CHAPTER - X
MISCELLANEOUS

96. (1) If the validity of any election of a member of a Election Village Council or Island Council or the respective Captains is brought into question by any person qualified to vote at the election to which such question relates, such person may, at any time within fifteen days after the date of declaration of the results of the election, apply to the District Judge in such form as may be prescribed for the determination of such question.

(2) Every petition shall be tried as expeditiously as possible and endeavor shall be made to conclude the trial within six months from the date on which the petition is presented to the District Judge.

> Procedure for hearing of election petitions.

97. (1) Save as otherwise provided by this Regulation or by any rule made thereunder, the procedure provided in the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, in regard to suits shall, in so far as it may be applicable, be followed in the hearing of election petition by the District Judge.

Provided that :-

- (a) two or more persons whose election is called in question may be made respondents to the same petition and their cases may be tried at the same time and any two or more election petitions may be heard together; but so far as is consistent with such joint trial or hearing, the petition shall be deemed to be a separate petition against each respondent;
- (b) the District Judge shall not be required to record or have recorded the evidence in full, but shall make a memorandum of evidence sufficient in his opinion for the purpose of deciding the case;
- (c) the District Judge may, at any stage of the proceedings require the petitioner to give security or further security for the payment of all costs incurred or likely to be incurred by any respondent; and
- (d) the District Judge, for the purpose of deciding any issue shall only be bound to require the production of or to receive such evidence, oral or documentary, as he

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