No other motion may be moved;

(vi) no member shall, without the permission of the President, speak for more than fifteen minutes.

23. Private business set down for any day and not disposed of on that day shall not be set down for any subsequent day :

Provided that any such business which has commenced and Bills which have not been reached shall be set down for the next day allotted to business of that class and [subject to the provisions of sub-rule (1) of Rule 21] shall have precedence over all other business set down for that day.

Questions.

24. (1) No member shall ask more than ten starred questions in the course of any month during a session of the Council.

(2) The first half-hour of every sitting shall be available, if required, for the asking and answering of questions.

25. A member who wishes to ask a question shall give not less than ten days' notice to the Secretary, and shall with the notice enclose a copy of the question which he wishes to ask:

Provided that the Governor, or the President with the consent of the member to whom the question is addressed, may allow a question to be asked with shorter notice.

26. No question shall be made public in any manner until it has been admitted by the Governor.

27. (1) Questions may not be asked of a private member.

(2) Questions addressed to Executive Councillors must relate to public affairs or to matters connected with the administration of the country.

28. A question must satisfy the following conditions:-

(i) It shall not introduce any name or statement not strictly necessary to make the question intelligible.

(ii) If it contains a statement of fact by the member himself, he shall make himself responsible for the accuracy of that statement.

(iii) It shall not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expression, or statements defamatory of any person.

(iv) It shall not ask for an expression of opinion or put forward a hypothetical case.

(v) It shall not refer to the character or conduct of any person except in his official or public capacity.

(vi) It shall not be of excessive length.

28A. The President, when considering whether a question is or is not admissible, shall disallow any question or part of a question which contravenes these rules, or if, in his opinion, it is an abuse of the right of questioning or calculated to obstruct or prejudicially affect the procedure of the Council.

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28B. Where a question or part of a question has been disallowed by the President, the decision of the President shall not be open to discussion.

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29. The Governor may disallow any question, or any part of a question, and when a question or part of a question has been so disallowed, the decision shall not be open to discussion.

30. Any member who desires an oral answer to a question shall prefix an asterisk to the copy of the question which he forwards to the Secretary, and such questions shall be called "Starred Questions".

31. (1) Questions which have been admitted shall be entered in the list of questions for the day, and starred questions shall be called, if the time available for questions permits, in their order on the list.

(2) A starred question shall be asked by the member in whose name it stands by reference to the number in the question list;

Provided that, in the absence of such member, any other member authorized by him in writing may ask the question.

(3) If a starred question is not asked in the manner provided by sub-rule (2) it shall lapse.

(4) In the case of questions which are not starred questions, answers shall be given by placing written answers on the table of the Council Chamber.

32. Any member may, without giving notice, ask a supplementary question for the purpose only of further elucidating any matter of fact regarding which an oral answer has been given:

Provided that the President shall disallow any supplementary question which infringes any of these rules, except sub-rule (1) of Rule 24 and Rule 25.

Motions.

33. The decision of the Council on any matter requiring decision shall be taken by means of a question put by the President on a motion proposed by a member.

34. A member who wishes to move a motion not otherwise provided for in these rules shall give to the Secretary not less than fifteen days' notice of his intention, and shall together with the notice forward a copy of the motion which he wishes to move :

Provided that the Governor, or the President with the consent of the Executive Councillor concerned, may allow a motion to be entered on the list of business with shorter notice than fifteen days.

35. A motion may not raise a question substantially the same as any question on which the Council has given its decision during the same session.

36. (1) After the member who moves has spoken other members may speak on the motion in such order as the President may determine.

(2) During a debate no member shall speak more than once on any motion, except for the purpose of making a personal explanation and then only with the permission of the President :

Provided that a member who has moved a substantive motion may speak again by way of reply, and if the motion is moved by a private member the Executive Councillor concerned shall have the right of speaking after the mover whether he has previously spoken in the debate or not.

37. (1) A member in whose name a motion appears on the list of business shall when called on either-

(a) move the motion, in which case he shall begin his speech by a formal motion in the terms appearing on the list of business, or

(b) withdraw the motion, in which case he shall confine himself to a mere statement to that effect.

(2) If the member when called on is absent, the motion shall be deemed to have been withdrawn unless the President permits some other member to move the motion.

38. A member who has moved a motion or an amendment to a motion shall not withdraw the same except with the leave of the Council, and leave to withdraw shall not be given if the motion to withdraw is opposed.

39. (1) When a motion is under discussion any member may move an amendment thereto. If a copy of an amendment has not been circulated to members before the day fixed for discussion of the motion, any member may object to the moving of the amendment and such objection shall prevail unless the President allows the amendment to be moved.

(2) An amendment must be relevant to the subject-matter of the motion to which it is proposed.

(3) No amendment may be proposed which is of a frivolous character or which is inconsistent with a previous decision of the Council on the motion.

(4) When an amendment is moved the President shall, before taking the sense of the Council thereon, state or read to the Council the terms of the original motion and of the amendment proposed.

(5) All amendments shall be disposed of before the original motion is put.

40. When any motion involving several points is discussed, the President may divided the motion and put each or any point separately to the vote as he may think fit.
41. At any time after a motion has been moved a member may request the President to put the question, and if it appears to the President that the motion has been sufficiently discussed he may close the discussion by calling upon the mover and the Executive Councillor concerned, if they have not already replied, and may then put the question to the vote.
42. (1) Votes may be taken by voices or by a division, at the discretion of the President.
- (2) The President shall determine the method of taking votes by division.
- (3) The result of the voting shall be at once announced by the President and shall not be challenged.

Resolutions.

43. Any member may move a resolution making a recommendation to the Government. A member who wishes to move such a resolution shall give to the Secretary not less than fifteen days' notice of his intention and shall together with the notice forward a copy of the resolution which he wishes to move :
Provided that the President may, with the consent of the Executive Councillor concerned, allow a resolution to be entered on the list of business with shorter notice than fifteen days.
44. No resolution shall be published or entered on the list of business until it has been admitted.
45. The relative precedence of notices of resolutions given by private members shall be determined by ballot in such manner as the President may decide.
46. (1) No resolution shall be admitted which does not relate to a matter of general public interest or is not so framed-
- (a) that it is clearly and precisely expressed and raises a definite issue;
- (b) that it does not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions or defamatory statements;
- (c) that it does not refer to the conduct or character of persons except in their official or public capacity.
- (2) The President shall decide whether a resolution is or is not admissible and shall disallow any resolution or part of a resolution which contravenes any of these rules.
47. The Governor may within the period of notice disallow any resolution or part of a resolution.
48. No discussion in Council shall be permitted in respect of any order of the Governor or of the President disallowing a resolution.
49. The discussion of a resolution shall be strictly limited to the subject of the resolution.

50. If a copy of an amendment has not been circulated to members before the day fixed for discussion of the resolution any member may object to the moving of the amendment and such objection shall prevail unless the President allows the amendment to be moved.

51. When a resolution has been moved or has been disallowed no other resolution or amendment to a resolution raising substantially the same question shall be moved within the same session.

Legislation.

52. The Governor may order the publication of any Bill (together with the statement of Objects and Reasons accompanying it) in the Gazette although no motion has been made for leave to introduce the Bill. In that case it shall not be necessary to move for leave to introduce the Bill, and if the Bill is afterwards introduced it shall not be necessary to publish it again.

53. Any member desiring to move for leave to introduce a Bill shall give not less than ten days' notice of his intention and shall together with the notice submit to the Secretary a copy of the Bill and its accompanying statement of Objects and Reasons.

54. If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is opposed, the President, after permitting if he thinks fit a brief explanatory statement from the member who moves and from one member who opposes the motion, shall, without further debate, put the question thereon.

55. (1) In the case of private members' Bills, after a Bill has been introduced it shall be sent to the Government draftsman for scrutiny, and he shall, in consultation with the member who introduced the Bill, make such drafting amendments therein as he deem necessary, and may, if he considers it necessary to do so, completely re-draft it.

(2) As soon as may be after a Bill has been introduced, the Bill, as amended or re-drafted under sub-rule (1), shall, unless it has already been published, be published in the Gazette.

56. (1) Not less than three days after the publication of a Bill the member in charge thereof may move-

(a) that it be taken into consideration, or

(b) that it be referred to a Select Committee of the Council, or

(c) that it be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinions thereon before a date to be mentioned in the motion.

(2) On a motion under this rule the principles of the Bill and its general provisions may be discussed, but the details of the Bill must not be discussed further than is necessary to explain its principle.

(3) At this stage no amendments to the Bill may be moved, but if the member in charge moves-

- (a) that the Bill be taken into consideration, any member may move as an amendment that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee or be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinions thereon ;
- (b) that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, any member may move as an amendment that the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinions:

Provided that in the event of an emergency sub-rule (3) may be suspended by a vote of the Council on a motion moved by an Executive Councillor.

57. After a Bill has been circulated and opinions received thereon the member in charge, if he wishes to proceed with the Bill, shall move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, unless the President, as he is hereby empowered to do, suspends this rule and allows a motion to be moved that the Bill be taken into consideration :

Provided that any member may move, as an amendment, that further opinions shall be obtained.

58. (1) Bills introduced by private members shall be arranged in the following order of priority :-

- (a) Bills in respect of which the next stage is the presentation of the report of the Select Committee ;
- (b) Bills taken into consideration but not yet passed ;
- (c) Bills in respect of which a motion has been carried that the Bill be taken into consideration ;
- (d) Bills in respect of which the report of the Select Committee has been presented ;
- (e) Bills which have been circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinions.

(2) Bills of private members which have been introduced but which have not reached any of the stages set out in sub-rule (1) shall have priority according to the date and order of their introduction.

(3) The relative precedence of Bills of private members which have not yet been introduced shall be decided by ballot to be held at such time and in such manner as the President may determine.

59. (1) The Executive Councillor concerned and the member who introduced the Bill shall be members of the Select Committee on the Bill. The other members of the Committee shall be members of the Council (not less than four and not more than ten in number) appointed by the Council when the motion that the Bill be referred is made or subsequently. The Advocate-General may be asked by a Select Committee to attend any meeting of the Committee and advise on any point or points that may arise.

(2) The President shall appoint one of the members of the Committee to be the Chairman of the Committee.

(3) The Secretary of the Council shall be Secretary of all Select Committees.

(4) A quorum of a Select Committee shall be one-half of the number of members of the Committee.

60. A Select Committee may hear expert evidence and the representatives of any special interests affected by the Bill before it.
61. The rules of procedure of the Council shall apply to procedure in a Select Committee, except-
- (i) that a motion or amendment need not be seconded,
 - (ii) that a member may speak more than once on the same question , and
 - (iii) that notice of amendments need not be given.
62. A Select Committee shall have power to make such amendments as are relevant to the subject-matter of the Bill.
63. (1) The Select Committee to which a Bill has been referred shall make a report thereon, which may be preliminary or final.
- (2) The Chairman shall prepare the draft report and submit it for consideration at a meeting of the Committee.
- (3) The report shall be signed by the members by way of assent or with reservations or minutes of dissent.
- (4) Nothing said or done at a meeting of the Committee shall be disclosed.
64. The report and, if the Bill has been amended, the Bill as amended by the Committee shall be printed. Copies shall be supplied to members of the Council and shall also, unless otherwise directed by the Committee, be published in the Gazette.
65. (1) Not less than five days after the report of the Select Committee has been made available to members, the member in charge may move-
- (i) that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration, or
 - (ii) that the Bill be re-committed to the Select Committee or referred to a fresh Select Committee, either as to the whole Bill or with respect to particular clauses or amendments only.
- (2) If the member in charge moves that the Bill be taken into consideration, any other member may move as an amendment that the Bill be re-committed, either as a whole or with respect to particular clauses or amendments only.
66. (1) After a motion has been agreed to by the Council that a Bill be taken into consideration, any member may propose an amendment of the Bill.
- (2) If notice of a proposed amendment has not been given at least two days before the day on which the Bill is to be taken into consideration and if copies have not been made available to the members, any

member may object to the moving of the amendment and any such objection shall prevail unless the President allows the amendment to be moved.

(3) The Secretary shall supply for the use of members copies of every amendment received in respect of a Bill.

67. Amendments shall, unless the President otherwise decides, be considered in the order of the clauses to which they relate.

68. When a Bill is under consideration the President shall submit the Bill to the Council clause by clause, shall call each clause separately, and when the amendments relating to it have been dealt with shall put the question that such clause or such clause as amended, as the case may be, stand part of the Bill :

Provided that, if the President considers it unnecessary to submit the Bill or any part of the Bill to the Council clause by clause, it shall be in his discretion to submit the Bill or any part of the Bill to the Council without calling each clause separately.

69. (1) When a Bill has been considered in the Council in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Rule 68, the member in charge may, at the conclusion of such consideration, move that the Bill be passed: Provided that, if any amendment to the Bill has been made, any member may object to the passing of the Bill at the same sitting, and such objection shall prevail unless the President allows the Bill to be passed:

Provided further that, where such objection prevails, the member in charge may move that the Bill be passed at any subsequent sitting.

(2) To a motion that a Bill be passed no amendment may be moved which is not of a verbal or consequential nature.

70. The member in charge of a Bill may at any stage withdraw the Bill by stating that he does not move the motion : standing in his name.

71. When a Bill is passed by the Council, a copy thereof shall be signed by the President and the copy so signed shall be submitted by the Secretary to the Governor.

Financial Business.

72. (1) A statement in respect of every financial year of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of Burma for that year shall be presented to the Council on such day as the Governor may appoint.

- (2) The statement shall be presented in such form as the Finance Member of the Executive Council may consider best fitted for its consideration by the Council.
73. (1) On a day or days to be appointed by the Governor subsequent to the day on which the Budget is presented, the Council shall be at liberty to discuss the general financial policy of the Budget. No discussion shall be allowed on-
- (a) any administrative policy which has no direct bearing on the financial policy as embodied in the budget ; or
 - (b) any matter which concerns exclusively a particular locality or community ; or
 - (c) any estimate relating to the expenditure referred to in section 59 (3) (a) of the Government of Burma Act, 1935.
- (2) No motion shall be moved at this stage.
- (3) The Finance Member of the Executive Council shall have a right of reply at the end of the discussion.
74. (1) Any member may, within one week of the presentation of the financial statement under Rule 72, give notice to the Secretary of his intention to move a resolution on any matter arising out of the financial statement, and shall together with the notice forward a copy of the resolution which he wishes to move.
- (2) Rules 44 to 51 of these rules shall apply to resolutions of which notice is given under sub-rule (1).
- (3) The Governor shall allot a day or number of days for the discussion of resolutions of which notice is given under sub -rule (1). All such resolutions which have not been moved during the time allotted under this sub-rule shall lapse.
75. (1) As soon as may be after the commencement of each financial year a Committee on Public Accounts shall be constituted for the purpose of dealing with the appropriation accounts of the Government and the report of the Auditor-General thereon.
- (2) The Finance Member of the Executive Council shall be the Chairman of the Committee, and besides the Chairman the Committee shall consist of such number of non-official members of the Council (being not less than nine) as the Governor may direct. Two-thirds of such members shall be elected by the Council, and the remaining members shall be nominated by the Governor.
76. (1) In scrutinizing the appropriation accounts of the Government and the report of the Auditor-General thereon, it shall be the duty of the Committee to satisfy itself that the resources of Government have been properly utilized in accordance with the financial statement presented under Rule 72, and to bring to notice every re-appropriation from one grant to another grant.

(2) It shall also be the duty of the Committee to examine and satisfy itself as to such accounts of State commercial concerns as the Governor may have required to be prepared and the Auditor-General's report thereon, and also to consider the report of the Auditor-General in cases where the Governor may have required him to conduct an audit of any receipt or to examine the accounts of stores and stock.

77. Nothing said or done by any member at a meeting of the Committee shall be disclosed.

78. The Chairman of the Committee shall present the report of the Committee to the Council and move that the report be taken into consideration and, if that motion be carried, that the report be adopted.

Miscellaneous.

79. A register shall be maintained by the Secretary of all members who attend a meeting of the Council.

80. (1) Leave of absence from the sittings of the Council may be granted to a member on his written or verbal application by the Governor or the President.

(2) If without such leave a private member is absent from all meetings of the Council for sixty days on which the Council is sitting, the Governor may declare that his seat is vacant and may nominate some other person to the vacancy.

81. A private member may at any time resign his seat on the Council by writing under his hand addressed to the Governor.

82. (1) The Secretary shall keep a journal in which a short record of the proceedings of the Council for each day shall be fairly recorded.

(2) The journal shall be submitted after each sitting to the President for his confirmation and signature, and when so signed shall be the record of the proceedings of the Council.

82A. The Secretary shall also cause to be prepared a full report of the proceedings of the Council on each of its meetings and shall, as soon as practicable, publish it in such form and manner as the President may from time to time direct. A copy of such report shall be sent by the Secretary to each member of the Council

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83. The admission of visitors, representatives of the Press and Officials during the sitting of the Council shall be regulated in accordance with orders made by the President with the approval of the Governor.

84. The President, either of his own motion or on the suggestion of any member, may at any time during a sitting of the Council order the withdrawal of visitors or of representatives of the Press, or of both.

84A. If any question of procedure arises for which specific provision is not made in these rules, the President shall decide the question in such manner as in his opinion will best assist the Council to perform its functions.

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Interpretation.

85. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires-

- (a) "member" means a member of the Legislative Council ;
- (b) "member in charge" of a Bill means, in the case of a Government Bill, any member acting on behalf of the Government, and in any other cases the member who has introduced the Bill ;
- (c) "President" includes the Vice-President and any other person for the time being acting as the President ;
- (d) "private member" means a member who is not an Executive Councillor.

Saving.

86. Nothing in these rules shall derogate from the legislative powers of the Governor or shall be construed to prevent the Governor from enacting any legislation without consulting or contrary to the opinion of the Legislative Council .

By order,

TIN TUT,

Secretary to the Executive Council.