

PREFACE

The Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Travancore-Cochin Legislative Assembly, which replaced the earlier Rules and Standing Orders came into force on August 31, 1954. These Rules were subsequently adopted by the Kerala Legislative Assembly under the provisions of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956.

In 1958, a Rules Committee was constituted to examine and revise the Rules of Procedure. The Committee submitted its report in April 1959. However the Rules were not passed due to the dissolution of the First Kerala Legislative Assembly in July 1959.

Soon after the constitution of the Second Kerala Legislative Assembly in 1960, the Rules Committee of the House scrutinised the draft Rules and approved them with a few changes. They were adopted by the Assembly on September 19, 1960.

In the Third Kerala Legislative Assembly, the Rules Committee recommended the formation of the Public Undertakings Committee and the recommendation was adopted by the House on August 26, 1968.

The Rules Committee of the Fourth Kerala Legislative Assembly recommended further amendments to the Rules. The Committee while making their recommendations, gave due consideration to the unanimous opinion expressed by the Presiding Officers of Legislative bodies and Chairmen of various Legislature Committees at their periodic conferences that as far as possible, the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Parliament and State Legislatures in India should be uniform. The Report of the Committee which was laid on the Table on February 17, 1976 was adopted by the House. The amendments made to the Rules came into effect on June 18, 1976.

In the Fifth Kerala Legislative Assembly, an all — party committee was appointed by the Speaker in March 1979 to study and report on a proposal to institute a system of Subject Committees of the Legislature. The Report submitted by the *Ad hoc* Committee was referred to the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee accepted the recommendations made in the report and proposed necessary amendments to the Rules. These amendments were laid on the Table of the House on September 24, 1979 and were notified in the Gazette as approved by the House.

Amendments were also made to the Rules during the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Kerala Legislative Assemblies.

The Rules Committee of the Ninth Kerala Legislative Assembly in its First Report, which was laid on the Table on July 16, 1992, recommended the formation of two new Legislature Committees viz., the Committee on the Welfare of Women and Children and the Committee on Environment. The amendments made to the Rules came into effect on July 25, 1992. The Committee in its Second Report, which was laid on the Table on January 27, 1993, recommended the formation of the Committee on the Welfare of Backward Class Communities. The amendments made to the Rules came into effect on February 4, 1993. The Committee in its Third Report, which was laid on the Table on March 31, 1995, recommended the formation of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table. The amendments made to the Rules came into effect on April 21, 1995.

The Rules Committee of the Tenth Kerala Legislative Assembly in its Second Report, which was laid on the Table on April 3, 1997, recommended restrictions on the number of questions that can be asked by a Member. The amendments made to the Rules came into effect on April 17, 1997. The Committee in its Fourth Report, which was laid on the Table on July 21, 1999, recommended to extend the term of Subject Committee, Committee on Public Accounts, Committee on Estimates and Committee on Public Undertakings to thirty months and to change the name and expand the functions of Committee of Privileges and Committee on the Welfare of Women and Children. The amendments made to the Rules came into effect on August 3, 1999.

The Rules Committee of the Eleventh Kerala Legislative Assembly in its First Report, which was laid on the Table on January 28, 2003, recommended the formation of two new Legislature Committees viz., the Committee on Local Fund Accounts and the Committee on Official Language. The amendments made to the Rules came into effect on February 18, 2003.

The Rules Committee of the Twelfth Kerala Legislative Assembly in its First Report, which was laid on the Table on November 25, 2008, recommended amendments to the functions of the Committee on Local Fund Accounts and Committee on Public Accounts and also to the list of Public Sector Undertakings given as Fourth Schedule to the Rules. The amendments made to the Rules came into effect on December 4, 2008. An *Ad hoc* Committee was appointed by the Speaker on July 29, 2008 to examine and report suggestions, if any, to the Rules. The Committee, after having a detailed study on relevant areas, presented its Report to the House on September 17, 2009. The report of the *Ad hoc* Committee was referred to the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee after taking into consideration the recommendations contained in the Report of *Ad hoc* Committee, recommended the formation of four new Welfare Committees viz., Committee on the Welfare of Fishermen and Allied Workers, Committee on the

Welfare of Non-Resident Keralites (Pravasi Malayalees), Committee on the Welfare of Youth and Youth Affairs and the Committee on the Welfare of Senior Citizens. It was also recommended to enhance the number of Subject Committees from ten to fourteen and to enhance the number of questions that can be asked by a Member from five to seven. The Third Report of the Rules Committee which recommended these amendments were laid on the Table of the House on March 31, 2010 and the amendments made to the Rules came into effect on April 8, 2010.

The Rules Committee of the Fourteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly in its Second Report which was laid on the Table on April 3, 2018 recommended amendments to the Rules. The Report recommended change in time of sitting of the House. As per the amendment, the sitting of the Assembly shall ordinarily commence at 9.00 a.m. and conclude at 2.00 p.m. and on Fridays the Assembly shall conclude at 12.30 p.m. It was also recommended to amend the Rules concerning Committee on Subordinate Legislation, Committee on Official Language and Subject Committees. The House considered the recommendations in the Report and adopted with amendment on June 11, 2018. The amendments made to the Rules came into effect on June 26, 2018.

Thus, this Edition of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Kerala Legislative Assembly has incorporated all amendments made to the Rules till June 2018 and the Directions from the Chair till December 2018.

V. K. BABU PRAKASH,

Thiruvananthapuram,
January 18, 2019.

Secretary,
Kerala Legislative Assembly.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER I

SHORT TITLE AND DEFINITIONS

<i>Rule</i>		<i>Page</i>
1. Short Title and Commencement	..	1
2. Definitions	..	1

CHAPTER II

SUMMONS TO MEMBERS, SEATING, OATH OR AFFIRMATION AND ROLL OF MEMBERS

3. Summons to members	..	3
4. Seating of members	..	4
5. Oath or Affirmation	..	4
6. Roll of members	..	4

CHAPTER III

ELECTION OF SPEAKER AND DEPUTY SPEAKER AND NOMINATION OF PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

7. Election of the Speaker by the Assembly	..	4
8. Election of Deputy Speaker	..	5
9. Panel of Chairmen	..	6
10. Powers of Person Presiding	..	6

CHAPTER IV

SITTINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY

11. When a sitting of the Assembly duly constituted	..	6
12. Time of meeting	..	7
13. Sittings of the Assembly	..	7
14. Adjournment of Assembly	..	7

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
CHAPTER V	
GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS AND MESSAGES TO THE ASSEMBLY	
15. Discussion of the matters referred to in the Governor's Address under Article 176 of the Constitution ..	7
16. Other business that may be taken up ..	8
17. Allotment of time for discussion on the Governor's Address ..	9
18. Messages from the Governor ..	9
CHAPTER VI	
ARRANGEMENT OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS AND LIST OF BUSINESS	
19. Arrangement of Government Business ..	9
20. Allotment of time for Private Members' Business and Precedence of Business ..	9
21. Precedence of Private Members' Bills ..	10
22. Precedence of Resolutions ..	11
23. Statutory Resolutions ..	11
24. Business outstanding at the end of day ..	11
25. List of Business ..	11
CHAPTER VII	
QUESTIONS AND SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS	
(a) Questions	
26. Time for questions ..	12
27. Notice of questions ..	12
27A. Number of questions by a Member ..	12
28. Form of notice of questions ..	12
28A. Ballot on questions ..	12
29. Notice of admission of question to Ministers ..	13
30. Starred and Unstarred questions ..	13
31. Questions of Members who have not been sworn in ..	13
32. Member entitled to oral answers to three questions on a day ..	13
33. Allotment of days for oral answers to questions ..	13

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
34. Written answers to questions not replied orally ..	14
35. Questions to Private Members ..	14
36. Conditions of admissibility of questions ..	14
37. Questions on matters of correspondence between the State Government and the Government of India ..	16
38. Speaker to decide admissibility of questions ..	16
39. Speaker to decide if a question is to be treated as starred or unstarred ..	16
40. List of questions ..	16
41. Order in which questions shall be called ..	17
42. Withdrawal or postponement of questions ..	17
43. Mode of asking questions ..	17
44. Questions of absent Members ..	18
45. Supplementary questions ..	18
46. Disposal of questions when meeting is cancelled or adjourned ..	18
47. Time on which Answers are to be handed over and restriction on its publication ..	19
(b) Short Notice Questions	
48. Short notice questions ..	19
CHAPTER VIII	
HALF AN HOUR DISCUSSION	
49. Discussion on a matter of public importance arising out of answers to questions ..	20
CHAPTER IX	
MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT ON A MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE	
50. Speaker's consent necessary to make motions ..	21
51. Method of giving notice ..	21
52. Restrictions on right to make motion ..	21
53. Motion for discussion on matters before tribunals, commissions etc. ..	22
54. Mode of asking for leave to move adjournment motion ..	22

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
55. Time for taking up motion	.. 23
56. Closure of debate	.. 23
57. Time limit for speeches	.. 23

CHAPTER X

DISCUSSION ON MATTERS OF URGENT
PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

58. Notice of raising discussion	.. 23
59. Speaker to decide admissibility	.. 23
60. No formal motion	.. 24
61. Time limit for speeches	.. 24

CHAPTER XI

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT
PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

62. Calling attention to matters of urgent public importance	.. 24
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CHAPTER XII

MOTION OF NO-CONFIDENCE IN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
AND STATEMENT BY A MINISTER WHO
HAS RESIGNED

63. Motion of no-confidence in Council of Ministers	.. 25
64. Statement by a Minister who has resigned	.. 25

CHAPTER XIII

RESOLUTION FOR REMOVAL OF SPEAKER OR
DEPUTY SPEAKER FROM OFFICE

65. Notice of resolution for removal of Speaker or Deputy Speaker and Leave of Assembly to take up resolution	.. 26
66. Whom to preside when motion is taken up	.. 26
67. Inclusion of resolution in the List of Business	.. 27
68. Time limit for Speeches	.. 27

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
CHAPTER XIV LEGISLATION	
69. Publication of Bills before introduction	.. 27
70. Notice of motion for leave to introduce Private Members' Bill	.. 28
71. Motion for leave to introduce Bill	.. 29
72. Publication after introduction	.. 29
73. Financial Memorandum to accompany Bill	.. 29
74. Explanatory Memorandum to Bills delegating legislative powers	.. 29
75. Statement in connection with Ordinances	.. 29
76. Motions after introduction	.. 30
77. Discussion of principle of the Bill	.. 30
78. Persons by whom motions in respect of Bills may be made	.. 31
79. Procedure after presentation of report	.. 32
80. Scope of debate on report of Select Committee	.. 33
81. Notice of Amendments	.. 33
82. Conditions of admissibility of amendments	.. 33
83. Arrangement of amendments	.. 34
84. Order of amendments	.. 34
85. Mode of moving amendments	.. 34
86. Withdrawal of amendments	.. 34
87. Submission of Bill clause by clause	.. 35
88. Postponement of clause	.. 35
89. Consideration of Schedule	.. 35
90. Clause one, enacting formula, preamble and title of the Bill	.. 35
91. Passing of Bills	.. 35
92. Scope of debate	.. 36
93. Correction of patent errors	.. 36
94. Withdrawal of a Bill	.. 36
95. Explanatory statement by member who moves or opposes withdrawal motion	.. 37
96. Removal of Bill from Register of Bills	.. 37
97. Special provision for removal of Private Members' Bill from the Register of Bills	.. 38

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
98. Authentication of Bills	.. 38
99. Message of the Governor	.. 38
100. Notice of motion for reconsideration	.. 38
101. Motion for reconsideration	.. 38
102. Scope of debate	.. 38
103. Consideration of amendments	.. 39
104. Passing again of Bills	.. 39
105. Disagreement of Assembly with the message	.. 39
106. Reconsideration of Bills returned with a message under proviso to Article 201 of the Constitution	.. 39
CHAPTER XV	
PETITION	
107. Scope of petitions	.. 40
108. General form of petition	.. 40
109. Authentication of petition	.. 40
110. Documents not to be attached	.. 40
111. Countersignature of petition	.. 41
112. Petition to be addressed to the Assembly	.. 41
113. Presentation of petition	.. 41
114. Form of presentation	.. 41
115. Reference to Committee on Petitions	.. 41
CHAPTER XVI	
RESOLUTIONS	
116. Notice of Resolution	.. 41
117. Form of Resolution	.. 42
118. Subject matter of Resolution	.. 42
119. Conditions of admissibility of Resolution	.. 42
120. Raising discussion on matters before Tribunals, Commissions etc.	.. 42
121. Speaker to decide admissibility	.. 43
122. Moving of resolution	.. 43
123. Amendments	.. 43
124. Time limit for speeches	.. 44
125. Scope of discussion	.. 44
126. Withdrawal of resolution and amendment	.. 44

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
127. Splitting of resolution	.. 44
128. Repetition of resolution	.. 44
129. Copy of resolution passed to be sent to Chief Minister and Minister in charge of Parliamentary Affairs	.. 45
CHAPTER XVII	
MOTIONS	
130. Discussion on a matter of public interest	.. 45
131. Notice of motion	.. 45
132. Conditions of admissibility of a motion	.. 45
133. Motion for raising discussion on matters before Tribunals, Commissions, etc.	.. 46
134. Speaker to decide admissibility of a motion	.. 46
135. Circulation of No-Day-Yet-Named motions	.. 46
136. Allotment of time and discussion of motions	.. 46
137. Speaker to put question at the appointed time	.. 46
138. Time limit for Speeches	.. 46
CHAPTER XVIII	
PROCEDURE IN FINANCIAL MATTERS	
139. Presentation of Budget	.. 47
140. Demands for Grants	.. 47
141. General discussion on the Budget	.. 47
142. Reference of Demands for Grants to Subject Committees	.. 47
143. Voting of Demands for Grants	.. 48
144. Presentation of Budget in Parts	.. 48
145. Cut Motions	.. 48
146. Conditions of admissibility of cut motions	.. 49
147. Speaker to decide admissibility of cut motions	.. 50
148. Notice of cut motions	.. 50
149. Vote on Account	.. 51
150. Supplementary, additional, excess and exceptional grants and votes of credit	.. 51
151. Scope of discussion on supplementary grants	.. 51
152. Token Grant	.. 51
153. Appropriation Bill	.. 51
153A. Finance Bill	.. 52

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
CHAPTER XIX	
QUESTIONS OF PRIVILEGE	
154. Questions of privilege	.. 54
155. Notice of question of privilege	.. 54
156. Conditions of admissibility of questions of privilege	.. 54
157. Mode of raising a question of privilege	.. 54
158. Consideration of question of privilege to which leave is granted.	.. 55
159. Reference of question of privilege to Committee by Speaker	.. 55
160. Power of Speaker to give directions	.. 55
161. Intimation to Speaker by Magistrate of arrest, detention, etc. of a Member	.. 55
162. Intimation to Speaker on release of a Member	.. 55
163. Treatment of communications received from Magistrate	.. 55
164. Arrest within the precincts of the Assembly	.. 56
165. Service of legal process	.. 56
CHAPTER XX	
SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION	
166. Laying of regulation, rule, etc., on the Table	.. 56
166A. Time limit for laying of Regulations, Rules, sub-Rules, bye-Laws etc.	.. 56
166B. Laying of Annual Report/Audit Report of Companies/Autonomous Bodies/Board/Corporation etc. on the Table	.. 57
167. Allotment of time for the discussion of amendment	.. 57
168. Regulation, rule, etc., as amended to be laid on the Table	.. 58
CHAPTER XXI	
RESIGNATION AND VACATION OF SEATS IN THE ASSEMBLY AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY	
169. Resignation of seats in the Assembly	.. 58
170. Permission to remain absent from meetings of the Assembly	.. 60
171. Vacation of seats in the Assembly	.. 60
172. Record of attendance of Members	.. 61

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
CHAPTER XXII	
COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNOR AND THE ASSEMBLY	
173. Communications from the Governor to the Assembly	.. 61
174. Communications from the Assembly to the Governor	.. 61
CHAPTER XXIII	
SECRET SITTING OF THE ASSEMBLY	
175. Secret Sitting	.. 61
176. Report of the proceedings	.. 62
177. Procedure in other respects	.. 62
178. Lifting ban of secrecy	.. 62
179. Disclosure of proceedings or decisions	.. 62
CHAPTER XXIV	
LEGISLATURE COMMITTEES	
(a) General	
180. Appointment of Legislature Committees	.. 62
181. Objection to membership of Committee	.. 63
182. Term of office of Committee nominated by the Speaker	.. 64
183. Resignation from Committee	.. 64
184. Chairman of Committee	.. 64
185. Quorum	.. 64
186. Discharge of members absent from sitting of Committee	.. 65
187. Voting in Committee	.. 65
188. Casting vote of Chairman	.. 65
189. Power to appoint sub Committees	.. 65
190. Date and time of sittings of Committee	.. 65
191. Sittings of a Committee in private	.. 65
192. Venue of sittings	.. 65
193. All strangers to withdraw when Committee deliberates	.. 66
194. Power to take evidence or call for documents	.. 66
195. Power to send for persons, papers and records	.. 66
196. Counsel for a witness	.. 66
197. Evidence on oath	.. 66

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
198. Procedure for examining witness	.. 67
199. Record of decisions	.. 67
200. Evidence, report and proceedings treated as confidential	.. 67
201. Special reports	.. 68
202. Report of Committee	.. 68
203. Availability of report to Government before presentation	.. 68
204. Presentation of reports	.. 68
205. Printing, publication or circulation of report prior to its presentation to Assembly	.. 68
205A. Furnishing of reply to the recommendations contained in the report	.. 68
205B. Discussion on a matter contained in the report	.. 69
206. Power to make suggestions on procedure	.. 69
207. Power of Committee to make detailed rules	.. 69
208. Power of Speaker to give directions	.. 69
209. Business before Committee not to lapse on prorogation of Assembly	.. 69
210. Unfinished work of Committee	.. 70
211. Applicability of general rules to Committees	.. 70
(b) Constitution and functions of the Committees	
<i>(i) Business Advisory Committee</i>	
212. Constitution of the Committee	.. 70
213. Functions of the Committee	.. 70
214. Report of Committee	.. 70
215. Consideration of report	.. 71
216. Allocation of time order	.. 71
217. Disposal of outstanding matters at the appointed hour	.. 71
218. Variation in the allocation of time order	.. 71
<i>(ii) Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions</i>	
219. Constitution of Committee	.. 71
220. Functions of the Committee	.. 72
221. Motion moved in Assembly on the report	.. 73
222. Disposal of outstanding matters at the appointed hour	.. 73

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
<i>(iii) Committee on Petitions</i>	
223. Constitution of the Committee	.. 73
224. Functions of the Committee	.. 73
<i>(iv) Select Committee on Bills</i>	
225. Constitution of the Committee	.. 74
226. Other members may be present at a sitting	.. 74
227. Notice of amendments and general procedure	.. 75
228. Notice of amendments by members other than members of Committee	.. 75
229. Power of Committee to take evidence	.. 75
230. Report of the Committee	.. 75
231. Printing and publication of reports	.. 76
<i>(v) Subject Committees</i>	
232. Subject Committees	.. 76
233. Constitution of the Committees	.. 77
234. Chairman of the Committee	.. 77
235. Functions of the Committee	.. 77
235A. Meetings of the Committee	.. 78
236. Powers of the Committee in respect of Demands for Grants	.. 78
237. Powers of the Committee in respect of Bills	.. 80
238. Powers of the Committee in respect of Statutory Rules	.. 80
239. Reports of Subject Committee	.. 81
240. Secrecy of proceedings of Committee	.. 81
241. Powers of Speaker to issue directions	.. 81
<i>(vi) Committee on Public Accounts</i>	
242. Functions of the Committee	.. 82
243. Constitution of the Committee	.. 83
<i>(vii) Committee on Estimates</i>	
244. Functions of the Committee	.. 84
245. Constitution of the Committee	.. 84
246. Examination of Estimates by Committee	.. 85

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
<i>(viii) Committee on Public Undertakings</i>	
247. Functions of the Committee	.. 85
248. Constitution of the Committee	.. 86
<i>(ix) Committee of Privileges and Ethics</i>	
249. Constitution of the Committee	.. 86
250. Functions of the Committee	.. 86
251. Consideration of report	.. 87
252. Priority for consideration	.. 87
<i>(x) Committee on Subordinate Legislation</i>	
253. Functions of the Committee	.. 88
254. Constitution of the Committee	.. 88
255. Numbering and publication of orders	.. 88
256. Duties of Committee	.. 88
257. Report of Committee	.. 89
<i>(xi) Committee on Government Assurances</i>	
258. Functions of the Committee	.. 89
259. Constitution of the Committee	.. 90
<i>(xi A) Committee on Papers Laid on the Table</i>	
259A. Constitution of the Committee	.. 90
259B. Functions of the Committee	.. 90
<i>(xii) Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes</i>	
260. Functions of the Committee	.. 91
261. Constitution of the Committee	.. 91
<i>(xii A) Committee on the Welfare of Women, Transgenders and Children and Differently abled</i>	
261A. Constitution of the Committee	.. 92
261B. Functions of the Committee	.. 92

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
<i>(xii B) Committee on Environment</i>	
261C. Constitution of the Committee	.. 94
261D. Functions of the Committee	.. 94
<i>(xii C) Committee on the Welfare of Backward Class Communities</i>	
261E. Constitution of the Committee	.. 95
261F. Functions of the Committee	.. 96
<i>(xii D) Committee on Local Fund Accounts</i>	
261G. Functions of the Committee	.. 97
261H. Constitution of the Committee	.. 99
<i>(xii E) Committee on Official Language</i>	
261I. Constitution of the Committee	.. 99
261J. Functions of the Committee	.. 99
<i>(xii F) Committee on the Welfare of Fishermen and Allied Workers</i>	
261K. Constitution of the Committee	.. 101
261L. Functions of the Committee	.. 101
<i>(xii G) Committee on the Welfare of Non-Resident Keralites (Pravasi Malayalees)</i>	
261M. Constitution of the Committee	.. 102
261N. Functions of the Committee	.. 102
<i>(xii H) Committee on the Welfare of Youth and Youth Affairs</i>	
261O. Constitution of the Committee	.. 103
261P. Functions of the Committee	.. 104

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
(xii I) <i>Committee on the Welfare of Senior Citizens</i>	
261Q. Constitution of the Committee	.. 104
261R. Functions of the Committee	.. 105
(xiii) <i>Rules Committee</i>	
262. Functions of the Committee	.. 105
263. Constitution of the Committee	.. 105
264. Laying of report on the Table	.. 105
CHAPTER XXV	
GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE	
265. Notices by members	.. 106
266. Restriction on publicity of notices	.. 106
267. Circulation of notices and papers to members	.. 106
268. Lapse of pending notices on prorogation of Assembly	.. 107
269. Motion, resolution or amendment moved not to lapse	.. 107
270. Speaker to amend notices of questions, motions, etc.	.. 107
271. Repetition of motions	.. 107
272. Withdrawal of motion	.. 107
273. Adjournment of debate on motion	.. 108
274. Dilatory motion in abuse of the rules of the Assembly	.. 108
275. Motion that policy or situation or statement or any other matter be taken into consideration	.. 109
276. Anticipating discussion	.. 109
277. Notice of amendments	.. 109
278. Scope of amendments	.. 109
279. Selection of amendments	.. 109
280. Putting of amendments	.. 109
281. Rules to be observed by members while present in the Assembly	.. 110

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
282. Members to speak when called by Speaker	.. 110
283. Mode of addressing the Assembly	.. 111
284. Rules to be observed while speaking	.. 111
285. Procedure regarding allegation against a person	.. 112
286. Questions to be asked through the Speaker	.. 112
287. Irrelevance or repetition	.. 112
288. Personal explanation	.. 112
289. Order of speeches and right of reply	.. 112
290. Mover's reply concludes debate	.. 113
291. Address by the Speaker	.. 113
292. Procedure when Speaker rises	.. 113
293. Closure	.. 113
294. Limitation of debate	.. 114
295. Papers quoted to be laid on the Table	.. 114
296. Treatment of papers laid on the Table	.. 114
297. Procedure when a Minister discloses source of advice or opinion given to him	.. 114
298. Procedure for obtaining decision of the Assembly	.. 115
299. Proposal and putting of questions	.. 115
300. Statement made by a Minister	.. 115
301. Division	.. 115
302. Power to order withdrawal of member	.. 116
303. Points of order and decisions thereon	.. 116
304. Raising a matter which is not a point of order	.. 117
305. Language of the Assembly	.. 118
306. Report of proceedings	.. 118
307. Expunging of words from debates	.. 118
308. Duties of Secretary	.. 118
309. Admission of Strangers	.. 119
310. Withdrawal of Strangers	.. 119
311. Removal and taking into custody of Strangers	.. 119
312. Use of the Assembly Chamber	.. 119
313. Suspension of rules	.. 119
314. Residuary Powers	.. 120

<i>Rule</i>	<i>Page</i>
SCHEDULES	
First Schedule—Form of Petition	.. 121
Second Schedule—Form of report on petition by the Secretary	.. 122
Third Schedule—Form of communication regarding arrest, detention, etc., of a member	.. 123
Fourth Schedule—List of Public Undertakings	.. 125
Fifth Schedule—Subject Committees	.. 131
ANNEXURE I	
Directions issued by the Speaker under the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Kerala Legislative Assembly	.. 135
ANNEXURE II	
Code of Conduct for the Members of the Kerala Legislative Assembly	.. 150
INDEX	.. 158



**RULES OF PROCEDURE
AND
CONDUCT OF BUSINESS
IN THE
KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

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**RULES OF PROCEDURE
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IN THE
KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Kerala
Legislative Assembly made by the Assembly in
pursuance of the provisions contained in Article
208 (1) of the Constitution of India**

SECRETARIAT OF THE KERALA LEGISLATURE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
JANUARY, 2019