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Provided that where a seat or the office of the First Captain has been reserved for a woman, no person other than a woman shall be qualified to be elected to fill such vacancy.

23. (1) There shall be a Secretary for every Village Council who shall be appointed by the Deputy Commissioner and who shall draw his salary and allowance from the Village Council Fund.

Officers and employees of Village Council.

(2) The Secretary shall be in charge of the office of the Village Council and shall perform the duties and exercise the powers conferred upon him by or under this Regulation or any rules or bye-laws made thereunder.

(3) Subject to rules made by the Administrator regarding discipline and control, the Secretary shall act in all matters under the control of the First Captain, through whom he shall be responsible to the Village Council.

(4) The Village Council may appoint such other officers and employees as may be deemed necessary :

Provided that it shall not create any post except with the previous approval of the Administrator.

(5) The terms and conditions of appointment and service of the Secretary and other officers and employees shall be such as may be prescribed.

24. (1) The time and place of meetings of a Village Council and the procedure to be followed at such meetings shall be such as may be prescribed.

Meeting of Village Council.

(2) A member of a Village Council may, at any meeting, move any resolution and put questions to the First Captain or the Second Captain on matters connected with the administration of the Village Council in such manner as may be prescribed.

(3) No resolution of a Village Council shall be modified, amended, varied or cancelled by the Village Council within a period of three months from the date of passing thereof except by a resolution supported by two-thirds of the total number of members of the Village Council.

25. (1) Subject to such control and restrictions as may be prescribed, a Village Council may appoint Committees for exercising such of its powers and discharging such of its duties and functions as it may determine.

Committees.

(2) A committee shall consist of not more than five members and may be dissolved or reconstituted for such reasons and in such manner as may be prescribed.

26. No act or proceeding of a Village Council shall be deemed to be invalid by reason only of the existence of any vacancy or defect in the constitution of the Village Council or of any infirmity in its proceedings.

Proceedings not to be invalidated because of existence of vacancy.

CHAPTER - IV

POWERS, DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE VILLAGE COUNCILS

27. (1) Subject to the availability of Village Council Fund constituted under Section 33, it shall be the duty of every Village Council to make reasonable provisions within its jurisdiction, with respect to the matters specified in the Second Schedule.

Duties and functions of the Village Council.