

extending beyond a period of six months after the Proclamation has ceased to operate :

Provided further that a member elected to fill a casual vacancy shall hold office only for the remainder of the term of office of the member whom he replaces.]

(7) The District or the Regional Council may after its first constitution make rules <sup>1</sup>[with the approval of the Governor] with regard to the matters specified in sub-paragraph (6) of this paragraph and may also make rules <sup>1</sup>[with like approval regulating—

(a) the formation of subordinate local Councils or Boards and their procedure and the conduct of their business; and

(b) generally all matters relating to the transaction of business pertaining to the administration of the district or region, as the case may be :

Provided that until rules are made by the District or the Regional Council under this sub-paragraph the rules made by the Governor under sub-paragraph (6) of this paragraph shall have effect in respect of elections to, the officers and staff of, and the procedure and the conduct of business in, each such Councils.

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3. Powers of the District Councils and Regional Councils to make laws.—(1) The Regional Council for an autonomous region in respect of all areas within such region and the District Council for an autonomous district in respect of all areas within the district except those which are under the authority of Regional Councils, if any, within the district shall have power to make laws with respect to—

(a) the allotment, occupation or use, or the setting apart, of land, other than any land which is a reserved forest for the purposes of agriculture or grazing or for residential or other non-agricultural purposes or for any other purpose likely to promote the interests of the inhabitants of any village or town :

Provided that nothing in such laws shall prevent the compulsory acquisition of any land, whether occupied or unoccupied, for public purposes <sup>3</sup>[by the Government of the State concerned] in accordance with the law for the time being in force authorising such acquisition ;

(b) the management of any forest not being a reserved forest;

(c) the use of any canal or water-course for the purpose of agriculture;

(d) the regulation of the practice of *jhum* or other forms of shifting cultivation ;

(e) the establishment of village or town committees or councils and their powers ;

(f) any other matter relating to village or town administration, including village or town police and public health and sanitation;

(g) the appointment or succession of Chief or Headmen;

(h) the inheritance of property;

1. Ins. by the Assam Reorganisation (Meghalaya) Act, 1969 (55 of 1969, Sec. 74 and Fourth Schedule (w.e.f. 2nd April, 1970).

2. Second proviso omitted by the Assam Reorganisation (Meghalaya) Act, 1969 (55 of 1969).

3. Subs. by the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, (81 of 1971), Sec. 71 (i) and Eight Schedule, for certain words (w.e.f. 21st January, 1972).