

- c) a person who might have been a petitioner may, within seven days of such publication, apply to be substituted as petitioner in place of the party withdrawing, and upon compliance with the conditions, if any, as to security, shall be entitled to be so substituted and to continue the proceedings upon such terms as the District Judge may deem fit.

132. Report of withdrawal by the District Judge to the Commission : When an application for withdrawal is granted by the District Judge and no person has been substituted as petitioner under clause (c) of sub rule (3) of rule 131, in place of the party withdrawing, the District Judge shall report the act to the Commission and thereupon the Commission shall publish the report in the Official Gazette.

133. Abatement of election petitions :

1. An election petition shall abate only on the death of a sole petitioner or of the survivor of the several petitioners.
2. Where an election petition abates under sub rule (1), the District Judge shall cause the fact to be published in such manner as he may deem fit.
3. Any person who might himself have been a petitioner may, within seven days of such publication, apply to be substituted as petitioner and upon compliance with the conditions, if any, as to security, shall be entitled to be so substituted and to continue the proceedings upon such terms as the District Judge may deem fit.

134. Abatement or substitution on death of respondent : If before the conclusion of the trial of an election petition, the sole respondent dies or gives notice that he does not intend to oppose the petition or any of the respondents dies or gives such notice and there is no other respondents who is opposing the petition, the District Judge shall cause notice of such event to be published in the Official Gazette, and thereupon any person who might have been a petitioner may, within seven days of such publication, apply to be substituted in place of such respondent to oppose the petition and shall be entitled to continue the proceedings upon such terms as the District Judge may deem fit.

135. Appeals to High Court :

1. Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, an appeal shall lie to the High Court from every order made by a District Judge under rules 125 and 126.
2. Every appeal under these rules shall be preferred within a period of thirty days from the date of the order of the District Judge under rules 125 and 126:

Provided that the High Court may entertain an appeal after the expiry of the said period of thirty days if it is satisfied that the appellant had sufficient cause for not preferring the appeal within such period.

136. Stay of operation of orders of District Judge :

1. An application may be made to the District Judge for stay of operation of an order made by him under rule 125 or rule 126 before the expiration of the time allowed for appealing there from and the District Judge may, on sufficient cause being shown and on such terms and conditions as he may think fit, stay the operation of his order; but no application for stay shall be made to the District Judge after an appeal has been preferred to the High Court.
2. Where an appeal has been preferred against the order of the District Judge, the High Court may, on sufficient cause being shown and on such terms and conditions as it may think fit, stay the operation of the order appealed from.
3. When the operation of an order is stayed by the District Judge, or as the case may be, the High Court, the order shall be deemed never to have taken effect and a